

HC/MC-130J

The HC/MC-130J Program Team is presented the David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Award for its innovative Recapitalization program to procure 131 aircraft for Air Combat Command and Air Force Special Operations Command. The team paved a path to affordability by agreeing on threshold requirements common to both special operations forces and personnel recovery missions, allowing a shared HC/MC-130 production configuration. The program also chose to integrate mature technologies with a proven airframe and production line. This approach kept the development funding requirement nine percent below its \$148 million objective and unit cost five percent below its \$105 million objective. The HC/MC-130J also lowered operating costs relative to legacy aircraft by 16 percent, or nearly \$2 million per aircraft per year, thus yielding a Total Ownership Cost \$2 billion below its \$14 billion objective. In addition, by exploiting commonality with other C-130J variants to further control lifecycle cost, the team produced \$28 million in quantity discounts and minimized HC/MC-unique depot costs to under \$25 million. Further, through the application of stringent Should Cost contract management, including negotiating prices to well below budgets and minimizing the use of change orders, the team saved an additional \$283 million. These cost-saving initiatives, coupled with a highly successful integrated developmental and operational testing program that reduced man hours for Initial Operational Test and Evaluation by one month, produced outstanding value for the 24 aircraft delivered to date. In a two-month pre-operational deployment with United States Southern Command, the MC-130J maintained a 98.4 percent mission capable rate, resulting in the Air Force Special Operations Command Commander calling the MC-130J the best plane the command has ever flown, indicating the HC/MC-130J team's success in supporting warfighter needs.