

Advanced Extremely High Frequency

The Advanced Extremely High Frequency (AEHF) program is presented the David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Award for its innovation in providing survivable, secure, protected, and jam-resistant communications for high-priority users, including the President of the United States, strategic and tactical warfighters, and AEHF's international partners, Canada, Netherlands and the United Kingdom. The AEHF team utilized a revolutionary Block Buy space acquisition strategy to procure the fifth and sixth AEHF satellites (AEHF-5/6), saving \$1.6B, while also operationally accepting the Increment 7 mission control segment and launching, checking-out and transferring to operations the third AEHF satellite (AEHF-3). The team also developed a consolidated three constellation sustainment approach that will save \$300M, while also beginning a Multi-Service Operational Test and Evaluation's integrated testing, which cut the required time for operational test by 49%. This translates to a projected Initial Operational Capability declaration at the program's acquisition program baseline objective date of 2015, saving \$27 million. As a result of the 5/6 Block Buy savings, the Military Satellite Communications Space Modernization Initiative was established and represents the investment plan to sustain and enhance current program-of-record systems while progressing to more affordable and resilient future systems, ensuring the nation will continue to have the most advanced satellite communications capabilities in the world.