

News Release

15 September 2009

Cobham Enables F-35B Aerial Refueling

ARLINGTON, Virginia – Cobham – the market leader in aerial refueling products and technologies – enabled the recently completed aerial refueling tests of the F-35B, the short-take-off-and-vertical-landing (STOVL) variant of the Joint Strike Fighter destined for the US Marine Corps, Royal Air Force and Royal Navy, and the Italian Air Force and Navy. During these tests, fuel was transferred from a KC-130 tanker equipped with Cobham aerial refueling pods, to an F-35 equipped with a Cobham aerial refueling probe.

Cobham Mission Equipment will provide the robust, light-weight, high-fuel rate probe to each F-35B and F-35C (carrier variant) via Parker Aerospace, the aircraft's lead fuel system designer and supplier. The retractable, 5.5 foot-long aluminum alloy probe is located on the right side of the forward fuselage. Cobham was selected to provide the probe in 2002, and qualified probes are now in production.



Image caption: A USMC KC-130 tanker equipped with Cobham aerial refueling pods passes fuel to an F-35B STOVL variant equipped with a Cobham aerial refueling probe during recent tests over Texas; image courtesy of Lockheed Martin.

- more -



News Release

The US Navy and Marine Corps are scheduled to buy approximately 680 F-35Bs and F-35Cs, while the United Kingdom is expected to buy approximately 138 F-35Bs. Cobham also makes aerial refuelling probes for the Harrier jump jet, the Gripen multi-role fighter, and the V-22 Osprey tiltrotor aircraft.

Beyond probes, Cobham is also the market leader in aerial refuelling pods. There are today more than 150 US Marine Corps KC-130s and US Air Force C-130 tanker tankers equipped with various models of Cobham pods. In addition, Cobham aerial refueling pods also equip strategic tankers such as the KC-10s and KC-135s used by the USAF, and the A330 for Australia, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and the United Kingdom.

About Cobham:

Cobham's products and services have been at the heart of sophisticated military and civil systems for more than 70 years, keeping people safe, improving communications, and enhancing the capability of land, sea, air and space platforms. The Company has four divisions employing more than 12,000 people on five continents, with customers and partners in over 100 countries and annual revenue of more than £1.4bn / US\$2.1 billion.

Cobham Mission Equipment is the world market leader for air-to-air Refuelling, providing fourth generation 'nose to tail' solutions from the cockpit of the donor aircraft to the tail of the receiver platform. To date, more than 1,000 systems have been delivered for buddy-buddy refuelling and for tactical and strategic tanking for fixed and rotary wing aircraft, with expertise now extended into the development of autonomous UAV to UAV refuelling.

Contacts:

Greg Caires
Media Relations
+1 703 414 5319
greg.caires@cobham.com

Julian Wais
Investor Relations
+44 (0) 1202 857998
julian.wais@cobham.com