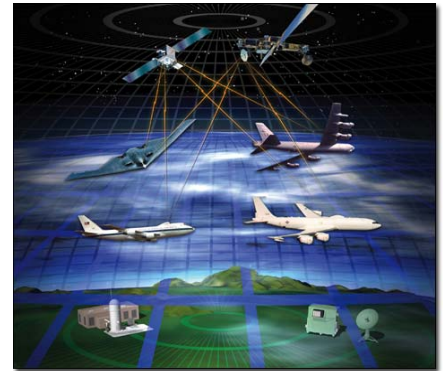




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Family of Advanced line-of-sight Terminals (FAB-T)

Network & Space Systems



Description & Purpose:

FAB-T is a transformational program, led by the U.S. Air Force, that is intended to provide strategic and command and control forces with a multi-mission-capable family of satellite communications terminals. The terminals' common design and open system architecture allow the integration of multiple satellites and enable information to be exchanged between ground, air and space platforms.

FAB-T is viewed as an information and communications system rather than simply a satellite radio terminal. The customer's request is for a system that is modular, reconfigurable, scalable and upgradeable. Its recent successful Preliminary Design Review is a significant milestone for the FAB-T industry team.

Customer:

The United States Air Force.

General Characteristics:

FAB-T Advantages

- FAB-T is a net-ready, interoperable communications system established upon industrial-based open interfaces and is designed to grow and expand as platforms change.
- FAB-T provides multiple channels to enable simultaneous links via various beyond line-of-sight capabilities.
- The FAB-T is programmable and reconfigurable in the field, allowing high-data-rate communications to be customized by the warfighter in the theater.
- FAB-T provides the framework for the highest data exchange rates available, providing communications on the move.
- The Boeing FAB-T team's extensive platform integration expertise provides strong, coherent and comprehensive implementation of FAB-T as an essential node on the network.

Background:

Once operational, FAB-T will provide critical, protected beyond line-of-sight communications capability for warfighters via the new Advanced Extremely High Frequency (Advanced EHF) System, a new class of secure satellites that support military forces. In subsequent increments, FAB-T will enable interchange with other national satellite communications systems such as Wideband Gapfiller and Global Broadcast.

The terminals in the first Increment will support the Advanced Extremely High Frequency connectivity and backward compatibility for legacy payloads for the B-2, B-52 and RC-135 aircraft. The program also develops the replacements to the existing ground-fixed, ground transportable and airborne (E-4B/E-6B) Command Post Terminals.

Depending on platform requirements, capabilities may include transmission and reception of voice, data, imagery and video as well as broadcast reception over protected and wideband SATCOM systems.

The primary product of Increment 1 is an open system architecture that is extensible to future networked, broadband communications capabilities. FAB-T will provide joint forces with a programmable multi-mission capable family of terminals that maximize common components to interface with different satellites and enable information exchange among ground, air and space platforms.

Miscellaneous:

FAB-T is a spiral development/acquisition program. The first increment will include System Design and Development (SD&D) and delivery of Engineering Development Model (EDM) terminals for five airborne platforms (B-2, B-52, E-4B, E-6B, and RC-135) and ground-based command posts. Future increments may include up to 41 additional airborne platforms. FAB-T provides the next generation of High Data Rate Satellite Communications using Advanced EHF, Wideband, Gapfiller, and other future satellite systems. FAB-T is the Command Post Terminal for the (AEHF) Satellite System and thus serves as a key component of AEHF. BMC3&SS is currently executing on Increments 1 and 2A.

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