

Direct Air Support Central Airborne System (DASCAS)

DESCRIPTION

The DASCAS consists of one shelter that can be mounted in specially modified KC-130F/R/T aircraft or the bed of an M923/925 or MTRV truck. Seven operators within the DASCAS can select from seven radios (3 ultra-high frequency, 2 high



frequency, 1 very high frequency, and 1 SATCOM) inside the shelter. The DASCAS is a replacement for the AN/UYQ-3A. Its function is to complement the AN/TSQ-207 Communications-Air Support Central (CASC) by performing the air mission for the Direct Air Support Center (DASC). The

DASCAS can also be used as a forward element of the DASC and, when necessary, can assume the functions of a Deep Battle Management cell. There are ten AN/UYQ-3As within the USMC that will be replaced by the DASCAS.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

The DASCAS will function as the principle agency for the coordination and control of offensive air support operations. The DASCAS can operate in either an autonomous mode or in conjunction with other control elements of the Marine Air Command and Control Systems. The fielding of the upgraded DASCAS will not cause any doctrinal changes in the DASCAS function.

PROGRAM STATUS

In FY 2002, DASCAS began developmental testing. A Milestone C decision and then initial operational capability is anticipated by late FY 2003. Full operational capability is to be achieved by the end of FY 2005.

PROCUREMENT PROFILE: FY03 FY04

Quantity: 3 2

DEVELOPER/MANUFACTURER

Naval Surface Warfare Center Division, Crane, IN