

NASAMS Multi-Missile Launcher

One Launcher - Multiple Missions

The purpose of the NASAMS Multi-Missile Launcher is to transport, aim and fire missiles with different characteristics and capabilities, all mounted on the same launch rail inside the protective canisters. One launcher permits rapid launch of up to six missiles against single or multiple airborne targets.

To date, the following missiles have been fired from the NASAMS Multi-Missile Launcher:

- AIM-120 AMRAAM B/C5/C7
 - Active RF Missile
- AMRAAM Extended Range (AMRAAM ER)
 - Same guidance section as AIM-120 AMRAAM and a larger propulsion section for increased range and altitude.
- AIM 9-X Sidewinder
 - IR Missile

The low cost, robust, reliable and highly maneuverable LCHR provides 360° all weather, day and night, missile launch capability. Under the remote control of the KONGSBERG Fire Distribution Center (FDC) Command & Control node, the launcher facilitates rapid launch of missiles. It is the direct interface between the missiles and the FDC, transmitting target and guidance data before and during missile flight.

FEATURES

- Missile Mix different capabilities
- 6 Ready-to-Fire Missiles
- Full flexibility in missile mix
- Transmitting target and guidance data to the missile before and in-flight
- Fielded and proven
- Very robust with high MTBF
- Low Life Cycle Cost
- Transported by Truck/ Rail/Air/Sea
- More than 250 missiles have been fired from the NASAMS launcher











Background

The NASAMS Canister Launcher was originally developed to fire the AIM-120 AMRAAM missile. As a part of the continuous evolution of the NASAMS system the Canister Launcher has evolved to be capable of firing several types of missiles. The current NASAMS Multi-Missile Launcher (MK2) is based on the original fielded Canister Launcher (MK1) and the launchers have supported more than 200 live missile firings under various tactical and climatic conditions; By different NASAMS users. The Canister Launcher is currently deployed on an active 24/7 operation in USA, and has proven to be extremely reliable, also during extreme weather conditions.

Multi-Missile Canister Launcher Capability

The unique missile mix of AMRAAM, AMRAAM Extended Range and AIM 9X provides a layered capability within one system and enables NASAMS to counter an unprecedented large part of the IAMD Threat Spectrum. The NASAMS multi-missile TEWA will recommend the missile and the multi-missile launcher best suited for each engagement, optimizing P(k) whilst lowering the cost pr. kill.

One single launcher can hold six (6) ready-to-fire missiles with any missile mix. Missiles may be fired at multiple targets simultaneously. In a battalion configuration comprising of up to 12 launchers and up to 72 missiles, all missiles can be fired against individual targets in a few seconds.

The launcher is fielded or under delivery to thirteen customers including National Guard in the USA for the defence of the National Capitol Region (Washington D.C.).

Proven and reliable

Experience through many years of use has proven that the launcher has low maintenance requirements, high availability and reliability and provides the users with a low-risk and low life cycle cost solution.

Transportability

The launcher is designed with transportability in mind and is C-130 and helicopter transportable and can be transported by Break-bulk or Roll-On Roll-Off vessels. The launcher is within the limits of the Bern Tunnel Profile.

The multi-missile launcher can be transported on different types of trucks. A standard hook lift system is established on the launcher to load and off-load it from the truck for proper emplacement and road march. The launcher has a short into-action-time and can either be emplaced on the ground before firing or be fired from truck. A full missile reload of six (6) missiles takes less than 30 minutes with a drilled crew.

