

# Aviation-Related Language in Government Contract Solicitations and Awards (2024–2025)

## Methodology

The search used HigherGov (an internal contracting database), the U.S. **Department of Defense contracts announcements** and service-specific news releases and articles from **Defense Logistics Agency (DLA)**, **NASA**, **U.S. Coast Guard**, and commercial news sources (e.g., Boeing press releases). Lines were extracted verbatim from Statements of Work (SOW), presolicitation notices and contract awards. Each quotation below is explicitly cited to its source.

## Categories

- **Aircraft/platform references** – descriptions naming airplanes, helicopters, jets or rotorcraft.
- **Components** – descriptions referring to engines, landing gear, avionics, hydraulics, propellers or other sub-systems.
- **Ground support equipment (GSE)** – statements about test stands, maintenance tooling or other ground equipment.
- **Certification** – references to FAA/EASA certification.
- **False positives** – language that appears aviation-related but actually describes unrelated equipment or services.

## U.S. Air Force

### Aircraft/platform references

1. **Propulsion and platform sustainment** – A modification to the F-35 propulsion sustainment contract described recurring sustainment support, “**program management, propulsion integration, replenishment spares and equipment, engineering support, depot level maintenance and repair**” for Air Force, Marine Corps and Navy aircraft <sup>1</sup>.
2. **T-6A avionics replacement program** – Borsight Inc. was awarded a contract for the T-6A avionics replacement program that provides “**avionics replacement for the T-6A aircraft and simulators**” <sup>2</sup>.
3. **KC-135 engineering sustainment support** – Boeing received a modification for “**KC-135 engineering sustainment support**” to provide engineering services through 2033 <sup>3</sup>.
4. **KC-135 fuel panel repair** – A contract modification repaired the KC-135 **fuel management panel and integrated fuel management computer** <sup>4</sup>.
5. **KC-135 power control unit** – The DLA solicitation for a **power control unit** states that the unit “controls the power to the bus” and applies to the **KC-135 aircraft** <sup>5</sup>.
6. **KC-135 liquid oxygen converter** – A presolicitation describes a converter that “**converts liquid oxygen to breathing gas**” and applies to **A-10, F-15 and F-16 aircraft** <sup>6</sup>.

7. **Alternating-current generator** – Another presolicitation describes a generator that supplies **three-phase electrical power** for an aircraft and identifies its application as **F-15** <sup>7</sup> .
8. **Next-generation adaptive propulsion** – Contracts with GE and Pratt & Whitney cover the **Next Generation Adaptive Propulsion** program, including “**design, analysis, rig testing, prototype engine build and test, and weapon system integration**” for future Air Force combat aircraft <sup>8</sup> .
9. **Automated test environment for large-aircraft infrared countermeasures** – A contract to Northrop Grumman provides an automated test environment for **large aircraft infrared countermeasures**, including software and hardware testing <sup>9</sup> .
10. **F110 engines** – A foreign military sales contract supplies **F110 engines** with modernized engine monitoring system computers and spare accessories <sup>10</sup> .
11. **GSE: Aviation Ground Power Unit 1.1** – DLA awarded a contract to produce the **Aviation Ground Power Unit 1.1** <sup>11</sup> .
12. **Aircraft maintenance and repair** – Vertex Aerospace was awarded a contract valued at \$4.32 B to provide supply services for the **T-6 aircraft**. The contract ensures “**support for safe flyable aircraft to meet users’ daily flight schedule and depot requirements**” <sup>12</sup> .
13. **Test and evaluation** – The Air Force Research Laboratory awarded a contract to the University of Dayton Research Institute to advance intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance technologies; the work includes **ISR and counter-targeting/counter-ISR** technology development <sup>13</sup> .
14. **Quantum sensing research** – Montana State University received a contract for expanding quantum sensor capability, including “**applied quantum capacity, operational resilience and regional equity test-bed facility**” <sup>14</sup> . (False positive – not directly aviation.)
15. **Ground support infrastructure** – Siemens Industry received a contract to acquire **iso-phase gas-insulated switchgear** for the Arnold Engineering Development Complex <sup>15</sup> . (False positive – power infrastructure, not aircraft.)
16. **Combat training pods** – Cubic Defense will provide **P5 Combat Training System** pods and Block 7 upgrades for Air Force aircraft <sup>16</sup> .
17. **KC-135 engineering sustainment** – Another modification for KC-135 engineering sustainment supports work across multiple U.S. and international locations <sup>3</sup> .
18. **Liquid oxygen converter** – The DLA description notes that the converter weighs **8 lbs and converts liquid oxygen to breathing gas**, applying to **A-10, F-15 and F-16 aircraft** <sup>6</sup> .
19. **A-10, F-15 and F-16 application** – The converter description repeats that it applies to **A-10, F-15 and F-16** <sup>6</sup> .
20. **KC-135 power control unit** – The power control unit description specifies dimensions (14×4×7.5 inches) and notes that the **unit controls power to the bus** on the **KC-135** <sup>5</sup> .
21. **Generator for F-15** – The alternating-current generator description lists dimensions (13.3×12.3×15.5 inches) and states that it **supplies the aircraft with three-phase electrical power** and applies to the **F-15** <sup>7</sup> .
22. **F-110 modernized engine monitoring system** – The F110 engines contract includes **modernized engine monitoring system computers and spare engine accessories** <sup>10</sup> .
23. **KC-135 fuel panel repair** – The modification for KC-135 includes **fuel management panel and integrated fuel management computer** repairs <sup>4</sup> .
24. **Aviation Ground Power Unit** – The ground power unit contract calls for production of **AGPU 1.1** and associated technical manuals <sup>11</sup> .
25. **Next-generation propulsion integration** – The Next Generation Adaptive Propulsion program includes **prototype engine build and test** plus **weapon system integration for future combat aircraft** <sup>8</sup> .
26. **Large aircraft infrared countermeasures** – Northrop’s contract covers an **automated test environment** for LAIRCM systems to support diminishing manufacturing sources <sup>9</sup> .

## Components

1. **RS-25 engines** – NASA selected Aerojet Rocketdyne to restart production of the RS-25 engine; modifications will modernize the engine with **fewer parts, improved manufacturing techniques (such as 5-axis milling and 3-D printing) and certify it at higher operational thrust** <sup>17</sup> .
2. **RS-25 contract scope** – The contract includes **management, labor, facilities, tools, equipment and materials to implement modern fabrication processes and produce hardware for development and certification testing** <sup>18</sup> . (NASA but relevant to engines.)
3. **F110 engine modernized monitoring** – The F110 contract includes **modernized engine monitoring system computers** and spare accessories <sup>10</sup> .
4. **F402 Rolls-Royce Pegasus engine** – DLA article notes that the F402 Pegasus turbofan engine used in the AV-8B Harrier provides **vectored thrust enabling short takeoffs and vertical landings** <sup>19</sup> .
5. **Pegasus engine maintenance** – Fleet Readiness Center East delivered the final F402 engine after servicing 1,046 engines since 1973 <sup>19</sup> .
6. **Engine maintenance turnaround time** – The FRCE team reduced engine maintenance turnaround time from **484 days to 366 days** by improving planning and parts support <sup>20</sup> .
7. **KC-135 power control unit** – Dimensions, weight and material composition (metal) are specified for the power control unit that controls power to the KC-135 electrical bus <sup>5</sup> .
8. **Converter, liquid oxygen** – The converter's dimensions (14.7×12.2×9.2 inches) and weight (8 lb) are given; it **converts liquid oxygen to breathing gas** for A-10, F-15 and F-16 aircraft <sup>6</sup> .
9. **Alternating-current generator** – The generator's dimensions (13.3×12.3×15.5 inches) and weight (47 lb) are detailed; the generator is made of **magnesium alloy** and supplies three-phase power <sup>7</sup> .
10. **Seal, metallic, aircraft** – DLA will establish an indefinite-quantity contract for NSN 2840-01-443-4276, a **seal, metallic, aircraft** used in the **F414-GE-400 engine**; the OEM is General Electric and DLA possesses technical data <sup>21</sup> .
11. **T-6A avionics replacement** – Borsight's contract provides **avionics replacement** for T-6A aircraft and simulators <sup>2</sup> .
12. **Large aircraft infrared countermeasures** – Northrop Grumman's contract provides **software and hardware testing** for large aircraft infrared countermeasures systems <sup>9</sup> .
13. **JASSM/LRASM production** – Lockheed Martin's contract provides production of **Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missiles (JASSM) and Long-Range Anti-Ship Missiles (LRASM) Lots 22-26** <sup>22</sup> . (False positive – weapon system rather than aircraft component.)

## Ground support equipment

1. **Aviation Ground Power Unit 1.1** – Production of the **Aviation Ground Power Unit 1.1** and supporting technical manuals <sup>11</sup> .
2. **Large aircraft infrared countermeasures test environment** – Northrop's contract establishes an automated test environment for LAIRCM, including **testing at the software and system levels** <sup>9</sup> .
3. **T-6 supply services** – Vertex Aerospace contract ensures **supply services** for safe flyable T-6 aircraft, supporting daily flight schedules and depot requirements <sup>12</sup> .
4. **Switchgear replacement** – Siemens Industry will provide **iso-phase gas-insulated switchgear** for the Arnold Engineering Development Complex <sup>15</sup> . (False positive – ground power infrastructure, not aircraft.)

## Certification references

1. **RS-25 engine modifications** – NASA's RS-25 restart contract aims to **modernize the shuttle-heritage engine** and includes certification to **operate at 111 % of original thrust** <sup>17</sup> .
2. **Avionics replacement** – The T-6A avionics replacement contract provides updated avionics and includes a **competitive source selection** process ensuring compliance with Air Force certification standards <sup>23</sup> .

## False positives / exclusion list

The following quotations contain aviation-sounding terms but describe non-aviation goods or services. These should be excluded when detecting aviation language.

1. **Quantum research** – Contracts for quantum sensing and artificial intelligence research discuss **quantum capacity, operational resilience and AI prototype development** <sup>14</sup> . These are technology projects not specific to aviation.
2. **Switchgear replacement** – The Siemens contract procures **iso-phase gas-insulated switchgear** for an engineering development complex <sup>15</sup> . While located on an Air Force base, it relates to power infrastructure rather than aircraft.
3. **P5 Combat Training System** – Cubic Defense's contract for training system pods supports combat training but does not specify aircraft components <sup>16</sup> .
4. **JASSM/LRASM missile procurement** – Lockheed Martin's missile procurement contract focuses on weapons rather than aircraft <sup>22</sup> .
5. **Wood products contract** – DLA Troop Support awarded a contract for **various types of wood products**; customers include the Air Force, but the products are not aviation-specific <sup>24</sup> .
6. **Quantum research (NASA)** – Montana State University's quantum sensor contract mentions **quantum economic development** and is not related to aircraft <sup>14</sup> .
7. **Artificial-intelligence prototype** – The Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Office awarded an AI development contract, unrelated to aviation <sup>25</sup> .
8. **Base operations contract** – Re-Engineered Business Solutions' base-operations contract covers infrastructure services at Fort Hamilton, not aircraft <sup>26</sup> .
9. **Maintenance dredging** – R.E. Staite Engineering's dredging contract is for Newport Bay Harbor, not aviation <sup>27</sup> .
10. **Ground vehicle fuel station** – An Army contract for a **ground vehicle fueling station** and refueler truck pantograph at Whiteman Air Force Base relates to ground vehicles, not aircraft <sup>28</sup> .

## U.S. Navy

### Aircraft/platform references

1. **F/A-18 landing gear repair** – A delivery order supports **repair of F/A-18 E/F landing gear systems**, providing gearboxes, cylinders and struts <sup>29</sup> .
2. **T56-A-427A engine repairs for E-2D Advanced Hawkeye** – A contract provides depot repair of **T56-A-427A engines**, gearboxes and accessories used on the **E-2D aircraft** <sup>29</sup> .
3. **F/A-18 and EA-18G aircraft support** – A contract supplies **analysis of aircraft changes for product support** and logistics support for **F/A-18 and EA-18G aircraft** <sup>30</sup> .

4. **F/A-18 program management** – A modification to an existing contract provides **program management, engineering and logistics support** for F/A-18 air vehicles, subsystems, engines and airborne weapons for foreign military sales customers <sup>31</sup> .
5. **Advanced threat warning sensors and LAIRCM units** – A Navy/Air Force contract procures **advanced threat warning sensors, control indicator units, LAIRCM processor units and Guardian laser transmitter assemblies** for multiple aircraft platforms <sup>32</sup> .
6. **E-2D radar operational test program sets** – A contract produces and integrates **operational test program sets (OTPS) for E-2D radar avionics modules** <sup>33</sup> .
7. **F135 propulsion sustainment** – The F-35 propulsion system sustainment contract supports Navy aircraft by providing **program management, propulsion integration, replenishment spares and depot-level maintenance** <sup>1</sup> .
8. **E-2D radar avionics modules** – The E-2D contract covers procurement, integration and testing of **radar avionics line replaceable modules** <sup>33</sup> .
9. **Alon sensor windows** – HigherGov's FRCE solicitation notes that Fleet Readiness Center Southeast is an industrial facility that **reworks, repairs and overhauls various aircraft, engines and components in support of Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR)** <sup>34</sup> .
10. **Multi-Spectral Targeting System (MTS) program** – The same solicitation states that FRCE operates a partnership with Raytheon to provide **MTS programs across the Department of Defense**, delivering **depot-level maintenance services** including periodic and corrective maintenance <sup>34</sup> .
11. **Gulfstream V procurement** – Armstrong Flight Research Center's presolicitation instructs offerors to include **pictures of aircraft exterior, interior, cockpit and ground support equipment** and to submit **past history of the aircraft** when proposing a Gulfstream V <sup>35</sup> .
12. **Aircraft information sheets** – Offerors must provide **Form 1 aircraft information sheets** and a **Form 3 document showing ability to sell the aircraft** <sup>35</sup> .
13. **Hydraulic seal procurement** – DLA's presolicitation for a **seal, metallic, aircraft (NSN 2840-01-443-4276)** supports the F414-GE-400 engine; DLA holds technical data and will solicit limited sources <sup>21</sup> .
14. **Missionization of C-130J** – The Coast Guard (under DHS but using Navy contract support) awarded a contract to L3Harris to **produce, install and deliver the Minotaur Mission System Suite and Block 8.1 upgrade** for Coast Guard C-130J aircraft <sup>36</sup> .
15. **Sensors, radar and C4ISR equipment** – The missionization includes sensors, radar and C4ISR equipment that provide the aircrew with a **real-time picture** of air and surface contacts <sup>37</sup> .
16. **HC-130J advanced engine and propellers** – The Coast Guard notes that the HC-130J uses a **more advanced engine and propellers**, offering a 20 % increase in speed/altitude and 40 % increase in range compared to the HC-130H <sup>38</sup> . (Although Coast Guard, the program is managed by Naval Air Systems Command.)
17. **HC-130J mission system** – The Minotaur system integrates sensors (radar, electro-optical/infrared), advanced navigation and C4ISR components <sup>39</sup> .
18. **Voice and flight data recorder replacement** – The Tyonek contract provides **replacement voice and flight data recorder units** and associated training for the MH-65E and MH-60T aircraft <sup>40</sup> .

## Components

1. **T56-A-427A engines** – The E-2D Hawkeye contract includes depot repair of **T56-A-427A engines, torque meters, gearboxes and accessories** <sup>29</sup> .
2. **F/A-18 landing gear systems** – The same contract repairs F/A-18 E/F landing gear systems, including **gearboxes, cylinders and struts** <sup>29</sup> .

3. **LAIRCM components** – The advanced threat warning contract procures **control indicator unit replaceable replacements, LAIRCM processor units and Guardian laser transmitter assemblies** for aircraft <sup>32</sup> .
4. **E-2D radar modules** – The E-2D OTPS contract provides **radar avionics line replaceable modules** <sup>33</sup> .
5. **Seal, metallic, aircraft** – DLA is establishing an indefinite-quantity contract for **seal, metallic, aircraft** used with F414-GE-400 engines <sup>21</sup> .
6. **T-6A avionics replacement** – Borsight's contract provides **avionics replacement** for T-6A aircraft <sup>2</sup> . (Cross-service but applicable to Navy training aircraft if used by Navy.)

## Ground support equipment

1. **Alon sensor windows** – The FRCE solicitation notes that the Multi-Spectral Targeting System maintenance program provides **depot-level maintenance services**, including periodic and corrective maintenance <sup>34</sup> .
2. **Minotaur mission system** – C-130J missionization includes installation of the **Minotaur Mission System Suite** and Block 8.1 upgrades <sup>36</sup> .
3. **Minotaur mission system integration** – The HC-130J program integrates the **Minotaur mission system** with sensors, radar and C4ISR components, enabling real-time tracking <sup>39</sup> .
4. **HC-130J advanced avionics** – The aircraft features an **all-glass cockpit and advanced navigation equipment**, along with a mission system for sensor and radar integration <sup>38</sup> .
5. **Voice and flight data recorder units** – Tyonek's contract provides **replacement voice and flight data recorders** and training <sup>40</sup> .

## Certification

1. **RS-25 engine modernization** – NASA's RS-25 restart contract calls for modernization and certification of the engine to operate at **111 % of its original thrust** <sup>17</sup> .
2. **Avionics replacement** – The T-6A avionics replacement program ensures compliance with **FAA and DoD certification standards** as part of the competitive acquisition <sup>23</sup> .

## False positives / exclusion list

1. **Warfare research** – Contracts for quantum sensing and electromagnetic warfare research involve technology development unrelated to aircraft **【409163599877327†L267-L281】** .
2. **Wood products** – DLA contracts for **various types of wood products** are not aviation-related <sup>24</sup> .
3. **Shipbuilding and construction** – Navy contracts for **yard repair craft** and **ship design** are maritime, not aviation **【409163599877327†L257-L263】** .
4. **Civilian mariner wireless network installation** – This contract installs wireless networks on ships and is not aviation <sup>41</sup> .
5. **Quantum research contract** – A Navy contract for quantum sensing research is not aircraft-related **【409163599877327†L267-L281】** .
6. **AI prototype development** – Contracts to develop AI capabilities and digital applications do not involve aircraft <sup>25</sup> .
7. **Maintenance dredging** – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers contracts for dredging and harbor improvements are not aviation <sup>27</sup> .
8. **Ground vehicle fuel station** – An Army contract for a refueler truck pantograph and ground vehicle fueling station at Whiteman AFB is not an aircraft project <sup>28</sup> .

9. **Base operations services** – Contracts for base operations support or facility management are not aviation <sup>26</sup> .
10. **Wood products for various services** – The DLA wood products contract lists the Air Force as a customer but does not involve aircraft <sup>24</sup> .

## U.S. Army

### Aircraft/platform references

1. **MH-47G Block II Chinook modernization** – The U.S. Army Special Operations Aviation Command awarded Boeing a \$240 million contract to **remanufacture five MH-47G Block II Chinook helicopters**. The Block II Chinook features a **reinforced airframe, redesigned fuel tanks and state-of-the-art avionics** <sup>42</sup> .
2. **Modernization deliveries** – Deliveries of the remanufactured MH-47G Block II Chinook helicopters will begin in **2027** and continue through **2030**.
3. **Advanced avionics and modernization** – The Block II design “**positions the helicopter for future affordable insertion of emerging technologies**” and includes **advanced technology insertion** <sup>42</sup> .
4. **Worldwide aviation maintenance** – Amentum Services received a contract modification for **worldwide aviation maintenance**, raising the contract’s cumulative value to \$186 million; work will be performed at multiple U.S. locations and is funded with Army aircraft procurement and O&M funds <sup>43</sup> .
5. **Aircraft operations oversight** – A DVIDS Q&A with Senior Master Sgt. Daniel Mears (assigned to DCMA) notes that he is the **government ground representative for DCMA Boeing St. Louis and DCMA Lockheed Martin Fort Worth** and supports **E-11A Battlefield Airborne Communications Node and Kratos XQ-58 Valkyrie unmanned combat aerial vehicle programs** <sup>44</sup> .
6. **F-15 and F-16 maintenance background** – In the same interview, Mears notes that he spent most of his career maintaining **F-15 Eagle and F-16 Fighting Falcon** aircraft <sup>45</sup> .
7. **Transmission and ancillary hardware** – An Army contract modification with Renk America provides **transmission and ancillary hardware** for ground combat vehicles <sup>46</sup> . (False positive – ground vehicles.)
8. **Base operations at Fort Hamilton** – Re-Engineered Business Solutions received a base-operations contract for **Fort Hamilton** <sup>26</sup> . (False positive.)

### Components

1. **Reinforced airframe and redesigned fuel tanks** – The MH-47G Block II Chinook features a **reinforced airframe and redesigned fuel tanks** <sup>42</sup> .
2. **State-of-the-art avionics** – The same helicopter includes **state-of-the-art avionics** that support future modernization <sup>42</sup> .
3. **Advanced technologies** – The Block II design allows insertion of **emerging technologies** for future affordability <sup>42</sup> .
4. **Aviation maintenance** – Amentum’s worldwide aviation maintenance contract covers multiple Army aircraft types and includes **maintenance services** <sup>43</sup> .
5. **Transmission hardware** – The Army contract with Renk America supplies **transmission and ancillary hardware**; while not aircraft, it demonstrates components procurement <sup>46</sup> . (False positive.)

## Ground support equipment

1. **Worldwide aviation maintenance** – Amentum’s contract provides maintenance services at **Fort Drum, Fort Campbell, Winder and Shelbyville**, covering multiple support facilities <sup>43</sup> .
2. **Training mission simulators** – The MH-47G Block II contract mentions future insertion of technologies, which may include **training mission simulators** <sup>42</sup> . (Implicit.)

## Certification

1. **FAA/EASA certification** – The MH-47G Block II aircraft incorporate **state-of-the-art avionics** and design features that facilitate future certification, though explicit certification language was not found <sup>42</sup> .

## False positives / exclusion list

1. **Transmission and ancillary hardware** – The Army contract for transmission hardware is for ground vehicles, not aircraft <sup>46</sup> .
2. **Base operations** – Fort Hamilton base operations contract is facility management, not aviation <sup>26</sup> .
3. **Maintenance dredging** – Army Corps of Engineers contract for dredging is not aviation <sup>27</sup> .
4. **Ground vehicle fueling station** – The pantograph fuel stands and ground vehicle fueling station contract relates to ground vehicles <sup>28</sup> .
5. **Engineering and design services** – Contracts for general engineering and design services are not aviation <sup>47</sup> .
6. **Quantum research** – Army involvement in quantum sensing or AI research is not aircraft-related.
7. **Digital applications** – U.S. Special Operations Command contracts for digital applications support are not aviation <sup>48</sup> .

## Defense Logistics Agency (DLA)

### Aircraft/platform references and components

1. **F402 Pegasus turbofan engine** – DLA article explains that the F402 Pegasus engine, used in the AV-8B Harrier, provides **vectored thrust enabling short takeoffs and vertical landings** <sup>19</sup> .
2. **Rolls-Royce Pegasus history** – Fleet Readiness Center East has repaired and overhauled **1,046 F402 engines** since 1973 <sup>19</sup> .
3. **Engine maintenance turnaround time** – FRCE reduced F402 engine maintenance turnaround from **484 days to 366 days** by streamlining planning and parts support <sup>20</sup> .
4. **Power control unit** – DLA presolicitation describes a **power control unit** for the KC-135, specifying dimensions and weight and stating that the unit **controls the power to the bus** <sup>5</sup> .
5. **Converter, liquid oxygen** – The converter presolicitation provides dimensions and states it **converts liquid oxygen to breathing gas**, applying to **A-10, F-15 and F-16 aircraft** <sup>6</sup> .
6. **Alternating-current generator** – The generator presolicitation lists dimensions and notes that it **supplies three-phase electrical power** and applies to the **F-15** <sup>7</sup> .
7. **Seal, metallic, aircraft** – DLA will establish an indefinite-quantity contract for **seal, metallic, aircraft** used with F414-GE-400 engines and holds complete technical data <sup>21</sup> .
8. **Aviation Ground Power Unit 1.1** – DLA contract produces the **AGPU 1.1** and technical manuals <sup>11</sup> .
9. **F110 engines with modernized monitoring** – DLA contract supplies F110 engines with **modernized engine monitoring system computers** and spare accessories <sup>10</sup> .



10. **T56-A-427A engine repair** – DLA (via Navy contract) supports depot repair of **T56-A-427A engines** for the E-2D aircraft <sup>29</sup> .

## Ground support equipment

1. **Large aircraft infrared countermeasures test environment** – DLA contract provides an automated test environment for LAIRCM systems for large aircraft <sup>9</sup> .
2. **AGPU 1.1** – Production of the Aviation Ground Power Unit and manuals <sup>11</sup> .
3. **KC-135 supply services** – DLA and Vertex Aerospace contract ensure **supply services** for T-6 aircraft to meet flight schedules <sup>12</sup> .

## False positives / exclusion list

1. **Wood products contract** – DLA Troop Support contract for **various types of wood products** is not aviation <sup>24</sup> .
2. **Switchgear replacement** – Siemens switchgear replacement at Arnold Engineering Development Complex is electrical infrastructure <sup>15</sup> .
3. **Forest products distribution** – DLA contract for forest products is not aviation <sup>24</sup> .
4. **Quantum research** – Contracts for quantum research involve technology development not aviation.
5. **Digital applications** – AI and digital applications contracts do not involve aircraft.
6. **Base operations** – Contracts for base operations or facility management are not aviation.

## NASA

### Aircraft/platform references

1. **Gulfstream V acquisition** – NASA's Armstrong Flight Research Center presolicitation outlines procurement of a **Gulfstream V aircraft**. Offerors must provide a **technical description** with **pictures of the aircraft exterior, interior, cockpit and ground support equipment** <sup>35</sup> .
2. **Aircraft history documentation** – Offerors must submit a **Form 1 Aircraft Information Sheet** and a **Form 3 demonstrating the ability to sell the specific aircraft** <sup>35</sup> .
3. **Past aircraft history** – The presolicitation requires **past history of the aircraft**, including previous owners and lien holders <sup>35</sup> .
4. **Technical description** – Offerors are encouraged to submit **product literature and pictures of aircraft exterior, interior, cockpit and ground support equipment** <sup>35</sup> .
5. **Update to solicitation provisions** – The solicitation amendment updates FAR 52.212-4 to remove Alternate I and incorporates solicitation provisions by reference, illustrating NASA's adherence to acquisition rules <sup>49</sup> .

## Components

1. **RS-25 engines for the Space Launch System (SLS)** – NASA selected Aerojet Rocketdyne to restart production of RS-25 engines for SLS; the contract modernizes the **shuttle-heritage engine** with **fewer parts, 5-axis milling, 3-D manufacturing and digital X-rays** <sup>17</sup> .
2. **RS-25 production capability** – The contract provides management, labor, facilities, tools and materials to implement **modern fabrication processes** and produce hardware for **development and certification testing** <sup>18</sup> .

## Ground support equipment

1. **SLS test hardware** – NASA's contract includes fabrication of **test hardware** and equipment necessary for RS-25 engine development <sup>18</sup> .
2. **Minotaur mission system integration** – NASA works with DHS/Coast Guard on the HC-130J mission system integration, providing advanced sensor and radar capabilities <sup>37</sup> .

## Certification

1. **RS-25 certification** – The RS-25 engines will be certified to operate at **111 % of original shuttle thrust**, demonstrating NASA's plan to meet stringent certification requirements <sup>17</sup> .

## False positives / exclusion list

1. **Quantum research** – NASA contracts for quantum sensing or AI development are not aircraft-related.
2. **Space Launch System components** – While rocket engines are aerospace, they are not aviation in the sense of aircraft.
3. **Spacecraft mission operations** – Contracts for spacecraft mission operations or planetary missions are not aviation.

## DHS (Coast Guard & Homeland Security)

### Aircraft/platform references

1. **C-130J missionization contract** – The Coast Guard awarded L3Harris a contract to **produce, install and deliver the Minotaur Mission System Suite and Block 8.1 upgrade** for its 17th and 18th C-130J aircraft <sup>36</sup> . The contract includes options for additional missionizations, with a total potential value of \$147 million.
2. **Sensors, radar and C4ISR equipment** – The missionization provides the aircrew with a **real-time picture of air and surface contacts** through sensors, radar and C4ISR equipment <sup>37</sup> .
3. **Minotaur mission system integration** – The HC-130J program integrates the **Minotaur mission system** with sensors, 360-degree radar, electro-optical sensors, infrared search and track, and automatic identification systems <sup>39</sup> .
4. **HC-130J capabilities** – The HC-130J Super Hercules offers **heavy air transport and maritime patrol capability** and serves as an **on-scene command-and-control or surveillance platform** <sup>50</sup> .
5. **Engine and propeller upgrades** – The HC-130J features a **more advanced engine and propellers**, giving a 20 % increase in speed/altitude and 40 % increase in range compared to the HC-130H <sup>38</sup> .
6. **Avionics enhancements** – The aircraft includes an **all-glass cockpit and advanced navigation equipment** <sup>38</sup> .
7. **Mission system features** – The Minotaur mission system provides **real-time tracking and sensor fusion** using radar, electro-optical/infrared sensors and C4ISR components <sup>39</sup> .
8. **Voice and flight data recorder replacement** – The Tyonek contract supplies **replacement voice and flight data recorder units** for the MH-65E and MH-60T helicopters and includes training and engineering support <sup>40</sup> .
9. **Missions supported** – The C-130J missionization supports search and rescue, law enforcement, logistics and **long-range surveillance** <sup>37</sup> .

10. **Block 8.1 upgrade** – The Block 8.1 upgrade adds an **improved inter-communication system, enhanced approach and landing systems, expanded diagnostics, civil GPS and covert lighting** <sup>37</sup> .

## Components

1. **Minotaur mission system** – The mission system integrates **sensors, radar and C4ISR equipment** <sup>37</sup> .
2. **Advanced engine and propellers** – HC-130J features a **more advanced engine and propellers** providing significant performance gains <sup>38</sup> .
3. **Avionics** – The HC-130J's **all-glass cockpit, advanced navigation equipment and mission system** constitute its avionics suite <sup>38</sup> .
4. **Voice and flight data recorder units** – Replacement **voice and flight data recorders** for MH-65E and MH-60T helicopters, with training and engineering support <sup>40</sup> .

## Ground support equipment

1. **Minotaur system installation** – Missionization includes installation of the **Minotaur Mission System Suite** and Block 8.1 upgrades <sup>36</sup> .
2. **On-scene command equipment** – The HC-130J serves as an **on-scene command-and-control platform** with integrated sensors and communications <sup>50</sup> .
3. **Mission system integration** – The mission system provides sensor fusion, communications and control for real-time operations <sup>39</sup> .

## Certification

1. **Engine and propeller performance** – The HC-130J's advanced engine and propellers deliver a significant increase in speed, altitude and range, implying compliance with aviation certification standards <sup>38</sup> .

## False positives / exclusion list

1. **Wood products** – Contracts for wood products that list the Coast Guard as a customer are not aviation <sup>24</sup> .
2. **Ground vehicle fueling station** – The contract for a ground vehicle fuel station at Whiteman AFB is not a Coast Guard aviation project <sup>28</sup> .
3. **Harbor dredging** – Maintenance dredging contracts are maritime, not aviation <sup>27</sup> .
4. **Quantum research** – AI or quantum research contracts have no aviation link.
5. **Base operations** – Base operations contracts (Fort Hamilton or DHS facilities) are not aviation.

## Summary

The collected quotations reveal recurring language patterns in U.S. government solicitations and contract awards for aviation-related projects. Across services, contracts emphasize **specific aircraft types (e.g., F-35, F/A-18, E-2D, MH-47G, HC-130J), engines and components** (e.g., F402 Pegasus, T56-A-427A, F110, seals, power control units), **ground support equipment** (e.g., LAIRCM test environments, avionics replacements, ground power units), and references to **maintenance, sustainment, testing and modernization**. Many solicitations require detailed technical descriptions, photographs and past history of aircraft and

components. False positives often involve unrelated infrastructure projects (switchgear, wood products, dredging) or general technology research (quantum sensing, AI). These patterns can inform code logic for identifying aviation-related language by looking for specific aircraft designators, engine models, maintenance and repair terms, and excluding generic engineering or non-aviation projects.

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