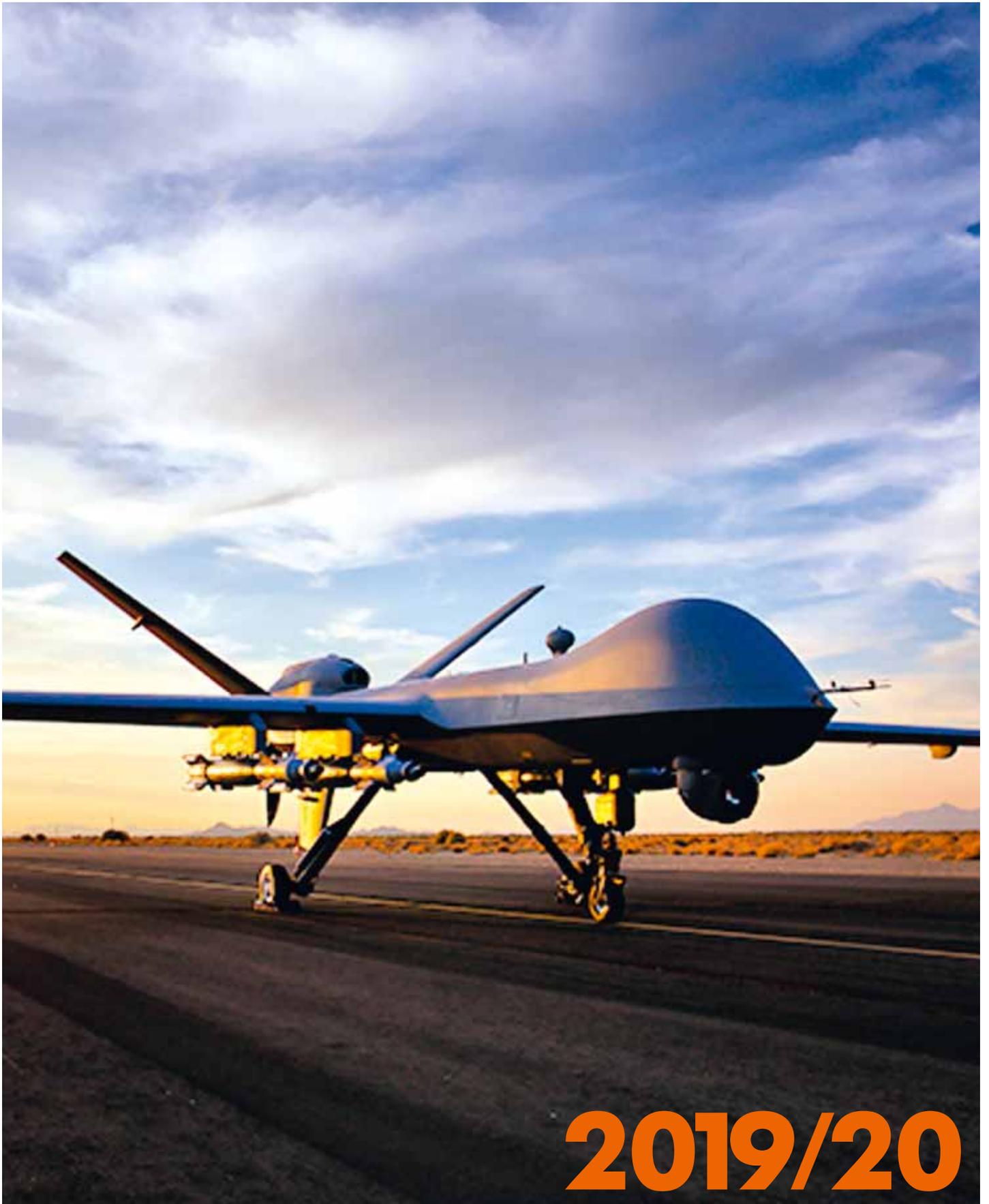


# UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES

AN ARMADA INTERNATIONAL COMPENDIUM SUPPLEMENT



**SCHIEBEL**



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UNMANNED AIR SYSTEM**



*V-BAT is a small vertical takeoff-and-land (VTOL) unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) from MartinUAV.*

# UNMANNED COMES OF AGE

**The maturity of unmanned systems now means that first adopters are replacing their 'start up' systems with next generation capability.**

**Peter Donaldson**

Once a fringe technology regarded with suspicion by much of the military, UAV systems have proved their growing value in recent wars and civil emergencies, and embedded themselves in the consciousness of defence planners the world over. Today they are maturing rapidly into reliable military tools that are increasingly straightforward to operate with the progress of automation in take-off and landing, as well as the ability of ground control systems to manage several vehicles at once – including

vehicles of different types – thereby reducing the number of people required to run them. These factors are contributing to a robust market, even though they are not being bought in the very large numbers that they were at the height of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In its latest forecast, which covers 2019 to 2024, Research and Markets predicts a compound annual growth Rate (CAGR) of 10 percent over the period, mostly driven by the commercial sector, although for now the military still provides most of the revenue. Furthermore, the dominant missions focus on

Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR), target recognition and electronic warfare. The analysis notes that growing defence budgets and political tensions in the Asia-Pacific and Middle East regions have been driving procurement in the military market, with Asia Pacific expected lead the world in terms of the growth rate, although North America remains the largest market.

In industrial terms, Boeing, BAE Systems, General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Israel Aerospace Industries and Elbit Systems remain, unsurprisingly, among the most



The French Army will receive a total of 14 Safran Patroller UAS, 10 for operational use and four for training.

Safran

prominent players in the military market, and the High Altitude Long Endurance (HALE), Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE), and tactical vehicle segments are growing strongly in procurement terms.

## WATCHING SHADOW REPLACEMENT

Operators around the world will be watching the US Army's efforts to replace its fleet of conventional take-off and landing (CTOL) Textron RQ-7 Shadow 200 tactical UAVs with a new vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) capable type under the Future Tactical UAS (FTUAS) programme. The two contenders are AAI Textron's Aerosonde HQ and Martin UAV's V-Bat.

AAI Textron describes Aerosonde HQ as a runway independent hybrid quad-rotor. Based on the fixed-wing Aerosonde, which features a twin boom, inverted V-tail, it adds four electric motors for VTOL and transitional flight to the Lycoming EL-005 heavy fuel engine that drives the pusher propeller for cruise flight.

## NEED FOR VTOL

VTOL capability enables confined area launch and recovery without pre-positioned

equipment. The aircraft transitions to and from wing-borne flight at 15-45 metres (50-150 feet) above the ground, which the company says gives it a 'near zero' footprint that eases tactical deployment. V-Bat cruises at speeds between 45-65 knots (83-120 kilometres per hour) and can fly for up to eight hours with a 4.5 kilogram (10 pound) payload and can operate at a density altitude of up to 3,000m (10,000ft) density altitude.

The aircraft also has the capacity and on-board power required to run day/night cameras, communications relay, signals intelligence and an optional extra mission-specific payload simultaneously, the company emphasises.

Martin UAV's V-Bat does VTOL differently, taking off and landing in a tail sitting position and propelled by a ducted fan driven either by a 183cc fuel-injected two-stroke running an 80:1 fuel to oil ratio, a heavy fuel engine or an electric motor. Measuring 2.4m (8ft) long and 2.7m (9ft) in wingspan, it takes off and lands automatically and can do so in winds of up to 25kts, (46km/h) transitioning to horizontal flight to conduct its mission, in which attitude it can dash at up to 90kts (166km/h). With

3.6kg (8lb) of payload capacity, it has 500W on-board electrical power to run its sensors and communication systems.

In early April, the US Army awarded contracts valued at up to \$99.5 million for non-developmental TUAV systems to AAI Textron and Martin UAV under FTUAS following a competitive fly-off at Dugway Proving Ground, Utah involving 11 potential candidates. The Army stressed that they needed to enable what it calls multi-domain capabilities for brigade air-ground operations via significant improvements in operational capability, survivability, reliability, availability, maintainability and mobility.

"By understanding the operational needs statements, we need better acoustics, runway independence, and better transportability," said Brigadier General Walter Rugen, the director of the Army's Future Vertical Lift Cross-Functional Team.

## FRENCH PATROLLERS

In a major upgrade to their capabilities, the French forces are due to receive the first of their new Safran Patroller tactical UAVs this year under an order for 14 of them agreed



Northrop Grumman

A pair of MQ-4C Triton Unmanned Air System vehicles, now in service with the US Navy.

and future development of the RAF's new General Atomics Protector RG Mk1 MALE UAS could include a maritime patrol version to supplement and work with the Boeing P8 Poseidons as they mature in service.

Last summer saw the Northrop Grumman MQ4-C Triton enter service with the US Navy equipped with powerful radar and electro-optical sensors and an Electronic Support Measures (ESM) system, but the Navy plans to upgrade it with a SIGINT system that will enable it to gather detailed intelligence on adversary radar systems to update the databases essential to tactical electronic warfare systems of all kinds, as well as a sense-and-avoid radar system.

in 2016, beating Thales' lighter Watchkeeper system to the punch. Significantly larger than the aircraft competing for the US FTUAS programme, Patroller is derived from a manned Stemme S15 motor glider and offers an endurance of 20 hours at up to 6,000m (20,000ft) with a payload of up to 250kg (550lb). Equipped with an automatic take-off and landing system it can operate from small airfields without demanding any changes to facilities on the ground.

Safran also offers Patroller as a maritime

asset equipped with a dedicated surface search radar, an Automatic Identification System (AIS) receiver to monitor ships equipped with the transmitters, and a Safran Euroflir 410 stabilised electro-optical infra-red (EO/IR) pod.

This illustrates another important direction for UAV systems as a complementary asset to manned maritime patrol aircraft, ships and ground-based coastal surveillance networks. The UK's Watchkeeper has demonstrated its value in naval exercises,

**UNTAPPED POTENTIAL**

That sense-and-avoid radar illustrates one factor still holding UAVs back; integration with other traffic in both civil and military airspace, although sense-and-avoid technologies are gradually evolving along with the procedures required to assimilate them as industry, regulators and operators work to bring them along. This one major capability could be the key to unlocking UAV systems' full potential.

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Mini UAS

**ORBITER 1K**  
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**AEROSTAR**

Length: 4.5m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 230kg  
 Speed: 110kts  
 Altitude: NA  
 Options include stabilised EO/IR sensors, laser designation, synthetic aperture radars with ground moving target indication, ELINT and COMINT systems. Customers include: Israel, General Dynamics, CIS, the Netherlands & Poland.  
 Powerplant: Zanzottera fuel injected 2-str twin, 38hp  
 Launch/Recovery: conv/conv

Span: 8.7m  
 Range: 250km  
 Endurance: 12hr  
 Payload: 50kg



**DOMINATOR**

Length: 8.55m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 1,910kg  
 Speed: 150kts  
 Altitude: 18,000ft  
 Options include EO/IR and hyper-spectral sensors with laser pointer and designator, maritime radar, SAR/GMTI radars, communications relays, COMINT, ELINT, MAD etc. Operators include Mexico & Turkey.  
 Powerplant: 2x170hp Austro AE300 jet fuel piston engines  
 Launch/Recovery: conv/conv

Span: 13.5m  
 Range: LOS 300km,  
 BLOS satcom unlimited  
 Endurance: > 20hr  
 Payload: 373kg



**Orbiter 1K**

Length: 1m approx  
 Maximum take-off weight: 11kg  
 Speed: 40-60kts loiter  
 Altitude: 18,000ft  
 Payloads include a stabilised mini dual EO\IR camera, 2.2kg blast fragmentation warhead.  
 Powerplant: Electric motor driving pusher propeller  
 Launch/Recovery: cat/precision net or expendable

Span: 2.2m  
 Range: 100km  
 Endurance: 2.5hrs  
 Payload: > 2.6kg



**Orbiter 2**

Length: 1m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 10.3kg  
 Speed: 70kts  
 Altitude: NA  
 Controp stabilised payloads including D-STAMP day EO, UZ-STAMP night, M-STAMP: dual day and night and Rafael HD-Lite photogrammetric mapping & 3D modelling sensor. In service in Israel and export customers inc Finland.  
 Powerplant: Electric motor driving pusher propeller  
 Launch/Recovery: cat/para

Span: 3m  
 Range: 100km  
 Endurance: 4hr  
 Payload: 1.5kg



**Orbiter 3**

Length: NA  
 Maximum take-off weight: 30kg  
 Speed: 70kts  
 Altitude: NA  
 Payloads include: Controp T-STAMP tri-sensor stabilised EO system, D-STAMP day turret, UZ-STAMP night, M-STAMP dual day and night, and Rafael HD-Lite photogrammetric mapping sensor. In service with Israel & export customers.  
 Powerplant: Propeller driven by an electric motor  
 Launch/Recovery: Cat/net

Span: 4.4m  
 Range: line of sight up to 150km  
 Endurance: 7hr 100km  
 from base  
 Payload: 5.5kg



# IAI ADDS ASW CAPABILITY TO THE MARITIME HERON

**A**ddressing the increasing role of unmanned aerial systems (UAS) in maritime operations, Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) has added new capabilities to the Heron family of UAS, preparing the drone to assume anti-submarine warfare (ASW) missions. The newly-developed anti-submarine warfare capability now includes two new payloads – a Sonobuoy dispensing system for submarine detection and a Magnetic Anomaly Detector (MAD). The combination of the two sensors enable simultaneous detection and tracking of submarines in shallow and deep waters. The use of UAV-mounted ASW capabilities offers significant advantages over conventional, manned aircraft, including longer mission time (dozens of hours on air), persistent monitoring of sonobuoys, and centralized operation of surveillance over very large areas.

This capability employs some of the Heron's key performance parameters – operations from remote locations; fly long missions at extended range, employing satellite data link, the ability to operate simultaneously with multiple sensors. The ability to operate from a mission control center ashore, or vessels at sea, by handing-off control to a maritime station is another unique function the Heron

supports. With these capabilities Heron UAS offers significant benefits over aerial maritime surveillance and ASW patrols, enabling rapid deployment and re-tasking, at a speed of 140 – 220 knots and a much slower loitering speed, at high, low and very low altitude, enabling longer time on station and extended patrol missions. A few teams of operators are tasked in shifts with extended missions, maintaining operators fresh and in optimal performance.

Carrying a full set of sensors – radar, EO and SIGINT, and the new ASW kit requires significant weightlifting, reserved only for large, Medium-Altitude, Long Endurance (MALE) drones such as the Heron. Based on IAI's Over 40 years of experience as the world pioneer in unmanned aerial systems, the Heron represents IAI's leading family of UAS, with platforms maximum takeoff weight ranging from 600 to 5,700 kg, capable of lifting payloads from 180 kg to more than a ton.

IAI was the first UAS manufacturer to deploy drones on maritime surveillance missions, on these missions the Heron carries a combined set of sensors comprising an advanced, lightweight maritime search radar, providing surface search and air/air search capability over hundreds of miles at sea. The radar operates alongside an Electronic Support Measures (ESM), Communications

Intelligence (COMINT) and stabilized electro-optical / Infra-red (EO/IR) sensors.

IAI Elta Systems' ELM-2022U maritime radar provides the primary surveillance sensor on the platform. A lightweight derivative of Elta's 2022 radar used on board numerous maritime surveillance aircraft worldwide. From a cruising altitude of 20,000 ft. This radar can see across 150 nm to the horizon. The high sensitivity of the radar enables detection and identification of all types of targets encountered at sea, from large vessels classified from a distance using inverse-SAR, to illusive targets having extremely low radar cross-section, such as rubber boats or submarines. ESM and COMINT sensors scan the electromagnetic spectrum to spot suspicious activities indicating the presence of vessels and human activity. Visual observation performed by EO/IR enables operators to identify and verify the identity of vessels and investigate suspicious activities and unidentified targets.

Supporting the anti-submarine mission, the ELM-2022U can spot submarine periscopes and snorkels from a great distance.

Extending its ASW capability, IAI integrated additional sensors including a Magnetic Anomaly Detection system and a payload that carries and releases acoustic sonobuoys. After dropping its payload, the Heron loiters over the area to receive and processes the acoustic signal from those sonobuoys, providing a full situational picture based on acoustic, magnetic, radar, SIGINT and visual sensor indications and tracks. This picture is transmitted to a coastal mission control center or a task force at sea, using the Heron's integral satellite and line-of-sight links.

The Heron gradually evolved to offer a robust, efficient and flexible maritime operation from shore and at sea. Centrally commanded to take off and land from remote shores, Herons extend missions over thousands of kilometers over blue water, using satellite links and handing over control to the operators at sea. Mission control modules are fully integrated onboard naval vessels, including stabilized directional antennae and satellite communications terminals, enabling ships at sea to fully exploit the Heron as part of their sensor suite. With a dedicated mission package and performance capabilities unmatched by other MALE UAS, the Heron now supports both maritime and ASW mission capabilities an order of magnitude improved over conventional ASW solutions utilizing fixed and rotary wing manned platforms.



**Orbiter 4**

Length: NA  
 Maximum take-off weight: 50kg  
 Speed: 70kts  
 Altitude: 18,000ft  
 Payloads include: Stabilised pod with day, night (cooled IR) sensors, laser designator, COMINT, ELINT, VISINT, photogrammetric mapping (HDLite), synthetic aperture radar, maritime patrol radar, LiDAR, Automatic Identification System  
 Powerplant: Spark ignition multi-fuel engine  
 Launch/Recovery: Cat/parachute & airbags

Span: 5.4m  
 Range: Line of sight up to 150km comms range  
 Endurance: up to 24hr  
 Payload: 12kg



**Atlante**

**AIRBUS**

Length: 5.47m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 570kg  
 Speed: 108kt  
 Altitude: 20,000ft  
 Retractable HD EO/IR turret as standard, SAR/GMTI, maritime radar, environmental sensors including releasable types are options.  
 Powerplant: 1 x internal combustion engine  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv or cat/para

Span: 8.0m  
 Range: 200km on datalink  
 Endurance: > 10hr  
 Payload: 100kg



**Harfang**

Length: 9.3m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 1,250kg  
 Speed: 110kts  
 Altitude: 25,000ft  
 Synthetic aperture radar with 1m resolution, Wide-Area Surveillance (WAS) & spot modes, EO/IR turret also with WAS & spot modes, NATO-STANAG-3875-compliant laser designator, panoramic pilot assistance camera. Ex-French systems acquired by Royal Moroccan Air Force.  
 Powerplant: 115hp turbocharged Rotax 914 piston engine  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv

Span: 16.6m  
 Range: 1,000km  
 Endurance: 12hr at 550nm (1,019km) from base  
 Payload: 250kg



**KZO**

Length: 2.25m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 161kg  
 Speed: 220kph (118.8kt)  
 Altitude: 11,500ft  
 Thermal imager system (8–12µm or 3–5µm), 3 x fixed-focus TV cameras (6 FoV). Principal operator is the German Army.  
 Powerplant: 24kW 2-str engine  
 Launch/recovery: rato, cat/para

Span: 3.42m  
 Range: 140km ( on data link  
 Endurance: 5.5hr  
 Payload: 35kg



**Zephyr S**

Length: 7.5m est  
 Maximum take-off weight: < 75kg  
 Speed: approx 30kts  
 Altitude: > 65,000ft  
 HD Optical / IR Video, AIS, Narrowband mobile comms (e.g. Tetra), 100Mbps broadcast  
 Powerplant: Solar powered electric motors  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv

Span: 25m  
 Range: > 18,500km est  
 Endurance: > 30 days  
 Payload: 5kg



Zephyr T

Length: 6m est  
 Maximum take-off weight: 140kg  
 Speed: approx 30kts  
 Altitude: > 65,000ft  
 RADAR, LIDAR, ESM/ELINT, Broadband Comms  
 Powerplant: solar powered electric motors  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv

Span: > 32m  
 Range: > 18,500km est  
 Endurance: > 45 days  
 Payload: 20kg

**AEROVIRONMENT**



Blackwing

Length: 0.508m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 1.8kg  
 Speed: 87kts  
 Altitude: < 500ft AGL  
 Front and side look day/night cameras, tactical data relay.  
 Major order from the US Navy reported in October 2017 with final deliveries due in November 2018.  
 Powerplant: battery electric  
 Launch/recovery: Underwater-to-air delivery canister, multi-pack

Span: 0.69m est  
 Range: 10 to 45km  
 Endurance: 1hr est  
 Payload: NA



Puma 3AE

Length: 1.4m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 6.8kg  
 Speed: 25-45kts  
 Altitude: 300-500ft  
 Mantis i45 Gimbaled payload with dual 15mp EO cameras, 50xf zoom, IR camera and low light camera for night operations, and high power illuminator  
 Powerplant: battery electric  
 Launch/recovery: hand or rail/autonomous or manual deep stall landing

Span: 2.8m  
 Range: 20km or 60km with long range comms antenna  
 Endurance: 2.5hr with an LE battery  
 Payload: > 0.85kg



Raven B

Length: 0.91m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 1.9kg  
 Speed: 17-44kts  
 Altitude: 14,000ft MSL launch  
 Payload: 0.17kg  
 Dual forward and side-looking EO or IR camera nose with electronic pan-tilt-zoom & stabilisation.  
 Most are operated by the US, but foreign customers have included Australia, Estonia, Italy, Denmark, Spain and the Czech Republic.  
 Launch/recovery: hand/deep stall landing

Span: 1.37m  
 Range: 10km comms range  
 Endurance: Up to 1.5hr  
 Powerplant: battery electric



Snipe Nano

Length: < 200mm est  
 Span: < 300mm est  
 Speed: 19kts  
 Endurance: > 15min  
 Payload: NA  
 Launch/recovery: VTOL

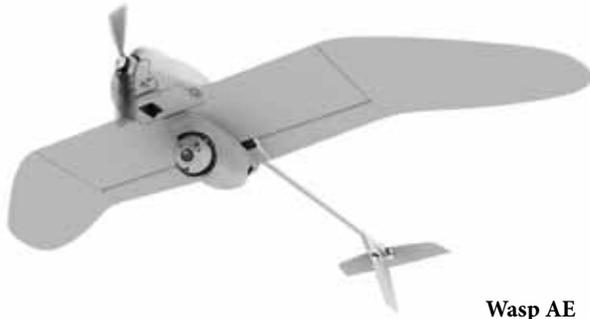
Maximum take-off weight: 0.14kg  
 Range: > 1km  
 Powerplant: battery electric  
 Altitude: > 30m  
 EO/IR camera



**Switchblade loitering munition**

Length: < 0.6m est  
 Maximum take-off weight: < 2.5kg  
 Endurance: > 15min  
 Altitude: < 500ft AGL, > 15,000ft MSL  
 Dual front and side look EO cameras and IR nose camera. Stabilised electronic pan-tilt-zoom, Orbital ATK advanced munition warhead. US Army and USMC are the primary users.  
 Powerplant: battery electric  
 Launch/recovery: tube/NA

Span: < 0.925m est  
 Range: 10-45km  
 Speed: 55-85kts  
 Payload: NA



**Wasp AE**

Length: 0.76m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 1.3kg  
 Speed: 20 to 45kt  
 Altitude: 500 ft AGL  
 Gimbaled payload with pan and tilt stabilized high resolution EO & IR camera in a compact aerodynamic modular payload. Serves with US Army and export customers including Australia.  
 Powerplant: battery electric  
 Launch/recovery: hand, remote/deep stall landing in confined area

Span: 1.02m  
 Range: 5 km LOS, more with DDL relay  
 Endurance: 50 min  
 Payload: NA

**ARCTURUS**



**Jump 20**

Length: 18ft 6in (5.64m)  
 Maximum take-off weight: 95.25kg  
 Speed: 72kt  
 Altitude: 15,000ft  
 Cloud Cap Technologies 200 and 400 Series EO/IR are standard options. 3-D mapping, SAR, LIDAR, communications relay, COMINT, and SIGINT systems are available.  
 Powerplant: 1 x 190cc 4-str engine & 4 x electric motors and props for VTOL  
 Launch/recovery: VTOL, cat launch option

Span: 9ft 5in (2.87m)  
 Range: 125km  
 Endurance: 9 to 16hr  
 Payload: 27.2kg inc fuel



**T-20**

Length: 2.87m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 84kg  
 Speed: 75kt  
 Altitude: 15,000ft  
 Cloud Cap Technologies 200 and 400 Series EO/IR are standard options. 3-D mapping, SAR, LIDAR, communications relay, COMINT, and SIGINT systems are available. Operators include the US & Mexican navies & reportedly the Turkish government.  
 Powerplant: 1 x 190 cc fuel-injected Honda 4-str petrol  
 Launch/recovery: cat/belly

Span: 5.33m  
 Range: NA  
 Endurance: 20hr  
 Payload: 34kg inc fuel

**ARMENIAN ARMED FORCES**



**Krunk**

Length: 3.8m  
 Maximum take-off weight: NA  
 Speed: 82kt  
 Altitude: 15,770ft  
 Operators include the Armenian armed forces, the Republic of Artsakh and Denmark  
 Powerplant: Internal combustion engine driving pusher propeller  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv (wheels)

Span: 5m  
 Range  
 Endurance: 5hr  
 Payload: 60kg

**BLUEBIRD AERO SYSTEMS**



**BarB**

Dimensions: 35 to 65cm (diagonal between motors)  
 Maximum take-off weight: 2.5kg      Communication range: 5km  
 Speed: up to 140km/h      Endurance: up to 30min  
 Ceiling: over 6,700m (22,000 ft) ASL      Payload: up to 500g  
 Mutli-mission, AI powered drone for Reconnaissance, Payload carrying and interception missions  
 Powerplant: Four battery driven VTOL electric motors  
 Launch/recovery: Vertical/ Vertical



**MicroB**

Length: 1.02m      Span: 1.7m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 2.2kg      Communication range: 10km  
 Speed: 75kph (40.5kt) cruise, 120kph (75kt) max  
 Endurance: up to 2hr  
 Best Operational Altitude: up to 1,000 m (3,281ft) AGL  
 Ceiling: over 4,000m (16,000ft) ASL      Payload: up to 0.3kg  
 Dual sensor (CCD / Uncooled IR) Gimbaled and stabilized surveillance payload  
 Powerplant: brushless electric motor, rechargeable battery  
 Launch/recovery: shoulder-fired launcher/para



**SpyLite**

Length: 1.37m      Span: 2.75m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 9.5kg      Communication range: 50km (standard), 80km (extended)  
 Speed: 60-120Km/h (32-65kt)      Endurance: 4hr  
 Best Operational Altitude: up to 1,000 m (3,281ft) AGL  
 Ceiling: over 9,000m (30,000ft) ASL      Max Launch altitude: Over 5,000m ASL  
 Payload: up to 1.5kg  
 Single HD, dual or triple CCD IR and optional laser pointer gimbaled and stabilized payloads and/or optional high resolution, proprietary RGB/ multi-spectral/radiometric photogrammetric payloads for mapping.  
 Operational in Israel and by numerous international Defense, HLS and civilian customers.  
 Powerplant: brushless electric motor, rechargeable battery Launch/recovery: auto cat/para, airbag



**ThunderB**

Length: 1.9m      Span: 4m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 32kg      Communication range: 150km  
 Speed: 60-134Km/h (32-72kt)      Endurance: Up to 24hr in standard configuration, up to 12hr in cargo release configuration  
 Best Operational Altitude: up to 3,000m (10,000ft) AGL  
 Ceiling: over 6,400m (21,000ft) ASL      Payload: up to 4kg nose mounted with full fuel and additional payload under the wings  
 Dual or triple CCD, IR and optional laser gimbaled and stabilized payloads and/or optional high resolution, proprietary RGB/ multi-spectral/radiometric photogrammetric payloads for mapping.  
 Operational in Israel and by international Defense and HLS customers.  
 Powerplant: Advanced two stroke engine with electronic fuel injection  
 Launch/recovery: auto cat/para airbag



**ThunderB VTOL**

Length: 1.9m      Span: 4m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 32kg      Communication range: 150km  
 Speed: 60-134Km/h (32-72kt)      Endurance: 12hours  
 Best Operational Altitude: up to 3,000m (10,000 ft) AGL  
 Ceiling: over 6,400 m (21,000ft) ASL      Payload: up to 4kg nose mounted with full fuel  
 Dual or triple CCD, IR and optional laser gimbaled and stabilized payloads and/or optional high resolution, proprietary RGB/ multi-spectral/radiometric photogrammetric payloads for mapping.  
 Powerplant: Four battery driven VTOL electric motors and one advanced two stroke engine with electronic fuel injection  
 Launch/recovery: Vertical/ Vertical



**WanderB**

Length: 1.32m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 13kg  
 Speed: 60-120Km/h (32-65kt)  
 Best Operational Altitude: up to 1,000 m (3,281ft) AGL  
 Payload: up to 1.5kg  
 Single HD, dual or triple CCD IR and optional laser gimbaled and stabilized payloads and/or optional high resolution, proprietary RGB/multi-spectral/radiometric photogrammetric payloads for mapping.  
 Powerplant: battery or fuel cell and electric motor driving propeller  
 Launch/recovery: cat/para airbag

Span: 3m  
 Communication Range: 50km  
 Endurance: 6 or 10hr



**WanderB VTOL**

Length: 1.79m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 13kg  
 Speed: 0-120Km/h (0-65kt)  
 Best Operational Altitude: up to 1,000 m (3,281ft) AGL  
 Ceiling: 22,000Ft ASL  
 Payload: 1.35kg  
 Single HD, dual or triple CCD IR and optional laser gimbaled and stabilized payloads and/or optional high resolution, proprietary RGB/multi-spectral/radiometric photogrammetric payloads for mapping.  
 Powerplant: Four battery driven VTOL electric motors and one electric pusher motor for level flight  
 Launch/recovery: Vertical/ Vertical

Span: 3.1m  
 Communication range: 50-80km  
 Endurance: 2.5hours



**BOEING INSITU**

**Blackjack**

Length: 2.5m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 61kg  
 Speed: > 90kt  
 Altitude: > 20,000ft  
 EO imager with 1.1°-25° optical field of view & 4x digital zoom, mid-wave infrared imager with 2°-25° field of view, laser rangefinder, IR marker. Communications relay and AIS also integrated.  
 Powerplant: 8 HP Orbital ? reciprocating engine with EFI, burning JP-5, JP-8 heavy fuels  
 Launch/recovery: cat/SkyHook vertical wire

Span: 4.9m  
 Range: NA  
 Endurance: >16hr  
 Payload: 17.7kg



**Integrator**

Length: 2.5m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 61.2kg  
 Speed: > 90kt max, 55 kt cruise  
 Altitude: . 19,500ft  
 Baseline package includes EO imager, mid-wave infrared imager, IR marker laser rangefinder  
 Powerplant: 2-str heavy fuel piston engine burning JP-5/JP-8  
 Launch/recovery: cat/SkyHook vertical wire

Span: 4.8m  
 Range: NA  
 Endurance: >24hr  
 Payload: 18kg



**ScanEagle**

Length: 1.6m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 22kg est  
 Speed: 50 to 60kt cruise, 80kt max  
 Altitude: 19,500ft  
 EO, EO900 (EO camera and EO telescope), MWIR, Dual Imager (EO and MWIR)  
 Operated by USAF, USMC, USN and numerous export customers.  
 Powerplant: Orbital 2-str heavy fuel (JP-5 or JP 8) 2-str engine or C-10 gasoline engine  
 Launch/recovery: cat/SkyHook

Span: 3.1m  
 Range: > 100km LOS  
 Endurance: > 24hr  
 Payload: 3.4kg



ScanEagle 2

Length: 1.71m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 26.5kg  
 Speed: 50 to 60kt cruise  
 Altitude: 19,500ft  
 Powerplant: Orbital Argon heavy fuel (JP-5 or JP-8) 2-str piston engine  
 Launch/recovery: cat/SkyHook vertical wire

Span: 3.11m  
 Range: NA  
 Endurance: 18hr  
 Payload: 5kg



ScanEagle 3

Length: 2.3 to 2.5m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 36.3kg  
 Speed: 80kt  
 Altitude: 20,000ft  
 Turret houses EO, EO900 (EO camera and EO telescope), MWIR, Dual Image EO and MWIR)  
 Powerplant: 1 x 2-str heavy fuel piston engine burning JP-5/JP-8  
 Launch/recovery: cat/SkyHook vertical wire

Span: 4m  
 Range: NA  
 Endurance: 18hr  
 Payload: 9.1kg

CATIC



ASN209

Length: 4.273m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 320kg  
 Endurance: 10hr  
 Altitude: 16,000ft  
 Powerplant: Internal combustion engine driving pusher propeller  
 Launch/recovery: rocket booster/para

Span: 7.5m  
 Range: 200km  
 Speed: 97kt  
 Payload: 50kg

DENEL DYNAMICS



Seeker 400

Length: 5.77m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 450kg  
 Speed: 81kt  
 Altitude: 18,000ft  
 Powerplant: 1 x 85 hp two-cylinder, air-cooled 4-str engine  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv

Span: 10m  
 Range: 250km  
 Endurance: 16hr  
 Payload: 100kg

ELBIT



Hermes 450

Length: 5.7m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 550kg  
 Speed: 95kt  
 Altitude: 18,000ft  
 Options include EO/IR, SAR/GMTI & maritime patrol radars plus AIS, ELINT, EW, COMINT, COMJAM. Forms the basis of the UK/Thales WK450 Watchkeeper system.  
 Powerplant: 1 x 52 hp UAV Engines R802/902 rotary  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv

Span: 10.5m  
 Range: 250km  
 Endurance: 17hr  
 Payload: 180kg





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THOR

Length: NA  
 Maximum take-off weight: 12.5kg  
 Endurance: 70min  
 Altitude: 10 to 2,000ft  
 Lightweight dual EO/IR stabilised camera turret  
 Powerplant: battery & 4 x electric motors driving vertical props  
 Launch/recovery: VTOL

Span: NA  
 Range: 10km  
 Speed: 0-35kph max  
 Payload: 2.5kg

ENICS

Eleron-3SV (T-28 air vehicle)



Length: 0.635m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 5.5kg  
 Endurance: 1 hr 40min  
 Altitude: 16,404ft  
 Option 1: 3-axis stabilised turret with a 10x optical magnification-enabled video camera and digital photo camera with minimum 10.2 mpix resolution.  
 Option 2: Stabilised turret with 10x thermal imaging and video camera. Digital camera with minimum 10.2 Mp resolution.  
 Powerplant: battery & 1 x electric motor driving pusher propeller  
 Launch/recovery: cat/para

Span: 1.47m  
 Range: 25 to 50km  
 Speed: 38 to 70kt  
 Payload: NA



Eleron-10SV (T-10 air vehicle)

Length: 0.883m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 15.5kg  
 Endurance: 2 hrs 30min  
 Altitude: 13,123ft  
 Option 1: 3-axis stabilised turret with a 36x optical magnification video camera, plus a 10 mpix digital camera  
 Option 2: 3-axis stabilised turret with an uncooled thermal imager and a video camera, plus a 10 mpix digital camera  
 Powerplant: battery & electric motor driving pusher propeller  
 Launch/recovery: cat/para

Span: 2.206m  
 Range: 50 to 60km  
 Speed: 41 to 73kt  
 Payload: NA

EMT INGENIEURGESELLSCHAFT

Aladin



Length: 1.57m  
 Maximum take-off weight: < 4kg  
 Endurance: > 1hr  
 Altitude: 328 to 984ft AGL, 14,764ft MSL  
 Payload:  
 Daylight: 4 x colour CCD video cameras: 1 pilot view, 2 x downward looking, 1 downward looking on left side used in circling mode, plus high-res forward looking zoom camera, 2 x daylight video cameras.  
 Night: 1 x IR video, 1 x colour video CCD camera  
 Powerplant: battery & electric motor driving tractor propeller  
 Launch/recovery: hand or cat/auto

Span: 1.46m  
 Range: > 15km  
 Speed: 22 to 38kt



Fancopter

Length: 0.6m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 1.5kg  
 Endurance: 25min (3hr with perching)  
 Altitude: NA  
 Day: 2 x PAL resolution colour video CCD cameras, with wide angle and telephoto respectively. Downward looking video camera. Options: High-res stills or video camera. Night: Thermal IR and near-IR with illumination video cameras.  
 Powerplant: battery & electric motors driving protected counterrotating rotors  
 Launch/recovery: VTOL

Span: 0.6m (dia)  
 Range: 1,000m  
 Speed: NA  
 Payload:



**Luna**

Length: 2.36m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 40kg  
 Endurance: 6 to 8hr  
 Altitude: 16,400ft  
 Span: 4.17m  
 Range: > 100km comms range  
 Speed: 38kt cruise  
 Payload: NA  
 1 x colour video CCD pilot view camera; wing ice monitoring camera, 3-axis stabilized modular sensor platform, downward looking colour video (zoom) CCD cameras as standard. Optional sensors: MWIR imager, near-IR CCD zoom video cameras. Serves with the German Army.  
 Powerplant: 2 cylinder 2-str internal combustion engine, pusher propeller  
 Launch/recovery: cat/para or net



**Luna NG**

Length: 3.0m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 110kg  
 Endurance: > 12hr  
 Altitude: > 16,400ft  
 Span: 5.3m  
 Range: > 100km data link  
 Speed: 49kt  
 Payload:  
 Tiltable sensor platform with up to 7 colour and IR zoom video, -hyperspectral, pilot colour video, SAR/GMTI, SIGINT-sensors, ESM, CBRN. Optional sensors: Data link relay for BLOS operations, encryption, GCS hand-off function, transponder. Purchased by the German Army.  
 Powerplant: 1 x 13.4 hp, fuel-injected multi-fuel engine  
 Launch/recovery: cat/para or net

**FLIR SYSTEMS (PROX DYNAMICS)**



**Black Hornet**

Length: 0.168m  
 Maximum take-off weight: < 33g  
 Endurance: 25min  
 Altitude: > rooftop  
 Span: 0.123m  
 Range: 2km  
 Speed: 12kt  
 Payload:  
 Day: 2 x EO cameras, 1 video, 1 high-res snapshot. Night: fused thermal and EO.  
 Serves or has served with the US Army, USMC, British Army, Australian Army, Norwegian Armed Forces, Dutch Army, German Army.  
 Powerplant: battery & electric motor driving two-blade main and tail rotors  
 Launch/recovery: VTOL

**GENERAL ATOMICS AERONAUTICAL SYSTEMS INC**



**Avenger**

Length: 13m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 8,573,255kg  
 Endurance: 2018hr  
 Altitude: 50,000ft  
 Span: 230m  
 Range: LOS/global  
 Speed: 350 to 400kt  
 Payload Capacity: 15881,751kg internal, 13602,722kg external  
 Payloads: EO/IR, Lynx multi-mode radar, SIGINT/ESM, comms relay.  
 Weapons: Hellfire missiles, GBU-12/49, GBU-31, GBU-32, GBU-38 JDAM, GBU-39, GBU-16/48 guided bombs  
 Powerplant: Pratt & Whitney PW545B turbofan engine  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv



**Gray Eagle**

Length: 9m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 1,633kg  
 Endurance: 25hr  
 Altitude: 29,000ft  
 Span: 17m  
 Range: LOS/global  
 Speed: 167ktas  
 Payload Capacity: 261kg internal, 227kg external  
 Payloads: EO/IR, SAR/GMTI radar, communications relay, 4 x Hellfire missiles. Operated by the US Army.  
 Powerplant: HFE-160 HP heavy-fuel engine  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv



Length: 9m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 1,905kg  
 Endurance: 40+hr  
 Altitude: 25,000ft  
 Span: 17m  
 Range: LOS/global  
 Speed: 167ktas  
 Payload Capacity: 227181kg internal, 227kg external  
 Payloads: EO/IR, SAR/GMTI radar, communications relay.  
 Features: Open, modular architecture supports integration of three payloads simultaneously, with capacity for growth  
 Powerplant: HFE-180 HP heavy-fuel engine  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv



Length: 8m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 1,157kg  
 Endurance: 35hr  
 Altitude: 25,000ft  
 Span: 17m  
 Range: LOS/global  
 Speed: 120ktas  
 Payload Capacity: 147kg  
 Payloads: EO/IR, Lynx multi-mode radar, comms relay  
 Features: auto takeoff and landing, optimized fuel mapping  
 Powerplant: Heavily Modified Rotax 914 Turbo piston engine  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv



Length: 11m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 4,763kg  
 Endurance: 27hr  
 Altitude: 50,000ft MSL  
 Span: 20m  
 Range: LOS/global  
 Speed: 240ktas  
 Payload Capacity: 386kg internal, 1,361kg external  
 Payloads: MTS-B EO/IR, Lynx multi-mode radar, dual ARC-210 UHF/VHF radios with wing-tip antennas, other customer specific payloads  
 Weapons: Hellfire missiles, GBU-12, GBU-38, GBU-39 smart bombs  
 Operated by: USAF, US Homeland Security, Australia, France, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, UK (to be replaced by Protector RG Mk1).  
 Powerplant: Honeywell TPE331-10 turboprop 3-blade propeller  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv



Length: 11.7m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 5,670kg  
 Endurance: 40hr  
 Altitude: 40,000+ft  
 Span: 24m  
 Range: LOS/global  
 Speed: 210ktas  
 Payload Capacity: 363kg internal, 1814kg external  
 Payloads: Raytheon MTS-B EO/IR, GA-ASI Lynx multi-mode radar, VHF/UHF certified radios  
 Powerplant: Honeywell TPE331-10 turboprop driving pusher propeller  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv  
 Selected by UK (Protector RG Mk1) and Belgium.



Length: 0.8m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 5.6kg  
 Endurance: 1 hr 30min  
 Altitude: 1,500ft  
 Span: 2.2m  
 Range: 20km  
 Speed: 60kt max  
 Payload: 1.2kg  
 Colour TV/IR camera under belly for optimal coverage, stabilized picture with high-resolution imagery  
 Powerplant: Battery & electric motor  
 Launch/recovery: hand or cat/flip-over & parachute



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**Birdeye 650**

Length: 1m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 11kg  
 Endurance: > 4hr  
 Altitude: 1,500ft AGL  
 Wide coverage, stabilized day/night payload and moving target tracker  
 Powerplant: battery & electric motor, pusher propeller  
 Launch/recovery: cat/flip-over & parachute

Span: 3m  
 Range: 40km  
 Speed: 70kt  
 Payload: 1.2kg



**Birdeye 650D**

Length: 1.1m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 30kg  
 Endurance: > 15hr  
 Altitude: 15,000ft  
 Wide coverage, stabilized day/night payload and moving target tracker  
 Powerplant: Gasoline fuelled reciprocating engine  
 Launch/recovery: cat/parachute, flip over & airbag

Span: 4m  
 Range: > 150km  
 Speed: 80kt  
 Payload: 5.5kg



**Heron**

Length: 9.7m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 1,270kg  
 Endurance: >45hr  
 Altitude: 35,000ft  
 Multi Sensor Mission: EO/IR with LRF & designator, SAR, COMINT, ESM, comms relay etc  
 Remote operation: landing, takeoff and additional capabilities by Satellite Communication (SATCOM)  
 Powerplant: 1 x 135 HP Rotax 915ls B Certified electronic-controlled fuel injection engine  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv, automatic takeoff and landing system (ATOL)

Span: 16.6m  
 Range: 350km LOS, >1500km BLOS  
 Speed: 140kt  
 Payload: 470kg



**Heron TP**

Length: 14m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 5,670kg  
 Endurance: > 30hr  
 Altitude: 45,000ft  
 EO/IR/LRF/LD, synthetic aperture and maritime patrol radar, ELINT/COMINT, ESM and additional capabilities of payloads.  
 Powerplant: 1,200 hp Pratt & Whitney Canada PT6 Turboprop driving pusher propeller  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv, automatic takeoff and landing system (ATOL)

Span: 26m  
 Range: BLOS  
 Speed: 220kt  
 Payload: 2,700kg



**Maritime Heron**

Length: 9.7m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 1,270kg  
 Endurance: >45hr  
 Altitude: 35,000ft  
 Multi Sensor Mission: EO/IR with LRF & designator, MPR (Maritime Patrol Radar) / SAR, Sonobuoy (acoustic detector), MAD (Magnetic Anomaly Detector), COMINT, ESM, comms relay etc.  
 Remote operation: landing, takeoff and additional capabilities by Satellite communication (SATCOM)  
 Powerplant: 1 x 135 HP Rotax 915ls B Certified electronic-controlled fuel injection engine  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv, automatic takeoff and landing system (ATOL)

Span: 16.6m  
 Range: 350km LOS, >1500km BLOS  
 Speed: 140kt  
 Payload: 470kg



Panther

Length: 3m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 71kg  
 Endurance: > 6hr  
 Altitude: 3,000ft  
 Mini POP EO/IR/laser pointer turret  
 Powerplant: Hybrid system with internal combustion cruise engine and tilting electric motors and props  
 Launch/recovery: VTOL

Span: 8m  
 Range: 130km  
 Speed: 50kt  
 Payload: 8.5kg



Searcher Mk III

Length: 5.85m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 450kg  
 Endurance: 20hr  
 Altitude: 23,000ft  
 EO/IR or SAR/GMTI or SIGINT, aerial data relay  
 Powerplant: Jabiru 4-str "silent" piston engine  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv

Span: 8.55m  
 Range: 350km  
 Speed: 110kt  
 Payload: 120kg



Tactical Heron

Length: 7.3m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 600kg  
 Endurance: 24hr  
 Altitude: 23,000ft  
 Multi Sensor Mission: EO/IR with LRF & designator, maritime patrol radar (MPR)/ SAR, COMINT, ESM, comms relay etc. Up to 4 payloads simultaneously  
 Remote operation: landing, takeoff and additional capabilities by Satellite communication (SATCOM)  
 Powerplant: Rotax 912 ISC Sport certified electronic-controlled fuel injection engine  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv, automatic takeoff and landing system (ATOL)

Span: 10.6m  
 Range: 300km LOS,  
 >1500km BLOS  
 Speed: 120kt  
 Payload: 180kg



IA-3 Colibri

IDS

Length: 0.98m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 7,4kg  
 Endurance: 50min  
 Altitude: 3,000m  
 Stabilised reconnaissance sensors: IR thermal camera with a 640 x 512 resolution, 7.5 - 13.5 micron spectral band, EO FULL HD camera 20.4 megapixel with 30X optical zoom and 2X digital zoom.  
 Powerplant: 4 x 240 Kv electric motors

height: 0.4m  
 Range: > 5km  
 Speed: ≤ 65km/h  
 Payload: 1.5kg



IA-17

Length: 1.27m  
 Maximum take-off weight: > 25kg  
 Endurance: > 5hr  
 Altitude: 14,764ft  
 Gyro-stabilized turret with 15x zoom CMOS day camera and 4x thermal imager for night operations  
 Powerplant: 2-str gasoline engine  
 Launch/recovery: cat/para

Span: 2.8m  
 Range: 80km LOS  
 Speed: 160kph  
 Payload: 2.5kg

**INDRA**



Pelicano

Length: 3.4m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 200kg  
 Endurance: 4 to 6hr  
 Altitude: 11,811ft  
 Gyro-stabilized MMP EO/thermal camera, Automatic Identification System (AIS)  
 Powerplant: Heavy fuel engine burning JP5  
 Launch/recovery: VTOL

Span: 3.3m rotor dia  
 Range: 100km  
 Speed: 100kt  
 Payload: 30kg

**KOREA AEROSPACE INDUSTRIES**



RQ-101

Length: 4.7m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 300kg  
 Endurance: 6hr  
 Altitude: 14,764ft  
 Dual sensor day TV & thermal imaging turret  
 Powerplant: Rotary internal combustion engine driving pusher propeller  
 Launch/recovery: cat/para or conv

Span: 6.4m  
 Range: 80km radius  
 Speed: 100kt  
 Payload: 85kg (inc fuel)

**L-3**



Apex

Length: 1.85m  
 Maximum take-off weight: NA  
 Endurance: > 6hr  
 Speed: 60kt  
 EO, IR, EO/IR turrets from Controp's Stamp range, 3D imaging/mapping  
 Powerplant: battery & electric motor driving pusher propeller  
 Launch/recovery: cat/para

Span: 4.3m  
 Range: > 100km  
 Altitude: 18,000ft  
 Payload: ?

**LEONARDO**



Crex-B

Length: 0.45m  
 Maximum take-off weight: < 2.1kg ( $\pm 5\%$ )  
 Range: 10km Line of Sight (LOS)  
 Speed: 110km/h (max); 36km/h (cruise)  
 Altitude: 3100m ASL (30-500m (AGL) operational)  
 Payload:  
 3 stabilised payload modules for real-time monitoring: Two 'Colour TV' modules, One 'Infra Red' module, Digital links, Built-in video enhancement features (stabilisation, visual tracking, mosaicing, target locking)  
 In service with the Italian Armed Forces  
 Powerplant: Electrical propulsion  
 Launch/recovery: Hand release

Span: 1.7m  
 Endurance: > 70minutes



Falco

Length: 5.25m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 490kg  
 Endurance: 8 to 14hr  
 Altitude: > 16,404ft  
 EO/IR turret with laser designator, SAR/GMTI radar, multi-mode surveillance radar, AIS, ESM/COMINT, comms relay, hyperspectral imager.  
 Delivered to Pakistan Air Force. 5 customers total, including deployment on behalf of the United Nations (UN) MONUSCO peacekeeping operations in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).  
 Powerplant: 65 hp gasoline engine  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv

Span: 7.2m  
 Range: > 200km  
 Speed: 117kt  
 Payload: 70kg



Falco Evo

Length: 6.2m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 650kg  
 Endurance: > 20hr  
 Altitude: 19,685ft  
 EO/IR with laser designator, laser marker, SAR/GMTI radar, multi-mode surveillance radar, AIS, ESM, COMINT, comms relay, hyperspectral sensor  
 Delivery to the first of two Middle-East/Gulf customers, thought to be Jordan and Saudi Arabia, in January 2018. Deployed as part of the European Frontex surveillance research programme.  
 Powerplant: 80 hp gasoline engine  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv



Desert Hawk III

**LOCKHEED MARTIN**

Length: NA  
 Maximum take-off weight: 3.72kg  
 Endurance: 1.5hr  
 Altitude: 11,000ft  
 360-degree colour EO and IR video camera systems, plus other interchangeable, snap-on "Plug and Playloads"  
 Powerplant: battery & electric motor driving tractor propeller  
 Launch/recovery: hand/conv skid



Indago

Length: 0.81m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 2.3kg  
 Endurance: 50min  
 Altitude: 500ft AGL  
 Multiple hot-swappable payload options for ISR, search & rescue etc  
 Powerplant: battery & 4 x electric motors driving vertical propellers  
 Launch/recovery: VTOL



Kmax

Length: 15.83m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 3,175kg  
 Endurance: > 12hr  
 Altitude: > 20,000ft  
 Can carry up to 2,722 kg externally on cargo hook  
 Powerplant: Honeywell T53-17 turboshaft driving intermeshing rotors, no tail rotor  
 Launch/recovery: VTOL



Stalker XE

Length: NA  
 Maximum take-off weight: 10.9kg  
 Endurance: 8hr  
 Altitude: 12,000ft max launch alt  
 EO/IR with cursor-on-target, integrated tracker with scene lock moving target tracking, auto-track and follow navigation  
 Powerplant: solid oxide propane fuel cell & electric motor driving tractor propeller  
 Launch/recovery: cat/conv glide, VTOL option

## UAV LISTING



Vector Hawk

Length: 0.9m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 2.72kg  
 Endurance: 2.5hr  
 Altitude: NA  
 High quality EO/IR sensors  
 Powerplant: smart battery & electric motor driving tractor propeller,  
 100 percent waterproof  
 Launch/recovery: hand or canister/water or ground deep stall landing

Span: 1.5m  
 Range: NA  
 Speed: 25 to 70kt  
 Payload: 0.9kg

**LUCH**



Sokil 2

Length: 1.39m (tube)  
 Maximum take-off weight: 5kg  
 Endurance: 2hr  
 Altitude  
 Video camera and radio link to send target imagery back to armoured vehicle  
 Powerplant: battery & electric motor driving pusher propeller  
 Launch/recovery: tube/NA

Span: NA  
 Range: 20km  
 Speed: 65kt  
 Payload: 1kg

**NORTHROP GRUMMAN**



Global Hawk Block 30

Length: 14.5m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 14,628kg  
 Endurance: 24hr @ 2,222km  
 Altitude: 60,000ft  
 All-weather synthetic aperture, radar/moving target indicator, high-resolution electro-optical (EO) digital camera, and a third-generation infrared (IR) sensor working through common signal processor  
 Powerplant: Rolls-Royce AE3007 turbofan generating up to 8,500 lb thrust  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv,automatic

Span: 39.9m  
 Range: 22,780km (ferry)  
 Speed: 310kt loiter  
 Payload: 1,360kg



MQ-8B Fire Scout

Length: 7.3m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 1,429kg  
 Endurance: 5 to 8hr  
 Altitude: 20,000ft  
 EO/IR/LRF, mine detector, comms relay, maritime radar, AIS  
 Powerplant: 1 x Rolls-Royce 250 turboshaft engine driving main and tail rotors  
 Launch/recovery: VTOL

Span: 8.4m dia  
 Range: 1,104km  
 Speed: 115kt  
 Payload: 272kg



MQ-8C Fire Scout

Length: 12.6m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 2,722kg  
 Endurance: 12hr  
 Altitude: 16,000ft  
 EO/IR/LRF, comm relay, AIS, maritime radar (future), COBRA mine detector (future). Multiple payloads and configuration available  
 Powerplant: Rolls-Royce 250-C47E turboshaft engine driving main and tail rotors  
 Launch/recovery: VTOL

Span: 10.7m dia  
 Range: 2,272km  
 Speed: 135kt  
 Payload: 300 to 500lb



Triton

Length: 14.5m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 14,628kg  
 Endurance: > 24hr  
 Altitude: 56,500ft  
 The above figure is for internal payload. The MQ-4C Triton can also carry 1,089 kg externally. Sensors: Multi-Function Active Sensor Active Electronically Steered Array (MFAS AESA) radar, MTS-B multi-spectral targeting system  
 Powerplant: Rollls-Royce AE3007 turbofan generating up to 8,500 lb thrust  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv

**NOSTROMO DEFENSA**



Yarara

Length: NA  
 Maximum take-off weight: 22.5kg  
 Endurance: 6hr  
 Altitude: 9,843ft  
 IAI MicroPOP EO/IR turret  
 Powerplant: 1 x 8 hp Cubewano Sonic 35 multi-fuel rotary engine driving 3-blade pusher propeller mounted above the wing. Principal operator is the Argentinian Air Force.  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv

**PIAGGIO AEROSPACE**

Hammerhead



Length: 14.4  
 Maximum take-off weight: 6,146kg  
 Endurance: 16hr  
 Altitude: 45,000ft  
 Quoted payload weight allows 16 hr endurance. SkyISTAR mission system with sensors including FLIR Systems StarSafire 380HD EO/IR turret, Leonardo Seaspray 7300 E Radar. The Italian defence ministry has reportedly requested purchase of 20 aircraft.  
 Powerplant: 2 x 850 shp Pratt & Whitney Canada PT6A-66B pusher turboprops  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv

**SAFRAN**



Patroller

Length: 8.5m  
 Maximum take-off weight  
 Endurance: 20hr  
 Altitude: 20,000ft  
 Safran Euroflir 410 EO/IR turret plus COMINT, SIGINT, radar and other sensors.  
 The French Army is due to receive Patroller systems in 2019.  
 Powerplant: 1 x 115 hp Rotax 914F 4-cyl turbocharged liquid cooled engine  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv



Sperwer Mk II

Length: 3.5m  
 Maximum take-off weight:  
 Endurance: > 6hr  
 Altitude: 15,000ft  
 Safran Euroflir 350 day/night gyrostabilized optronic sensor (EO/IR). Principal operator is the French Army.  
 Powerplant: 1 x 70 hp Rotax 582 2-str engine  
 Launch/recovery: cat/para

**SCHIEBEL**

Camcopter S-100



Length: 3.11m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 200kg  
 Endurance: > 6 to > 10hr  
 Altitude: 18,000ft  
 EO/IR gimbals standard, with wide area search sensors, Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR), Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) scanners, Signal Intelligence (SIGINT) & Communication Intelligence (COMINT), communications relays, loudspeakers, transponders, dropping containers and under-slung loads as options.  
 Initial orders came from the UAE and 3 undisclosed nations, and Camcopter has been either ordered or tested by many more.  
 Powerplant: 50 hp rotary engine  
 Launch/recovery: VTOL

Span: 3.4m  
 Range: 200km  
 Speed: 120kt  
 Payload: 50kg

**SURVEY COPTER**

Aliaca



Length: 1.85m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 12kg  
 Speed: 52kt  
 Altitude: 9,843ft  
 T120 gyrostabilised EO/IR turret  
 Powerplant: battery & 1 electric motor driving a single tractor propeller  
 Launch/recovery: cat/belly

Span: 3m  
 Range: 10 to 50km  
 Endurance: 3hr  
 Payload: 1.1kg



DFV 2000 ER

Length: 2.27m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 22.5kg  
 Speed: 65kt  
 Altitude: 9,843m  
 T120 gyrostabilised EO/IR turret  
 Powerplant: 1 x fuel-injected 2-str engine  
 Launch/recovery: cat/conv

Span: 3.3m  
 Range: 50km  
 Endurance: 7hr  
 Payload: 2kg



Tracker 120

Length: 1.54m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 8.7kg  
 Speed: 48.6kt  
 Altitude: 8,202ft  
 T120 gyrostabilised EO/IR turret  
 Powerplant: battery & 2 x electric motors driving twin tractor propellers  
 Launch/recovery: hand/belly landing

Span: 3.3m  
 Range: 25km  
 Endurance: 1.5hr  
 Payload: 1.1kg

**TAI ANKA**



Anka

Length: 8m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 1,600kg  
 Endurance: 24hr  
 Altitude: 30,000ft  
 EO/IR laser designator and rangefinder, plus SAR/ISAR/GMTI sensors  
 Powerplant: 1 x 155 hp Thielert Centurion heavy fuel engine  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv

Span: 17.3m  
 Range: 200km  
 Speed: 117kt  
 Payload: 200kg



## UAV LISTING



Tactical (Watchkeeper)

Length: approx 5.7m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 550kg  
 Endurance: 16hr  
 Altitude: 16,000ft  
 Elbit Compass turret with visual, Infra-Red (IR) laser rangefinder and designator, Thales I-Master SAR/GMTI radar, radio relay, COMINT.  
 Principal operator is the British Army.  
 Powerplant: Powerplant: 1 x 52 hp UAV Engines R802/902 rotary  
 Launch/recovery: conv/conv

Span: 10.5m  
 Range: 200km  
 Speed: 95kt  
 Payload: 150kg

### UMS SKELDAR



R-350

Length: 3.2m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 150kg  
 Speed: 65kt  
 Payload: max 30 kg between main and nose payload bays  
 Nose & fuselage payload bays support options including EO/IR cameras, LiDAR, multi- and hyperspectral imaging systems, chemical sniffers  
 Powerplant: Turboshift burning Jet A1, JP8 and powering main and tail rotors  
 Launch/recovery: VTOL

Span: 3.5m (dia)  
 Endurance: >2hr  
 Altitude: 8,000ft



V-200 Skeldar

Length: 4m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 235kg  
 Speed: 81kt  
 Payload: 40kg  
 Optional payloads: advanced EO/IR turrets, Sentient Vision ViDAR, SAR/GMTI radar, hyper-spectral and multi-spectral cameras, comms relay systems  
 Powerplant: 1 x 54 hp Hirth heavy fuel engine running on Jet A1, JP5 & JP8  
 Launch/recovery: VTOL

Span: 4,6m (dia)  
 Endurance: > 5hr with 20kg payload at ISA  
 Altitude: 12'000ft

### YUGOIMPORT



Strsljen

Length: 8.75m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 750kg  
 Endurance: 4hr  
 Altitude: 13,123ft  
 EO/IR/laser targeting turret, 12 x small diameter guided missiles or unguided rockets  
 Powerplant: 1 x Phoenix 180 turboshaft engine  
 Launch/recovery: VTOL

Span: 7.63m  
 Range: 150km  
 Speed: 97.2kt  
 Payload: 350kg inc fuel

### ZALA AERO GROUP



ZALA 421-08M

Length: 0.425m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 2.5kg  
 Endurance: > 1.5hr  
 Payload: 300g  
 Gyro stabilized EO/IR sensors: HD video, 24 Mp photo, thermal imager.  
 Powerplant: Electric motor driving pusher propeller  
 Launch/recovery: hand launch, cat/para

Span: 0.81m  
 Range: 15/30\*km  
 Speed: 65-130km/h

\*ultra-long range option



Length: 0.86m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 6.5kg  
 Endurance: > 2.5hr  
 Payload: 1kg  
 Gyro stabilized EO/IR sensors: HD video, 42 Mp photo, thermal imager, gas detector, dosimeter  
 Powerplant: Electric motor driving pusher propeller  
 Launch/recovery: cat/para

\*ultra-long range option



Length: 1.10m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 7.5kg  
 Endurance: >4hr  
 Payload: 1.5kg  
 Gyro stabilized EO/IR sensors: HD video with 60-x optical zoom, 42 Mp photo, thermal imager, gas detector, dosimeter  
 Powerplant: Electric motor driving pusher propeller  
 Launch/recovery: cat/para

\*ultra-long range option



Length: 1.85m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 29.5kg  
 Endurance: 6/14hr  
 Payload: 5kg  
 Gyro stabilized EO/IR sensors: HD video with 60-x optical zoom, 42 Mp photo, laser scanner, thermal imager, gas detector, dosimeter  
 Powerplant: Electric motor driving pusher propeller/combustion engine  
 Launch/recovery: cat/para



Length: 1.18m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 10.5kg  
 Endurance: >4hr  
 Payload: 1,5kg  
 Gyro stabilized EO/IR sensors: HD video with 60-x optical zoom, 42 Mp photo, thermal imager, gas detector, dosimeter  
 Powerplant: Electric motor driving pusher propeller  
 Launch/recovery: cat/para

\*ultra-long range option



Length: 1.065m  
 Maximum take-off weight: 8kg  
 Endurance: 35min  
 Payload: 2kg  
 Gyro stabilised EO/IR sensors: HD video with 60-x optical zoom, 42 Mp photo, laser scanner, thermal imager, gas detector, dosimeter  
 Powerplant: 2 x 10,000 mAh 7S batteries driving 8 electric motors and vertical propellers (octocopter)  
 Launch/recovery: VTOL



# PROTECTOR IS UK'S NEXT GENERATION UNMANNED ISR

Interview with Wing Commander Iain Hutchinson, Royal Air Force,  
head of the Protector Combined Test Team

By Peter Donaldson





*Wing Commander Iain Hutchinson, Royal Air Force, Head of the Protector Combined Test Team standing in front of the UK-customised Protector.*

**M**uch more than a mere replacement for the General Atomics Aeronautical Systems (GA-ASI) Reaper in UK Royal Air Force (RAF) service, the Protector RG-1 will represent a major leap in capability and flexibility for commanders. This UK-customised variant of MQ-9B SkyGuardian, which is also known as the company's "certifiable Predator B", will be a potent weaponised Intelligence, Surveillance, Target Acquisition and Reconnaissance (ISTAR) platform. Its most important advances will be the ability to fly in all classes of airspace, the fact that it will not need a launch and recovery element, and its use of UK sovereign weapons, as Wing Commander Iain Hutchinson, who heads the Protector Combined Test Team, explains.

"From an intelligence gathering perspective, the platform has significantly enhanced sensors over Reaper, as well as much longer endurance. With clean wings without any weapons, the

aircraft will comfortably be able to fly for 30-plus hours on a single mission," he explains. He continues that Raytheon UK's Paveway IV laser and GPS guided bomb and MBDA's Brimstone missile will arm Protector instead of the GBU-12 and Hellfire missile used on Reaper.

#### **SMALLER LOGISTICAL FOOTPRINT**

The elimination of the need for a dedicated launch and recovery element represents a major reduction of the system's logistical footprint when deployed, which will simply consist of the aircraft and a small team of maintainers. "The aircraft will be started up and taxied, will take-off and fly its mission, then it will be recovered, land and taxi back, all over the satellite link," he says. "The second most significant difference is that it will be certified to fly in civilian airspace, and that is a first for this class of remotely piloted aircraft, and very much at the leading edge of innovation for this class of aircraft."

This combination of capabilities, he says, will make the system much easier to deploy.

He anticipates that the aircraft will be able to self-deploy across Europe to the Middle East or Africa and beyond, and at relatively short notice. "That's a much more flexible capability than Reaper currently offers," he notes.

Normally, Reaper vehicles have their wings removed and are loaded into a Boeing C-17 for deployment to an in-theatre operating base, and this will remain an option for Protector. At around 150 knots, Hutchinson says, Protector is not fast. "It takes a while to get anywhere if you are transiting a long way, but self-deployment is still potentially an easier option than taking it to bits and boxing it up."

A fast jet navigator by background, Wg Cdr Hutchinson flew in Tornado F3 fighter interceptors for almost a decade before transitioning to Reaper in 2012, training in the United States before serving as a sensor operator and flight commander on 13 Squadron based at RAF Waddington for three years. Like Reaper, Protector will be operated by a crew of three consisting of a pilot, sensor operator and mis-

sion intelligence coordinator.

He subsequently served as the Chief of Staff in the RAF's ISTAR Force Headquarters at Waddington, which will operate the Protector fleet when it enters service. When this organisation became involved in Protector's development as the launch customer, a need arose for a hands-on presence in the process, he was selected to head up the Combined Test Team in the US. This team includes General Atomics, the RAF and the US Air Force. The USAF is not a Protector customer, but has a watching brief to ensure that the technologies and capabilities being integrated into the system are appropriate to an export customer such as the US.

"The team's responsibility is to deliver Protector into front line service with an initial operating capability in the early 2020s," he says. "We must provide evidence through testing and evaluation that what we are getting is what we are asking for, that it is fit for purpose, and that it is safe and can be certified to fly in the classes of airspace in which we want to use it."

**AIRSPACE INTEGRATION**

The plan is for Protector to be cleared to fly in all classes of civilian airspace in the UK and

around the world, to which the team is taking an incremental approach in cooperation with the UK Military Aviation Authority (MAA) and the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) in the UK. Protector will be based at RAF Waddington for training and local operations, a first for the RAF's UAVs as Reaper has never been operated in UK airspace.

"It will come into service with a limited clearance to begin with in terms of airspace, but the systems that we are incorporating, including a detect and avoid system, mean that we will be able to expand that clearance in due course," he says.

What these avionic systems will be is largely down to the regulator, he stresses. "This is an interesting discussion because some of the regulations around using unmanned systems in civilian airspace are still being developed, so there is a parallel process around development work on the regulations, and development work on the systems that will work within them."

Like Reaper, Protector will have daylight and thermal Full Motion Video (FMV) capabilities in addition to Synthetic Aperture Radar/Ground Moving Target Indication (SAR/

GMTI), the latter provided by an upgraded version of General Atomics' own Lynx radar.

Asked about electronic warfare capabilities, Hutchinson said that there wasn't much "push" to integrate a defensive aids suite. Pressed on Electronic Support Measures (ESM) and Electronic Intelligence (ELINT), he wouldn't comment on any "additional capabilities" that may be integrated in Protector.

Protector won't be the 'be all and end all' in terms of intelligence gathering, but it will certainly add significantly to the information that is available. Layered with manned platforms and land-based sensors, it will be a key part of providing a good understanding of any battlespace or civilian environment.

The process of standing Protector up is one of turning General Atomics' SkyGuardian export product into a bespoke UK product. Protector is 'SkyGuardian plus,' he says, with the UK-specific capabilities including a new satcom system as well as the sovereign weapons.

"We are working very closely with the company on that developmental process of bringing the aircraft into service through a direct commercial sales relationship with General Atomics.

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According to Squadron Leader Ben Laidlaw, a completely redesigned cockpit was required to allow the Protector to fly in civilian airspace.

As far as progress is concerned, the team is now beginning the transition from the baseline work that the manufacturer has done to develop a flyable aircraft and to a process that will create a military capability. The biggest challenge, he says, is certification to fly in civilian airspace. "The regulatory authorities are very interested in how we integrate this kind of aircraft with manned traffic, from airliners to general aviation. "For us as a test team, proving that the aircraft is safe and airworthy is always going to be the hardest part of this process."

In contrast, he expects the weapon system work to be relatively straightforward. "We are integrating already proven weapons, so that makes life a lot easier from a test and evaluation perspective."

**THE FUTURE**

Protector will be introduced by mid-2024, ensuring maximum operational use of Reaper and a smooth transition to the new platform. Protector is set to continue its evolution after it enters service, something made easier by its

open electronic architecture that allows General Atomics to integrate a variety of options and demonstrate them. One option that the MoD is considering, he says, is a maritime optimised role fit.

"The ability to complement the P-8A Poseidon in the maritime patrol role is an aspiration. Although not currently funded, it is something that both the RAF and the Navy are looking at quite closely."

Protector's position is different from those of other UK UAV capabilities, which serve the Army and the Navy as organic assets, he says. "It will certainly be a step forward from Reaper in the sense that it will be much more of a flexible and configurable operational asset that can support any of the services, potentiall, anywhere in the world and could even support other government agencies including disaster relief and humanitarian activities." **A**



**ON THE COVER:**

On 7 August 2018, the US Air Force (USAF) completed the first-ever automated landing of an MQ-9 Block 5 Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA), followed by the first auto-takeoff on 9 August. (GA-ASI)

**Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Compendium**

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