NATO AGS Components

The airborne entity is based on a modified RQ-4 Block 40 High-Altitude, Long-Endurance (HALE) Unmanned Air Vehicle (UAV), enhanced to support NATO specific interoperability and communications requirements. The UAV is equipped with the state-of-the-art midband, Multi-Platform Radar Technology Insertion Program (MP-RTIP) ground surveillance radar sensor enhanced with an extensive suite of network-centric enabled Line-of-Sight (LOS) and Beyond-Line-of-Sight (BLOS) long-range, wide-band data links.

The European-based ground entities include a number of mobile and transportable ground stations, all managed by the Mission Operations Support (MOS), providing mission planning, connectivity, data processing and exploitation capabilities. In addition, they provide an interface between the AGS Core system and a wide range of interoperable NATO and National Command, Control, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C2ISR) systems.

The Air Vehicle Mission Command and Control (AVCMC) provides overall mission command and control of multiple air vehicles, coordination with interoperable NATO and National C2ISR systems and coordination of the ground entities through the MOS across geographically dispersed theatres of operations. This AVCMC capability provides multiple UAV command and control, theatre wide BLOS and sensor and information management within an integrated ground-based Operations Centre. The MOS and AVCMC along with the training and logistics support elements will be located at the Main Operating Base (MOB) at Sigonella Air Base in Italy.

NATO AGS – The height of ISR knowledge

NORTHROP GRUMMAN