Acquisition Update: Coast Guard Accepts Ninth C-130J Aircraft

June 30, 2015

The Coast Guard accepted its ninth C-130J Super Hercules long range surveillance aircraft from Lockheed Martin Aeronautics in Marietta, Georgia, June 26, 2015.

After painting and delivery to Air Station Elizabeth City, North Carolina, the Coast Guard will operate the aircraft – CGNR 2009 – in its base configuration until September 2016, when it will start the 10-month process of being outfitted with the Naval Air Systems Command's Minotaur mission control processor and other specialized equipment for Coast Guard missions. Proposals for missionization of all Coast Guard C-130J aircraft with Minotaur are being accepted through July 2, 2015.



CGNR 2009 undergoes preparations for a test flight, one of the requirements for Coast Guard acceptance of the C-130J aircraft. Photo courtesy of Lockheed Martin, by Andrew McMurtrie.

This delivery will provide additional capability to the service's current fleet of Super Hercules aircraft. Four aircraft are currently in service at Air Station Elizabeth City, North Carolina. Two aircraft delivered earlier this year are being equipped with systems and sensors to enhance operational performance at Lockheed Martin's Greenville, South Carolina, plant under an existing contract. One is being missionized as the Minotaur prototype at Naval Air Station Patuxent River and one is in depot level maintenance. Two additional aircraft – the 10th and 11th – are in production at Lockheed Martin for delivery as base aircraft in 2016 and 2017. Funding for a 12th HC-130J was received earlier this year and recently was transferred to the Air Force for a future contract action.