

OFFENSIVE AIR SUPPORT

STOVL Joint Strike Fighter (JSF)

DESCRIPTION

The STOVL JSF will be a single engine, stealthy, supersonic, strike-fighter aircraft capable of short takeoffs 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 both of the aircraft it will replace (AV-8B, F/A-18C/D) in the areas of survivability, lethality, and supportability.

PROCUREMENT PROFILE:	FY00	FY01
<i>Quantity:</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

The JSF provides a multi-mission offensive air support and an offensive/defensive anti-air capability. The 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 OMFTS.

PROGRAM STATUS

The JSF is a Joint program with the Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps. Presently the program is in the Concept Demonstration Phase, with two contractors, Boeing Aircraft Company and Lockheed Martin, building an aircraft that will fly in FY00. The Marine Corps anticipates first aircraft delivery in FY08 with IOC of the first JSF squadron in FY10. Total procurement for the Marine Corps will be 609 aircraft.

DEVELOPER/MANUFACTURER

Boeing/Lockheed Martin

Hughes/Westinghouse

Pratt & Whitney/General Electric