# *News Release*

## Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

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3701 North Fairfax Drive
Arlington, VA 22203-1714

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**DARPA AWARDS FUNDING FOR JOINT UNMANNED COMBAT AIR SYSTEMS COMMON OPERATING SYSTEM INTEGRATOR/BROKER**

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) today awarded Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory of Laurel, Md., a $26,941,808 other transaction to act as the integrator/broker of the Common Operating System (COS) development for the Joint Unmanned Combat Air Systems (J-UCAS) demonstration program over the next five years.

The objective of DARPA's J-UCAS program is to develop, demonstrate and transition an affordable, lethal, survivable, and supportable unmanned combat air system to meet the operational needs of the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Navy. To achieve this, J-UCAS is developing a COS that will enable interoperability among multiple air vehicles and control elements, facilitating the integration of other subsystems such as sensors, weapons, and communications. The COS will encompass applications and services that provide command and control, communications management, mission planning, interactive autonomy and the human systems interface.

"J-UCAS is a collection of platforms, both aircraft and control elements, that are integrated by the Common Operating System," said Michael S. Francis, director of the J-UCAS program. "The integrator/broker plays a key role in overseeing the collaboration of all technology contributors towards the successful development of the COS."

In this critical role, the Johns Hopkins team will operate as an impartial broker and potentially as an integrator within a consortium that will soon be established. This consortium will include the program's air vehicle primes (Boeing Co. and Northrop Grumman Corp.) as well as other technology contributors to develop the COS. The Johns Hopkins team is charged with facilitating, coordinating, and, if necessary, completing the development of the J-UCAS enterprise architecture and integration of the COS. The group will also develop and maintain an executable J-UCAS architectural model, provide available infrastructure to support technology identification and evaluation, and maintain configuration control of Interface Control Documents and COS software releases.

Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory heads a team that includes TechGuard Security LLC, Chesterfield, Mo., and Holmes-Tucker International, Hampton, Va.

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*The J-UCAS program is a joint Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency/U.S. Air Force/U.S. Navy effort to demonstrate the technical feasibility, military utility, and the operational value of a networked system of high-performance, weaponized, unmanned air vehicles to effectively and affordably execute combat missions. The J-UCAS Common Operating System will allow unmanned aircraft systems to intra-operate with each other and with the Global Information Grid. The J-UCAS system-of-systems concept plans to demonstrate the military utility and the operational value of airpower in the 21st century combat environment. More information on the J-UCAS program can be found at http://www.darpa.mil/j-ucas. Media with questions, please contact Jan Walker, (703) 696-2404, or jwalker@darpa.mil .*