



USTRANSCOM Science and Technology

Low Cost Low Altitude (LCLA) Airdrop

Project Summary: Purpose of this work is to capitalize upon the Army's ongoing Low-Cost Low-Altitude (LCLA) rapid fielding effort by conducting developmental testing to fully institutionalize its use on the USAF C-130 fleet. There are also two parallel sub-objectives; increase the maximum suspended weight of the LCLA resupply bundle and find a single common parachute to maximize efficiency and meet the logistical resupply needs of US ground forces.



Return on Investment: LCLA from the C-130 will allow for the precise delivery of supplies directly to the warfighter. Moreover, LCLA uses excess capacity on the C-130 cargo ramp to deploy its resupply bundles thus increasing mission efficiency. The just in time nature of LCLA on the highly capable C-130 will allow for faster distribution, more flexibility and more rapid response times in delivering equipment to soldiers in combat.

Duration of project: FY10

Participants: Air Mobility Command (AMC), Natick Soldiers Systems Center

Project advocacy (funding or otherwise): United States Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM), AMC

Transition: Natick Soldiers Research, Development, and Engineering Command (NSRDEC) and Project Manager Force Sustainment Systems (PM-FSS) will establish a Technology Transition Agreement, which will provide guidance for S&T work and a pathway for transition. PM-FSS has planned for this technology to be included in the Low Costs Air Drop Systems (LCADS) program of record at the completion of this USTRANSCOM proposal and upon approval from the user proponent. Once transitioned, PM FSS will complete the acquisition process through operational testing and logistics provisioning.