



JOINT PRECISION AERIAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS ULTRA LIGHT WEIGHT (JPADS ULW)

OVERVIEW:

Joint Precision Aerial Delivery Systems (JPADS) is a family of systems that autonomously controls the system through its descent to the target. The JPADS primarily consist of a high-glide ram air Parafoil and Autonomous Guidance Unit (AGU) and are capable of delivering between 10 to 42,000lbs from altitudes as high as 25,000ft. The JPADS family include a variety of Science and Technology capabilities, which have seen multiple rapid fielding initiatives and urgent releases, and include three Programs of Record; Product Manager Force Sustainment System's (PdM FSS) JPADS 2,200 lbs (JPADS 2K), PdM FSS's 10,000 lbs (JPADS 10K), and US Marine Corp's (USMC) JPADS Ultralight Weight (JPADS ULW).



JPADS provides the ability to be deployed from high altitudes and at significant horizontal distance from the target which reduces surface to air threats to the aircraft and allow for stealthy insertion or resupply. JPADS' accuracy and reliability allow for critical resupply in austere locations while consistently maintaining its accuracy across a wide operating altitude and weight range. This accuracy reduces ground dispersion and minimizes ground personnel exposure during airdrop recovery.

The JPADS have been designed to operate independent of any support equipment and can be deployed with minimal user input. In addition, the systems are compatible with the U.S. Air Force JPADS Mission Planner that is used when deploying from USAF aircraft. The JPADS mission planner consists of the Consolidated Airdrop Tool (CAT) software, used to assimilate various weather profiles to generate the Launch Acceptability Region (LAR); a Dropsonde and Dropsonde receiver, used to gather near real time wind information; and a GPS rebroadcast system, used to provide the JPADS systems with GPS in the aircraft prior to deployment.

DESCRIPTION:

Matured by NSRDEC under the JMDSE JCTD, ULW is now a program of record with USMC MARCORSYSCOM, supports a weight range of 200-700 lbs suspended, and primarily utilizes the JPADS 2K Modular AGU (MAGU) coupled with a variety of repurposed personnel parachute systems. Although capable of supporting the standard JPADS mission sets, the JPADS ULW also supports the unique ability to utilize repurposed personnel parachute systems that have outlived their useful life, providing significant cost savings; provides critical resupply to small units on the move, allowing soldiers to carry less weight and relying on aerial resupply; and provides same/similar performance characteristics as High Altitude High Opening (HAHO)/High Altitude Low Opening (HALO) personnel jumpers, allowing personnel to deploy in combination with their cargo.

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