



IDS Business Support,
Communications and
Community Affairs
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Precision Engagement & Mobility Systems Global Strike Systems

Harpoon Block III Backgrounder

Description & Purpose:

Harpoon Block III takes the world's most successful anti-ship missile to a whole new level. With the addition of a robust data link system, Harpoon Block III provides in-flight target updates, positive terminal control and connectivity with future network architecture, resulting in more control after the weapon is released. The data link is the perfect addition to a missile that already provides autonomous, all-weather, over-the-horizon capability.



Customer(s):

The Harpoon Block III Weapon System provides the U.S. Navy and its allies with Surface Warfare (SuW) capabilities from ships and aircraft. Harpoon Block III creates a highly-capable weapon for the open water and littoral warfare environment, adding Global Positioning System capability, littoral performance improvement and a precision moving target solution.

General Characteristics:

Length:	182.2 in. ship launch, 151.5 in. air launch
Diameter:	13.5 in.
Weight:	1,160 lb. air configuration 1,523 lb. surface launch capsule/canister configuration
Range:	In excess of 67 NM
Propulsion:	Air-breathing turbojet engine (cruise), solid-propellant booster
Guidance:	Terminal: Active Radar Midcourse: GPS-aided inertial navigation and In-Flight Target Updates (IFTU) via secure data link.
Warhead:	Penetration, high-explosive blast
System Elements:	Missile - Common for all launch platforms Booster - Added for surface applications Launchers - Uses existing equipment or the Harpoon Canister Launcher

Command and Launch System - Provides engagement planning and launch control

**Launch
Platforms:**

Air, surface applications

Ships

Guided Missile Destroyers (DDG)
Conventional/Nuclear Guided Missile Cruisers (CG)

Aircraft

F/A-18E/F Super Hornet
Multi-Mission Maritime Aircraft (MMA)

The 500-pound blast warhead delivers lethal firepower for conventional anti-ship missions, such as open-ocean, near-land or ships in port. The datalink updated Global Positioning System/Inertial Navigation System improves midcourse guidance to the target area. The accurate navigation solution allows users to discriminate target ships from islands, other nearby land masses, obstructions or ships.

Harpoon Block III will be deployable from Harpoon missile system platforms with existing command and launch equipment, the F/A-18E/F Super Hornet and the Multi-Mission Maritime Aircraft (MMA). Block III is ready to meet the over-the-horizon threat and provide our customers with the right weapon for today's environment.

Contacts:

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