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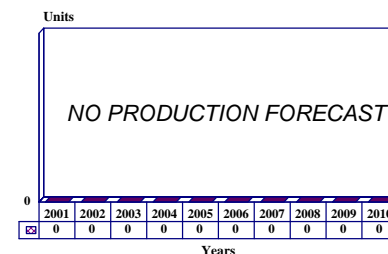
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ASN-123(V) – Archived 08/2002

Outlook

- Canada reportedly purchased US\$8.6 million of surplus ASN-123 units
- Last contract issued in 1997
- Barring any future activity, this report will be archived

10 Year Unit Production Forecast
2001 - 2010



Orientation

Description. Airborne tactical navigation (TACNAV) system.

Sponsor

US Navy

Naval Air Systems Command
Arlington, Virginia (VA) USA

Contractors

Litton Industries

(formerly Teledyne)

Guidance & Control Systems
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Salt Lake City, Utah (UT) 84116
USA

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Web site: <http://www.litton.com>

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Electro-Methods Inc

330 Governors Highway
South Windsor, Connecticut (CT) 06074
USA

Tel: +1 860 289 8661

Fax: +1 860 289 1868

Status. In production and service.

Total Produced. An estimated 477 units were produced through 2000.

Application. EA-6B, SH-2F, and SH-3H aircraft.

Price Range. The price of a complete ASN-123(V) set could not be determined from available information.

Technical Data

Design Specifications. The ASN-123(V) tactical navigation (TACNAV) display system and signal data converter is used in conjunction with the ASN-130 Inertial Navigation System (INS) to provide accurate

navigation information. The ASN-123(V) set is composed of a processor unit, a display unit and two control units. The processor unit is a derivative of the navigation set used aboard CH-46E and CH-53 helicopters.

Variants/Upgrades

Upgrade. Under a modification program, ASN-123(V)s aboard SH-3H aircraft received additional memory (from 32K to 128K) to increase processing speed. A shield was also added to eliminate interference.

Variant. The system entailed in the 1997 contract with Electro-Methods is the ASN-123(C). The ways in which this variant differs from others in the family have not been identified.

Program Review

Background. ASN-123(V) TACNAV development began in 1970, with the first production contract awarded to Teledyne in 1975. Designed primarily for use on US Navy ASW helicopters, it was procured for the Grumman EA-6B Prowler (the Navy's electronic jamming aircraft), as well as the SH-2F Seasprite and SH-3D/H.

Under a SLEP (service-life extension program), the Navy began the process of modifying the ASN-123(V) aboard SH-3H ASW helicopters. The plan also included installing ASN-123(V)s into existing EA-6B electronic warfare aircraft, while production units of SH-2F and EA-6B aircraft were to have the system installed as factory equipment. The overall SH-3 SLEP

ran through 1997. A previous program to update ASN-123(V)s onboard USN EA-6B aircraft was completed in 1986.

Judging by contract activity, major procurement of the ASN-123(V) was completed around 1990. There has been some recent contract activity, however. In January 1997, an award worth US\$7.8 million provided additional funding for 34 ASN-123(C) TACNAV sets for the SH-2F and SH-3H helicopter programs. The contract also included 22 ASN-123 digital display group sets. Also, it was reported in 2000 that the Canadian Armed Forces have acquired surplus ASN-123 TACNAV systems for US\$8.6 million. These systems will be retrofitted into the 22 CH-124A helicopters.

Funding

Recent funding has not been identified.

Recent Contracts

As of 1989, about US\$129.4 million had been spent on ASN-123 work. Since that time, the following contract is the only known activity:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Award (\$ millions)</u>	<u>Date/Description</u>
Electro-Methods Inc	7.8	Jan 1997 – Additional funding under an FFP contract for 34 AN/ASN-123(C) tactical navigation sets of government-furnished equipment (FY86) for the SH-2F and SH-3H helicopter programs, and 22 ASN-123(V) digital display group sets (FY85/86) for spares/government-furnished equipment. Completed Sep 1999. (F34601-97-D-0123, Mod #0001)

Timetable

<u>Month</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Major Development</u>
Early	1970	ASN-123 development begun
	1975	Teledyne awarded first production contract
	1980	Kaman and Grumman awarded primary integration contracts
	1983	SH-3H Block Upgrade begun
	1986	EA-6B ASN-123(V) and AYK-14 modification complete
Thru	1991	Major ASN-123(V) production ended
	1997	SH-3 SLEP upgrades continued
	1999	Most recent contract completed

<u>Month</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Major Development</u>
	2000	Canadian Armed Forces have acquired surplus ASN-123 TACNAV systems for US\$8.6 million

Worldwide Distribution

The ASN-123(V) equips **US Navy** EA-6B, SH-2F, and SH-3H (as well as original SH-3D, which should now be fully converted to the H standard) aircraft, and has reportedly been delivered to undisclosed international customers.

Forecast Rationale

The Litton ASN-123 system is an airborne tactical navigation system used in conjunction with the ASN-130 inertial navigation system to provide precision navigational feedback to pilots. During the 1980s and 1990s the ASN-123 has experienced a successful production run. Approximately 470 units were produced since its inception. The ASN-123 system is in use with the US Navy and US Coast Guard, as well as a large number of international customers on such platforms as the SH-2F/G, SH-3H, SH-60F, HH-60H/J, S-70B/C and CH-124B.

Developed in the 1970s, its technology is rapidly becoming outdated. The majority of the platforms carrying the ASN-123 are also in the latter stages of their life cycles. A surplus of spares is evident from the fiscal year 2000 US\$8.6 million purchase of surplus ASN-123 units by the Canadian Armed Forces. Production for residual exports and spares remains a possibility for the ASN-123, but on an extremely limited scale. The forecast chart below has been omitted pending future contract announcements. Barring any future activity, this report will be archived in the near future.

Ten-Year Outlook

No future production anticipated.

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