M1A1 Tank Firepower Enhancements (FEP)

DESCRIPTION

The Firepower Enhancements Program system is a suite of upgrades for the M1A1 main battle tank. It will include a second-generation thermal sight and a far-target location (FTL) capability. The second-generation thermal sight consists of upgrades to the M1A1 stabilization system, infrared optics, an infrared focal plane array, associated analog and digital electronics, display, brackets, and cables. The FTL system consists of a North-Finding Module (NFM), bracket, cables, and inputs from the existing laser rangefinder and Precision Lightweight Global Positioning System Receiver (PLGR). The FTL system will provide the tank crew with accurate target location within two seconds after lasing the target. The FTL solution is determined using the inputs of the laser rangefinder, PLGR, and NFM.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

As part of a MAGTF, the M1A1 tank provides maneuver and armor protected firepower to the ground combat element. As the mobility and survivability of threat systems improve, the M1A1 must increase the speed and accuracy with which it acquires and engages targets. The M1A1 FEP system will provide thermal imaging and FTL capability that will overmatch threat sensor performance, thereby improving the ability of USMC tank crews to engage and defeat an enemy at extended ranges. The M1A1 FEP system will provide for increased target detection, recognition, identification, and FTL capabilities during day and night operations, through smoke, fog, or other battlefield obscurants.

PROGRAM STATUS

The program is currently in system development and demonstration.

PROCUREMENT PROFILE:	FY03	FY04
Quantity:	*0*	*4*

DEVELOPER/MANUFACTURER
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