APKWS[®] Advanced Precision Kill Weapon System laser-guided rocket

The APKWS guidance kit transforms an unguided rocket into the **tactical weapon of choice** – delivering accuracy with low collateral damage. It stands alone in its class as the **U.S. Government's only program of record** for a 2.75-inch (70 mm) laser-guided rocket, and is proven successful in combat on the AH-64 Apache and other rotary-wing platforms.

Unrivaled accuracy

The APKWS laser-guided rocket is the precision-strike weapon of choice to engage moving or stationary targets with low collateral damage. It consistently hits both soft and lightly armored objects in open and confined areas. It achieves this accuracy using DASALS[®] seeker optics that deploy after the rocket is fired. These optics enable the rocket to see the entire field of regard, locking onto laser designated targets from over 3 kilometers away.

Unique design

Our mid-body modular design is compatible with existing and new inventories of 2.75-inch rocket motors, warheads, and launchers – designed to transform unguided rockets into guided rockets. It has enabled integration on more than two dozen rotary-wing and fixed-wing platforms, and is qualified on over a dozen. It was first integrated on the AH-1W Cobra, and requires no modifications to the standard rocket motor, firing platform or fire control system.

Cost effective

The APKWS laser-guided rocket is a cost effective solution with low collateral damage and low weight. It integrates with existing infrastructure and inventory, producing a game-changing capability at the industry's lowest total ownership cost for a precision-guided munition.

Combat proven

Our rocket consistently hits its target, with over a 93 percent success rate in combat operations. It has achieved this success with the U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps since 2012. The rocket is also utilized by the U.S. Army on the AH-64 Apache, with numerous confirmed successful engagements in combat.



The APKWS rocket successfully operates in combat on the AH-64D/E, MH-60R/S, UH-1Y, and AH-1W as well as other rotary-wing and fixed-wing platforms.

Available today

The APKWS laser-guided rocket is available to all four U.S. military branches and through Foreign Military Sales (FMS) to allied nations for ongoing combat operations. We continue to accelerate deliveries ahead of schedule, and have delivered over 10,000 production units to date. With our current manufacturing capacity up to 20,000 units per year and growing, we are prepared to meet increased demand.

Control actuation system

Wing-mounted DASALS laser seeker collection optics

Standard rocket interfaces

Standard rocket motor

APKWS guidance section

Standard warhead and fuze

APKWS precision-guided 2.75-inch (70 millimeter) rocket

Continues to meet or exceed all performance thresholds

Rotary-wing specifications

Specification	Threshold
Minimum range	0.9 mi (1.5 km)
Maximum range	3 mi (5 km)
Probability of hit per single shot	80% within 2.1 yd (2 m) of center of laser spot
Weight	35 lbs (15.8 kg)
Length (all-up round)	75 in (1905 mm)
Diameter (all-up round)	2.75 in (70 mm)
Launch altitude	-200 to 25,000 ft - MSL
Launch height above target	0 to 3,000 ft
Platform speed at launch	0 to 150 KTAS
Acceleration at launch	Not specified – used +1g

The APKWS rocket exceeds all threshold specifications (all specifications are using the threshold configuration of M151 warhead/M423 fuse).

Rotary-wing launch platforms

Qualified platforms

- AH-64D/E Apache
- AH-1W/Z Super Cobra/Viper
- UH-1Y Venom
- MH-60S/R Knight Hawk/Seahawk
- UH-60L/M Black Hawk
- IA-407 Bell
- ARH Tiger
- OH-58 Kiowa Warrior
- AH-6M Little Bird

Demonstrated platforms

- V-22 Osprey
- Bell 407GT
- Boeing AH-6i
- MQ-8B Fire Scout

Potential platforms

- AH-1F Cobra
- MD 530G Light Scout
- AW109 Power
- AW139
- Airbus H135
- Airbus H145

For more information contact: BAE Systems

P. O. Box 868 Nashua, New Hampshire 03061-0868 W: baesystems.com/apkws

Cleared for open publication on 01/18

BAE Systems APKWS laser-guided rocket

Disclaimer and copyright

This document gives only a general description of the product(s) and service(s) and, except where expressly provided otherwise, shall not form any part of any contract. From time to time, changes may be made in the products or the conditions of supply.

BAE SYSTEMS is a registered trademark of BAE Systems plc. ©2018 BAE Systems. All rights reserved.

Export ID: ES-NHQ-060917-0356 CS-17-B95-004