JLTV Forward

Next–Gen Designs Go Next Phase Hot

From a field of six companies in competition during the Technology Development (TD) Phase of DoD's JLTV Program, three have been awarded contracts to enter the Engineering, Manufacturing and Development (EMD) Phase. AM General, Lockheed Martin and Oshkosh must now produce 22 vehicles over a 27-month period for the right to engage in full-rate production.

By Kevin Hunter, A&M Editor

The U.S. Department of Defense' Joint Light Tactical Vehicle Program recently transitioned from Technology Development (TD) Phase to EMD Phase with the award of three individual contracts. The Phase will cover a 27-month period resulting in the selection of a platform design for full-rate production.

COL David Bassett
JLTV JPO

Slated for two variants with sub-variations of those versions depending on mission; a four-door general purpose vehicle and a two-seat utility vehicle, JLTV, a replacement for the Department's legacy High Mobility Multi-Purpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV) tactical platform, will also be able to perform a variety of missions from full-crew compliment combat operations and FOB shelter implementation using an optional logistics trailer variant to ambulatory combat casualty evacuation. From armored personnel carrier to .50 caliber mounted offensive platform to up-armored vehicle with modular kitting for high-threat missions or light-armored for minimal threat ops.

"We are extremely pleased to announce the selection of the Lockheed Martin JLTV, AM General, and Oshkosh Defense designs as the three mature vehicles selected to enter the Engineering and Manufacturing Development Phase of the JLTV Program," said Col. David Bassett, project manager at the JLTV Joint Program Office. "We are confident that the selected vehicles are ready to demonstrate their ability to meet and exceed our requirements, deliver vehicles on schedule, and achieve the manufacturing and sustainment costs necessary to compete effectively for production."

JLTV will be built to accept and support a wide array of DoD tactical communications systems such as JTRS, SATCOM radio, C2 assets, and weapons systems such as common remotely-operated weapons station (CROWS) platforms supporting .50 caliber fire. Also inclusive to JLTV will be IED

detection systems, fire suppression systems, and modular armor kitting designed for custom-tailored mission ops.

"The JLTV requirement, acquisition strategy, and contract approach have all been structured to supply the Army and Marine Corps with a JLTV that provides the best possible balance of payload, protection, and performance at a reasonable cost," said Lt. Col. Michæl Burks (USMC), Military Deputy Project Manager, Joint Program Office Joint Light Tactical Vehicle.

"This will allow the JLTV to support the Army and Marine Corps through the full spectrum of missions on all types of terrain. The JLTV will be capable of supporting both services in a full-spectrum non-linear battlefield."

Major Milestones Ahead

The JLTV JPO has planned the following activities for the EMD Phase leading into the next phase of production/ fielding:

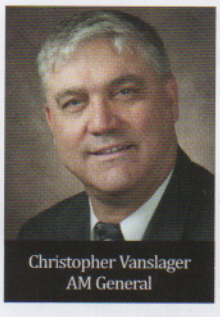
- Government Performance Test Start, FY13 4QTR
- Government Performance Test End, FY15 1QTR
- Milestone C, FY15 3QTR
- LRIP Contract Award, FY15 4QTR

"The JLTV program will continue to manage costs to the cost targets listed in our RFP of Average Unit Manufacturing Cost (AUMC) $250k in FY 11 Constant dollars," said Bassett. "The Army is currently reviewing its total requirements for light wheeled vehicles, but plans to procure 49,099 JLTVs with USMC procurement of 5,500 vehicles.

And now, let's here from the winners...

AM General

AM General's independent proposal for the U.S. military's new Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV), was selected by DoD for a $64.5 million Engineering, Manufacturing and Development (EMD) phase contract. The company will produce and deliver 22 prototypes of its Blast Resistant Vehicle - Off road (BRV-O) for government testing under the EMD phase.


Christopher Vanslager
AM General

"The BRV-O team's very strong, low risk offer meets 100-percent of the technical evaluation criteria and affordability targets," said Christopher P. Vanslager, VP of Business Development and Program Management. "This program is tremendously important on multiple levels. First and foremost, this program is incredibly important to our customer. Our country's warfighters need a mature, survivable, mobile and transportable light tactical vehicle now, and the AM General BRV-O provides that and much more in a modular, flexible and affordable solution. It is extremely important to AM General to support our customer, to strive to meet or exceed their program objectives and to deliver the affordable, low risk vehicle needed by our warfighters. We are honored to have been


AM General BRV-O

selected to help them on this critical initiative."

The selection is also important as the AM General team deeply believes in this vehicle's capabilities, and the tremendous advantages it provides the nation's warfighters. "BRV-O is ready now for EMD, incorporating more than 50 years of off road automotive knowledge," noted Vanslager. "As the most experienced tactical wheeled vehicle provider in the United States, AM General is uniquely focused on meeting the needs of the U.S. armed forces, and our team stands ready to move forward with our customer on this important program."

"Finally, the program is important as it validates AM General's complete dedication to fielding this vehicle for our country's warfighters as evidenced by the hard work and innovative spirit of the men and women of AM General. This vehicle is based on more than a decade of AM General investments in research, development and testing," remarked Vanslager. "It is a tribute to the design, engineering and program management that developed, integrated and tested BRV-O, and to the AM General workforce that has established a tremendous track record of supporting our military customers globally with innovative, affordable and dependable light tactical vehicle products and services for five decades."

AM General's BRV-O mobility technology, matured to meet warfighter demands, accumulated more than 300,000 operational test miles and demonstrated high reliability and maintainability. It also provides warfighters with the flexibility to traverse diverse terrain across a broad spectrum of conditions.

"BRV-O goes faster and farther on one tank of fuel and across more difficult terrain than any other vehicle in the class available today, and incorporates ergonomic designs that assure the warfighter arrives on the objective ready to fight and win," noted Vanslager.

BRV-O features a crew capsule and impressive modular armor system already proven effective in government-supervised blast testing. Its design can be readily adapted to future changes in missions, enemy threats and new protection technologies as they emerge. BRV-O also features AM General's lightweight, fuel efficient and high performance engine and transmission powertrain; a self-leveling suspension system; a C4ISR backbone