Maritime Laser Weapon System
Proven, capable, affordable
Maritime Laser Weapon System

Naval Defense at the Speed of Light
Current and advanced threats create increasing operational challenges for the U.S. Navy and conventional defense systems. Traditional and irregular warfare threats – including swarming small boats, UAVs, enemy aircraft and anti-ship cruise missiles – are proliferating and growing more difficult to detect, track, engage, disable or destroy.

To counter these threats, the fleet requires affordable countermeasures with operational flexibility and military superiority. Northrop Grumman high-energy laser systems have demonstrated their speed-of-light weapons capabilities and can provide the solutions warfighters need.

Maritime Laser Weapon System
The Maritime Laser Weapon System (MLWS) concept leverages solid state laser technology from years of research and proven laboratory demonstrations to create a near-term operational laser weapon with substantial payoff for the warfighter.

Northrop Grumman’s solid state laser architecture allows for power levels scaling to the 100 kilowatt class, preserving good beam quality to defend ships from a wide variety of threats.

MLWS is a cost-effective weapon when compared with more traditional munitions, providing the combatant commander the option of using a low-cost-per-engagement laser weapon instead of expensive missiles with limited magazine against low-value targets.

Additionally, high resolution images provided by the stabilized, optical pointing and tracking system yield an extremely effective, multi-mission capability for situational awareness and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions at long ranges.

Northrop Grumman’s recent record-breaking performance of concurrent electric laser power levels, beam quality, and run-time, combined with new compact, modular and rugged designs, solidify the technological readiness of solid-state laser weapons. With low cost per shot, deep magazine, and ultra-precision, Northrop Grumman high-energy lasers will help the U.S. Navy address current and future threats.

Laser weapon ship integration analyses have been performed to determine potential beam director and subsystem locations for DDG 51.

MLWS can be configured to defend against anti-ship missiles providing an ultra-precise, low cost-per-shot solution for U.S. Navy threats.

Northrop Grumman Laser Systems: Defense at the Speed of Light

www.northropgrumman.com/aerospacesystems
© 2012 Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation
All rights reserved.
Aerospace Systems Marketing Communications
12-1957 • AS • 12-97204-06/12