



Acquisition Directorate

HC-144A MEDIUM RANGE SURVEILLANCE AIRCRAFT

Mission execution begins here.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The HC-144A Ocean Sentry Maritime Patrol Aircraft is the first all-new aviation asset delivered to the Coast Guard as part of its recapitalization program. The HC-144A is based on the highly successful CASA CN-235 military airplane, which is already in use around the world as a patrol, surveillance and transport platform. The HC-144A will replace the Coast Guard's aging fleet of HU-25 Guardian jets as the service's medium range surveillance aircraft.

The HC-144A is capable of remaining airborne much longer than the legacy HU-25. Taking into consideration factors such as total weight, the HC-144A can remain airborne in excess of nine hours versus four hours maximum for the HU-25 Guardian. This significantly greater endurance allows aircrews to remain on scene longer, a critical requirement for acting as an on-scene commander. A standard rear cargo ramp makes the HC-144A capable of being configured for cargo and transport operations.



"The HC-144 was one of the first responders to the Deepwater Horizon rig explosion. The sensors in its Mission Systems Pallet provided a nearly continuous flow of vital information to our operational commanders."

*—Admiral Robert J. Papp Jr.,
Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard*

FEATURES:

- Equipped with a state-of-the-market Rockwell-Collins glass cockpit instrument panel, autopilot and avionics suite for a two-person aircrew
- A Mission Systems Pallet is interoperable with the HC-130J long-range surveillance aircraft and includes:
 - Command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (C4ISR) equipment for enhanced situational awareness
 - Improved surveillance through radar and electro-optical/infrared sensors systems
 - Mission data recording and a first-responder/law enforcement and marine communications suite
 - Enhanced secure data encryption capabilities
 - A communication suite capable of transmitting and receiving Secret-level information via the Department of Defense's Secure Internet Protocol Router Network (SIPRNET)

CHARACTERISTICS:

- Number Planned:** 36
- Cruise Speed:** 236 knots
- Range:** 2,305 nautical miles
- Crew:** Two officers and three enlisted