

# U.S. ARMY RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND ENGINEERING COMMAND

Aviation S&T for the AMTC

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# **AMRDEC AVIATION S&T**

# Focus:

- **Discover**, **Mature** and **Demonstrate** technologies that support desired Aviation capabilities
- Combine technologies into capabilities



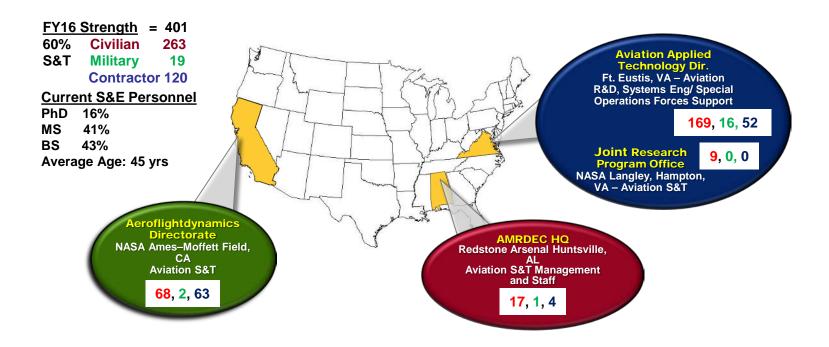
# **Strategies:**

- Develop body of technical knowledge that supports decisions and develop early versions of "the system"
- ADD is not an engineer staffing source for existing platforms



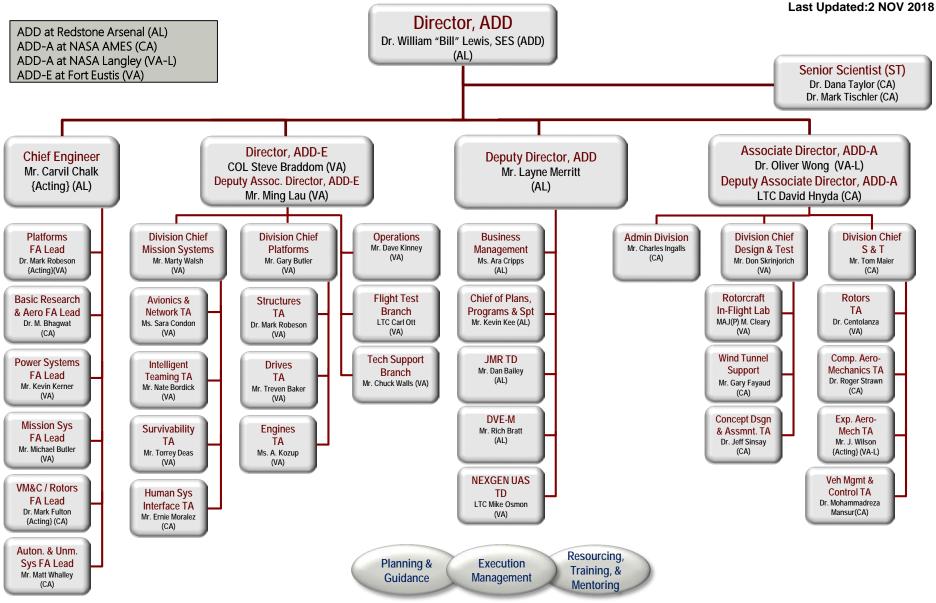
# Manage and conduct basic research (6.1), applied research (6.2), and advanced technology development (6.3)

- Provide one-stop life cycle engineering and scientific support for aviation systems and UAS platforms
- Mature technology to maintain relevance of current fleet
- Develop and mature technologies to support the future fleet





## AVIATION DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE ORGANIZATION







Ballistics Test Facility

Countermeasures Test Facility



Structural Test Facility

*Ft. Eustis, VA* **Component Testing** 

*Ft. Eustis, VA* Signature Characterization of Turbine Engines *Ft. Eustis, VA* **Rotor- Blade Test Fixture and Structures Backstop for Loads/Fatigue Testing** 



14-by-22 Foot Subsonic Tunnel

NASA Langley, VA Helicopter Aerodynamics, Performance and Configurations



National Full-Scale Aerodynamics Complex

Moffett Field, CA Advanced Testing of Full Scale Rotorcraft



Large Rotor Test Apparatus

Moffett Field, CA Full Scale Rotorcraft Component Testing

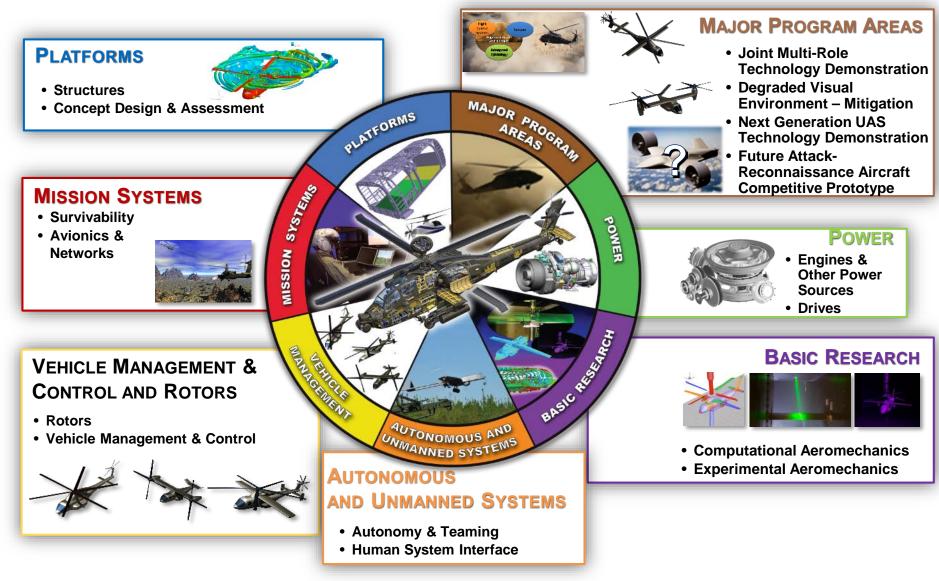


**Tiltrotor Test Rig** 

Moffett Field, CA Full Scale Tilt-Rotor Testing



## **S&T FOCUS AREAS**





•ADD S&T efforts aligned to the CSA Priorities – Future Vertical Lift

•Expertise focused on core aviation technologies: aeromechanics, sustainment, power systems, autonomy, platforms, rotors, survivability, and vehicle control

•Major Programs support the FVL Cross-Functional Team Lines of Effort

- FLRAA
- FARA
- Advanced UAS



Army Aviation S&T: Resilient and Adaptable to the Changing Environment



# WHAT INFORMS THE PORTFOLIO

- 1. CSA Priorities & CFT Initiatives
- 2. Stakeholder capability needs and technology objectives (PEO, TRADOC, COCOMs, AMCOM, etc.)
- 3. Aviation S&T Strategic Plan (2018)
- 4. Army S&T priorities (ASAALT DASA(RT))
- 5. DoD priorities (OSD)
- 6. Future Outlooks (TRADOC)
- 7. Warfighter Outcomes / Wargaming Exercises
- 8. Future aviation requirements (JMR TD, FARA, FLRAA, AUAS, MOSA)















## STRATEGIC GOALS

- Provide air vehicles and technologies for battlefield persistence and rapid response
- Implement open systems architectures
- Develop air-launched effects to conduct mission sets using modular payloads
- Demonstrate autonomy and cooperative teaming using autonomous decision-making in heterogeneous formations





- Explore novel power generation, storage, and distribution technologies
- Dominate complex environments through navigation and airspace management for teams operating in natural clutter and high-density airspace
- Reduce fielding timelines and lower technical risks
- Sculpt the government workforce to respond with adaptability and agility while retaining core competencies







Army Aviation S&T: Informing the Future – Supporting the Present



# FUTURE ATTACK RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT (FARA)

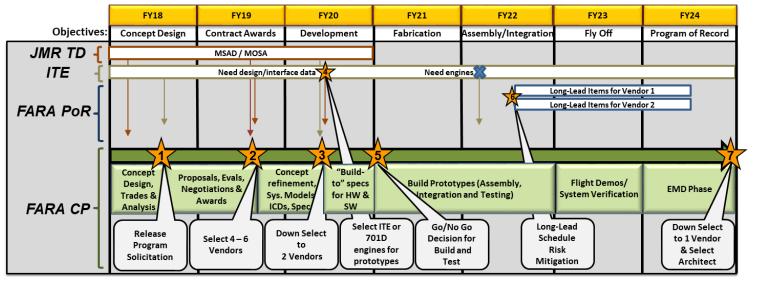
#### **Description:**

• Optionally piloted, close combat reconnaissance and lethality designed to operate in large scale combat operations in complex and degraded environments

### Strategy/Approach:

- Streamlined competitive prototyping effort executed outside of DoD 5000.02 using 6.4 RDT&E funding
- Minimal requirements (Size, Improved Turbine Engine, 20mm Weapon); maximum trade space
- Other Transaction Authority for Prototyping (OTAP); Fixed Price; Statement of Objectives
- Draft Solicitation released 22 Jun 2018
- Industry Day held 28 Jun 2018
- Solicitation release 24 Sep 2018 (planned)
- Execution similar to Joint Multi-Role Technology Demonstration (JMR TD):
  - Lean staffing w/ judicious use of control measures and decision points
  - Industry given latitude to be innovative within trade space
  - Minimizing scope for follow-on acquisition program
- Transition to Program of Record for full system qualification and production

	-	Decision Point
$\bigstar$	3Q FY18	Approve Acquisition Strategy and release of Program Solicitation using Other Transaction Program Agreements
*	3Q FY19	Select 4 – 6 vendors to begin development
$\mathbf{x}$	2Q FY20	Down select to two (2) vendors and commit to ITE or 701D engines for flight demos
☆	1Q FY21	Go/No go decision to proceed with building prototypes for flight demo and fly off competition
$\star$	4Q FY24	Down select to one (1) vendor to complete Engineering, Manufacturing and Design (EMD) and prepare for production





JOINT MULTI-ROLE TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATOR (JMR TD) – BELL

# Video



## Purpose:

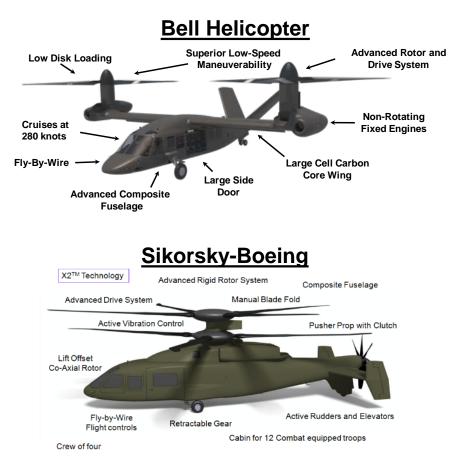
Demonstrate transformational vertical lift capabilities to prepare the DoD for decisions regarding the replacement of the current vertical lift fleet

## Scope:

- Design, build, and fly two demonstrator aircraft (not prototypes)
- Sub-system technology demonstrations and system integration analyzes
- Increasingly complex architecture demonstrations

## **Outcomes:**

- System-level demonstrations of advanced rotorcraft configurations that satisfy Future Vertical Lift (FVL) performance goals
- New component and manufacturing technologies
- Standards and tools for open architectures
- Advanced Modeling & Simulation tools and aircraft design capabilities
- Technology roadmaps, cost analysis and technical risk assessments to inform FVL acquisition and funding



# **JMR MISSION SYSTEMS ARCHITECTURE DEMO (MSAD)**



U.S. ARMY RDECOM

#### **Effective Acquisition**

- Competitive Opportunities
- Reduced Vendor Lock
- Increased Affordability

#### **Efficient Integration**

- Reduced Time to Field
- Improved Capabilities
  - Portable / Reusable
  - Interoperable
  - Upgradeable / Resilient
  - Planned Variability
- **Efficient Qualification** - Safe/Secure

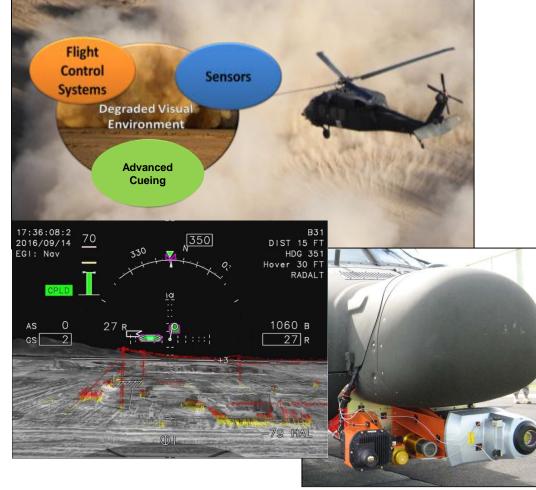
Investigate/Mature processes, tools and standards necessary to specify, analyze, design, implement and qualify a Mission Systems Architecture in support of emerging FVL PoR that meets Army business goals

#### Approach:

- Leverage or develop the standards and tools necessary to successfully implement a mission systems architecture
- Execute a series of increasingly complex demos Learn by doing Focus Areas:
- Implementation of Open Systems Architectures (OSA)
  - Joint Common Architecture (JCA)
  - EACE™ Technical Standard
  - Hardware Open Systems Technologies (HOST)
- Application of Model Based Engineering (MBE)
  - Model-based specification/acquisition
- Execution of an Architecture Centric Virtual Integration Process
  - Predictive performance assessment



# DEGRADED VISUAL ENVIRONMENT - MITIGATION



## Purpose:

- Enable pilots to fly in all environmental conditions
  - Smoke/Smog, Sand/Dust, Fog/Rain/Clouds/Snow
- 360° situational awareness (SA)
- Low-latency Local Imagery shared between cooperating aircraft
- Multi-function Sensors terrain avoidance and threat detection

## Scope:

- Technical assessment of system performance and maturity
- Cost and developmental risk assessment
- Demonstrated integration of multi-function sensors, advanced flight controls, and pilot cueing
- · Ready for incorporation with autonomy efforts

## Outcomes:

- Execute combat rotorcraft operations in degraded visual environments and adverse environmental conditions
- Increased survivability & operational effectiveness of
- Safety
- Exploiting Adverse Environments for Tactical Advantage



# DEGRADED VISUAL ENVIRONMENT MITIGATION (DVE-M)

# Video



### Purpose:

Develop and Demonstrate the integration of autonomous functions that enhance crew performance and enable unmanned systems to operate independent from and interdependent with real-time human input

## <u>Scope:</u>

Enable crew to execute role of mission

manager

Demonstrate Adaptive Flight Controls and Autonomous Onboard Systems

Assess Capability of Autonomous Agents for Awareness of Location, Mission, Capability, and Alternatives Develop Criteria for Prioritizing and Assessing Adaptive Behaviors

## Outcomes:

Reduced Crew Cognitive Workload Adaptable, Self-Reconfiguring groups of Autonomous Systems





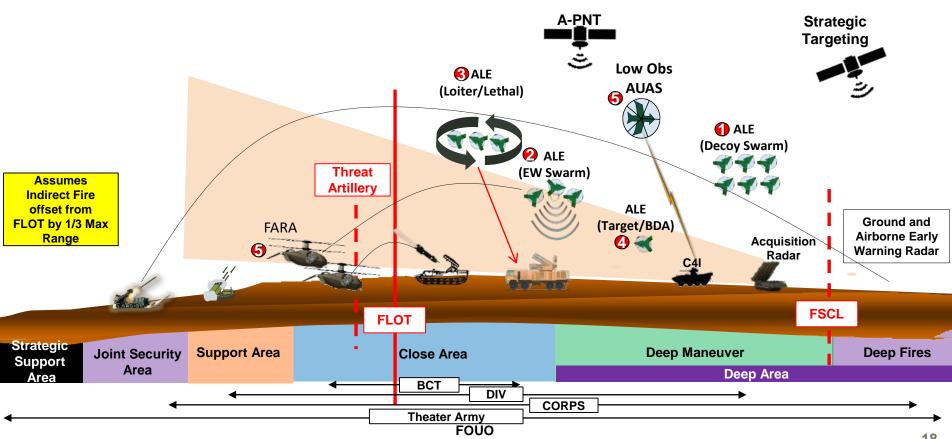
# Video



"Advanced teaming is the symbiotic effort of manned rotary wing and fixed wing aircraft, unmanned aircraft systems, ground vehicles, and air launched effects (ALE) to accomplish the full range of multi-domain operational missions with enhanced and distributed situational awareness, greater lethality, and improved survivability."

#### Layered Breaching

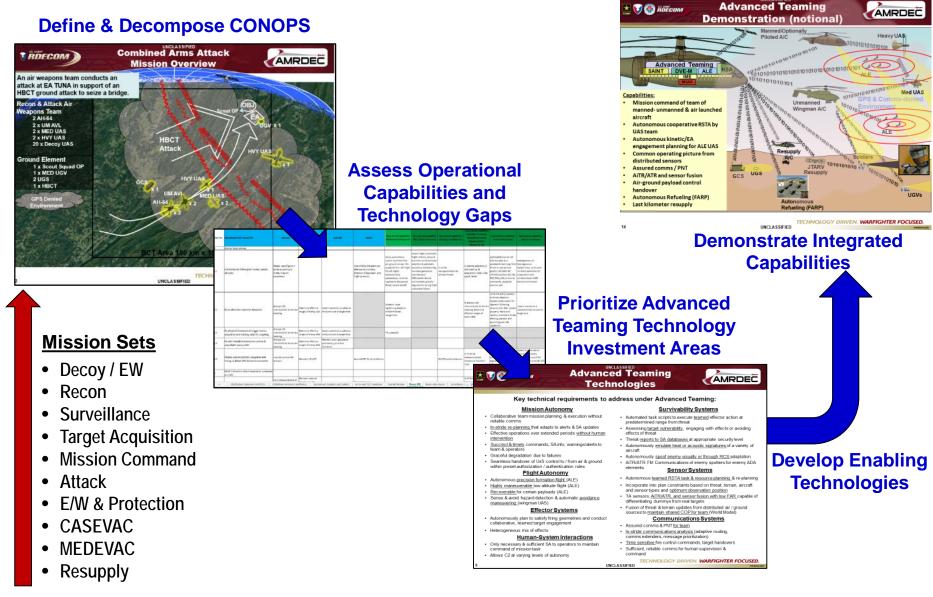
- Decoy stimulates IADS signature
- EW conducts stand-in jamming
- Contract Contract Stress Co
- Optical provides BDA
- STA, Kinetic/Non-Kinetic Attack



- TCM-FVL, FVL CFT



# **TECH DEVELOPMENT APPROACH**



# OPERATIONAL TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Key subsystems technology requirements to demonstrate Advanced Teaming

### **Mission Autonomy**

- <u>Collaborative team mission planning</u> & execution without reliable comms
- In-stride re-planning that adapts to alerts & SA updates
- Effective operations over extended periods <u>without human</u>
  <u>intervention</u>
- <u>Succinct & timely</u> commands, SA info, warnings/alerts to team & operators
- Graceful degradation due to failures
- Seamless handover of UxS control to / from air & ground within preset authorization / authentication rules

### **Flight Autonomy**

- Autonomous precision formation flight
- Highly maneuverable low altitude flight
- Recoverable for certain payloads
- Sense & avoid hazard detection & automatic <u>avoidance</u> <u>maneuvering</u>

## **Effector Systems**

- Autonomously plan to satisfy firing geometries and conduct collaborative, <u>teamed target engagement</u>
- Heterogeneous mix of effects

#### **Human-System Interactions**

- Only necessary & sufficient SA to operators to maintain command of mission task
- Allows C2 at varying levels of autonomy

## Survivability Systems

- Automated task scripts to execute <u>teamed</u> effector action at predetermined range from threat
- Assessing <u>target vulnerability</u>, engaging with effects or avoiding effects of threat
- Threat reports to SA databases at appropriate security level
- Autonomously <u>emulate heat or acoustic signatures</u> of a variety of aircraft
- Autonomously spoof enemy visually or through RCS adaptation
- AiTR/ATR FM Communications of enemy spotters for enemy ADA elements

### Sensor Systems

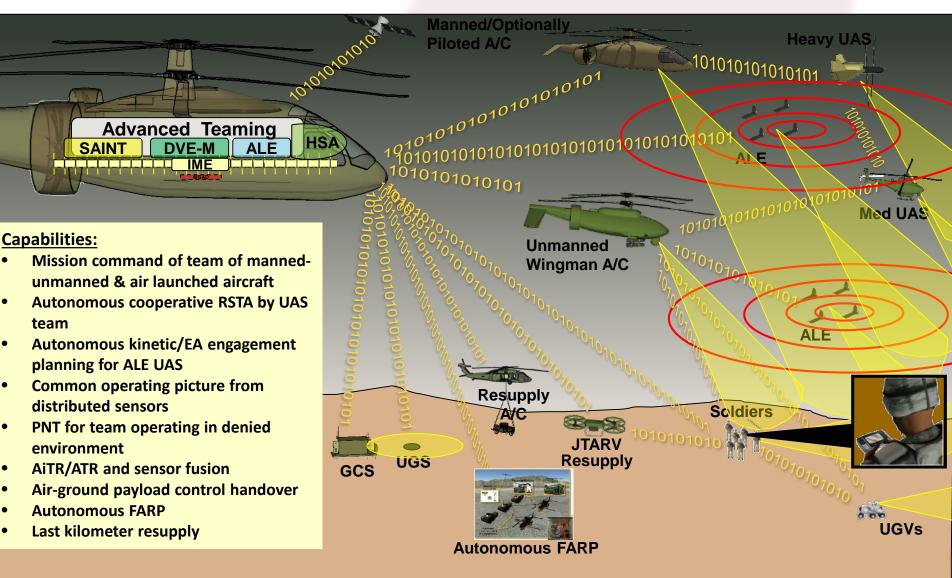
- Autonomous teamed RSTA task & resource planning & re-planning
- <u>Incorporate into plan, constraints</u> based on threat, terrain, aircraft and sensor types and optimum observation position
- TA sensors, <u>AiTR/ATR</u>, and sensor fusion with low FAR capable of differentiating dummies from real targets
- Fusion of threat & terrain updates from distributed air / ground sources to maintain shared COP for team (World Model)

## **Communications Systems**

- Assured comms & PNT for team
- <u>In-stride communications analysis (adaptive routing, comms</u> extenders, message prioritization)
- Time sensitive fire control commands, target handovers
- Sufficient, reliable information for human supervision & command



# MISSION SYSTEMS INTEGRATED TECH DEMO (FY23)





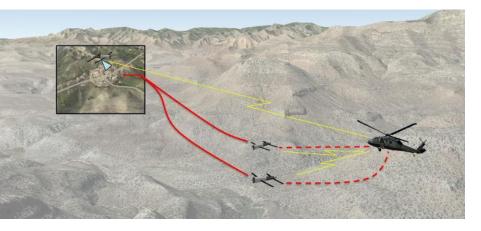
Key <u>foundational enablers</u> required to develop Advanced Teaming:

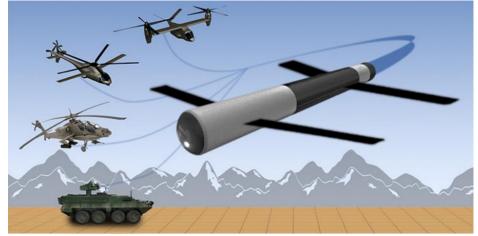
- Mission Systems development & integration approach
  - Based on Joint Common Architectures Strategy
  - Ensures subsystems integration & interoperability
  - Explores a framework for safety & security certification
- Modeling & Simulation approach integrated into T&E
  - For independent Government evaluation of vendor autonomy products
  - For risk reduction through system of systems simulations

**Foundational enablers** 

- Provide approaches to a sustainable life cycle acquisition process
- Enable vendor-neutral ability to extend capabilities
- Offer accelerated paths to certification of and upgrades to autonomy technologies
- Inform V&V approach for autonomous, adaptive systems







Air Launched at Low-altitude and High-speed Range of greater than 35km Loitering on the Objective Multiple Effects

- Electronic Warfare
- Surveillance
- Route Reconnaissance
- Decoy and Countermeasures
- Target Acquisition & Designation





## **Aviation Development Directorate**