

Short Take-Off Vertical Landing (STOVL) Joint Strike Fighter (JSF)

Description

The STOVL JSF will be a single engine, stealthy, supersonic, strike-fighter aircraft capable of short take-offs and vertical landings. It will combine the basing flexibility of the AV-8 with the multi-role capabilities, speed, and maneuverability of the F/A-18 to fulfill both the air-to-ground and air-to-air requirements of the Marine Corps. The aircraft is intended to have a very low RF and IR signature with superior capabilities over the aircraft it will replace (AV-8B, F/A-18A/C/D) in the areas of survivability, lethality, and supportability.



Operational Impact

The STOVL JSF provides a multi-mission offensive air support and an offensive/defensive anti-air capability. The STOVL JSF also provides the MAGTF with a platform capable of tactical air control and tactical reconnaissance. Additionally, the aircraft will be able to provide suppression of enemy air defenses. The requirements for this aircraft are focused on readiness, expeditionary capability, the combined arms concept, and the conduct of EMW.

Program Status

The STOVL JSF is a Joint program with the Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps and includes the United Kingdom. On 26 Oct 2001, a Prime Contractor was selected as the program entered the Systems Development and Demonstration Phase (SDD). In the previous phase, three variants of the JSF were flown: the Conventional Takeoff and Landing (CTOL) to be used by the Air Force; the Carrier Variant (CV) to be used by the Navy; and the Short Takeoff and Vertical Landing (STOVL) variant to be used by the USMC and the

United Kingdom. The Marine Corps anticipates first aircraft delivery in FY08 with IOC of the first JSF squadron in FY10.



Procurement Profile:	FY02	FY03
Quantity:	0	0

Developer/Manufacturer Lockheed Martin/Northrop Grumman/British Aerospace Engineering
Pratt & Whitney/General Electric