

MH-60R Multi-Mission Helicopter

Executive Summary

- DOT&E issued a combined FOT&E report (MH-60R and MH-60S) in April 2012 assessing the operational effectiveness and operational suitability of selected systems of the MH-60R Pre-Planned Product Improvement Program. The Ground Proximity Warning System (GPWS) and the Integrated Maintenance Diagnostic System (IMDS) are operationally effective and operationally suitable for all MH-60R missions. The overall assessment of the MH-60R airframe for all mission areas remains operationally effective, operationally suitable, and survivable.
- The Navy's Commander, Operational Test and Evaluation Force (COTF) commenced two tests in 4QFY12. Both tests are anticipated to complete in 1QFY13:
 - IOT&E of MH-60R equipped with the Automatic Radar Periscope Detection and Discrimination (ARPDD) Upgrade
 - Testing focused on previously identified Multi-spectral Targeting System (MTS) deficiencies
- The analyses of test data collected during IOT&E of MH-60R with ARPDD and testing of MH-60R with MTS are still in progress. DOT&E expects to issue formal test reports in 2QFY13.

System

- The MH-60R is a ship-based helicopter designed to operate from cruisers, destroyers, frigates, littoral combat ships, and aircraft carriers.
- It incorporates dipping sonar and sonobuoy acoustic sensors, multi-mode radar, electronic warfare sensors, a forward-looking infrared sensor with laser designator, and an advanced mission data processing system.

Activity

- DOT&E issued a combined FOT&E report (MH-60R and MH-60S) in April 2012 assessing the operational effectiveness and operational suitability of selected systems of the MH-60R Pre-Planned Product Improvement Program. The tested systems were the GPWS and the IMDS. COTF completed testing in 1QFY12. COTF conducted the testing in accordance with the DOT&E-approved test plan.
- COTF commenced IOT&E of MH-60R with the ARPDD Upgrade in 4QFY12. COTF conducted the testing in accordance with a DOT&E-approved test plan. Testing is anticipated to complete in 1QFY13.
- COTF commenced testing of previously identified deficiencies of the MH-60R with MTS in 4QFY12. Testing was conducted



- It employs torpedoes, Hellfire air-to-surface missiles, and crew-served mounted machine guns.
- It has a three-man crew: two pilots and one sensor operator.

Mission

The Maritime Component Commander employs the MH-60R from ships or shore stations to accomplish the following:

- SUW, Under Sea Warfare, Area Surveillance, Combat Identification, and Naval Surface Fire Support missions previously provided by two different helicopters (SH-60B and SH-60F)
- Support missions such as Search and Rescue at-sea and, when outfitted with necessary armament, maritime force protection duties

Major Contractors

- Sikorsky Aircraft Corporation – Stratford, Connecticut
- Lockheed Martin Mission System and Sensors – Owego, New York

- in accordance with a DOT&E-approved data management and analysis plan and is anticipated to complete in 1QFY13.
- All LFT&E activities have been completed and reported in the LFT&E report to Congress in 2008.

Assessment

- The GPWS and IMDS are assessed to be operationally effective and operationally suitable for all MH-60R missions. There were no significant operational effectiveness or operational suitability deficiencies identified during testing. The test results did not affect any prior findings on the overall operational effectiveness, operational suitability, or survivability of the MH-60R airframe in any mission area.

NAVY PROGRAMS

- The analysis of test data collected during IOT&E of MH-60R with ARPDD is still in progress. DOT&E expects to issue a formal test report in 2QFY13.
- The analysis of test data collected during testing of MH-60R with MTS is still in progress. The scope of the testing was focused on previously identified MTS deficiencies. The testing was not designed to assess surface warfare mission capability of MH-60R when equipped with MTS and the Hellfire missile. DOT&E expects to issue a formal test report in 2QFY13.

Recommendations

- Status of Previous Recommendations. The Navy satisfactorily addressed the four previous recommendations.
- FY12 Recommendation.
 1. The Navy should plan to conduct FOT&E to assess MH-60R's surface warfare capability when equipped with MTS and the Hellfire missile.