

## Stinger Proximity Fuze

### Executive Summary

- The Army intends to add a proximity fuze (PROX) to the Stinger Block 1 missile to increase Stinger lethality against small and medium unmanned aircraft systems (UAS).
- The Army intends to field initial Stinger PROX missiles in support of the European Defense Initiative in FY19 followed by Full Material Release in FY21.
- During flight testing, the Army measured the PROX firing distance against static targets and demonstrated successful proximity intercept against free-flying targets. The Army intends to conclude flight testing in 2QFY19.

### System

- First fielded in 1981, the FIM-92 Stinger is a shoulder-launched, fire-and-forget, short-range, man-portable, air defense weapon system. It provides low-altitude defense for ground forces against attack or observation by low-flying cruise missile, rotary-wing, fixed-wing, or UAS threats. The Stinger utilizes a high-explosive, hit-to-kill warhead. While typically fired by a two-man crew, the Stinger can also be operated by one person and adapted to fit on ground vehicles, helicopters, and UAS platforms.
- The Army initiated a Service Life Extension Program to extend the shelf life of expiring Stinger missiles by replacing missile components susceptible to degradation due to aging.
- The Army also initiated a PROX effort to improve effectiveness against UASs. The PROX effort integrates a Target Detection Device into the fuze to provide a proximity detonation capability. The Stinger PROX will upgrade the



FIM-92E Stinger Block 1 and will result in the FIM-92J Stinger PROX missile.

- The Army plans to utilize its Urgent Material Release process to provide Stinger PROX missiles in support of the European Defense Initiative in FY19, followed by Full Material Release in FY21.

### Mission

Army and Marine Corps commanders employ the Stinger missile system to defend ground forces and critical assets against low-level cruise missile, fixed or rotary-wing aircraft, and UAS attack or observation.

### Major Contractors

- Raytheon Missile Systems – Tucson, Arizona
- Lockheed Martin Sippican – Marion, Massachusetts

### Activity

The Army resumed flight testing against targets at Eglin AFB, Florida, in August 2018, conducting 22 flight tests against 12 static UAS targets, 9 free-flying UAS targets, and one hot plate target. The Army measured the PROX firing distance against the static targets and demonstrated successful proximity intercept against free-flying targets. The Army plans to conclude flight testing in January 2019.

### Assessment

DOT&E will report on Stinger PROX performance upon test completion in FY19.

### Recommendations

None.

# FY18 ARMY PROGRAMS