



Defense Security Cooperation Agency
NEWS RELEASE

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SWITZERLAND – Sidewinder Air-to-Air Missiles

On 7 June, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency notified Congress of a possible Foreign Military Sale to Switzerland of AIM 9X Sidewinder tactical air-to-air missiles and associated equipment and services. The total value, if all options are exercised, could be as high as \$104 Million.

The Government of Switzerland has requested a possible sale of 222 AIM-9X Sidewinder Tactical Missiles, eight (8) NATM-9X Telemetry Missiles, 45 CATM-9X Captive Air Training Missiles, missile containers, missile modifications, test sets and support equipment, spare and repair parts, publications and technical data, maintenance, personnel training and training equipment, U.S. Government and contractor representatives, contractor engineering and technical support services, and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$104 million.

The Government of Switzerland is a political and economic power in Europe and a partner of the United States in ensuring peace and stability in that region. It is vital to the U.S. national interest to assist the Swiss in developing and maintaining a strong and ready self-defense capability which will contribute to an acceptable military balance in the area.

The AIM-9X Sidewinder missile enhances self-defense capabilities bringing Swiss Air Force (SAF) F/A-18s up to capabilities found in neighboring country military forces. The incremental effect of the sale of AIM-9X on the overall capability of the SAF should not be particularly significant.

The Swiss Air Force has extensive experience operating the F/A-18 aircraft and should have no difficulties incorporating this upgraded weapon into their forces. The Swiss Air Force needs this upgrade to keep pace with high tech advances in weaponry.

The prime contractor will be Raytheon Systems Corporation of Tucson, Arizona. One or more proposed offset agreements may be related to this proposed sale.

This notice of a potential sale is required by law; it does not mean that the sale has been concluded.