



AERAM

Advanced Extended Range Attack Missile



Summary

- Allows the full exploitation of the target detection and tracking capability currently under development
- Expands battle space to defeat the threat at extended ranges
- Increases available time to make attack/abort decisions
- Intelligent abort/destroy feature minimizes collateral damage
- Secondary surface-to-surface mission

AERAM will provide a cost-effective solution against subsonic Cruise Missiles (CMs), Unmanned Aerial Systems (UASs) and other subsonic airborne threats.

The AERAM approach combines battle-proven off-the-shelf components and an existing launch vehicle to provide an expanded and enhanced capability. Initial implementation will be as a complementary munition launched from a Surface Launched Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile (SLAMRAAM) launcher. All interfaces will be compatible with Integrated Air and Missile Defense sensors and command and control infrastructures. AERAM can be employed from any platform integrated with an AIM-120 rail. Inherent growth features provide for long range, precision, surface to surface missions as well as extended range Air Defense applications.

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The continued proliferation of low cost, long range, accurate, UASs pose a real and growing threat both in theater and within the homeland. Characteristics of these threats include:

- relatively low cost
- relatively easy to deploy
- effective; can deliver conventional and weapons of mass destruction warheads
- in a surge capacity, these unmanned aerial systems could divert attention from higher value, more lethal threats

Coupled with long range surveillance and an effective command and control infrastructure, a long range, low cost approach to defeating these types of threats can prove beneficial on the modern battlefield.

In a Homeland Defense scenario where unambiguous combat identification is critical to preclude fratricide and collateral damage, AERAM is designed to provide positive control of the missile from rail to target, enabling the operator to receive targeting information directly from the missile seeker.

The missile employs the AIM 9X imaging seeker. The missile includes a data link which is used to provide positive control and guidance of the missile to the target area. The missile can pass target imagery to the C2 center.

As an air-breathing missile, the flight characteristics provide persistence and the ability to fly formation with the potential threat while attack/abort decisions are made. It may also be used in a typical air defense engagement profile.



For more information, please contact:
U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/
U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command
P.O. Box 1500
Huntsville, AL 35807-3801
Phone: 256-955-5466
Fax: 256-955-1214
Email: webmaster@smdc.army.mil