

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century Aerial Firefighting Capabilities for the Hercules

Applying Lockheed Martin Technologies to Improve Wildfire Containment Effectiveness Richard Cree – Advanced Development Programs



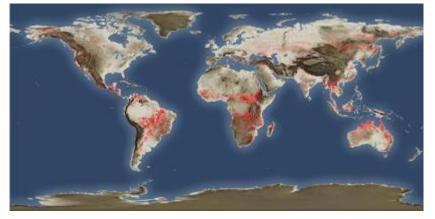


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# **Operational Need**

### **Increased Wildfire Activity Impacts**

- Population Growth into what were once uninhabited wildland areas
- Past Forestry Management Policies have allowed an increased build-up of Fuels
- Large wildfires affect citizens and infrastructure annually worldwide with high cost



Wildfire Impact 1995-2010Graphic - European Space Agency



### **Impact in the United States**

- Each year, an average of approximately 73,000 wildfires burn about 7 million acres of land.
- Agriculture, Cattle & Structures over \$5 billion in economic loss
- Over 2,000 homes and Structures lost
- Wildfire fighting/suppression costs approximately \$1 million per day

Wildfires are a Global issue that Impact All Nations Directly or Indirectly





# **Definition of Terms**

### Direct Attack

- Dropping Water or Fire Retardant directly on the Flames to extinguish the Fire.
- Typically only effective on smaller fires larger fires too intense for this technique to be effective
- Used frequently to protect structures and infrastructure that are in danger



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#### Indirect Attack

- Technique of laying down a line of Fire Retardant in front of the direction of Fire Movement
- Retardant coats fuels on ground to stop the ability of the fire to progress
- Assists Ground Crews in ultimately Containing and Extinguishing Wildfires



Coverage Level (CL) – Number of US Gallons of fluid evenly applied across 100 square foot area



# **Definition of Terms**



Pressurized Drop Systems

- Uses Air Pressure to 'push' the Retardant out of the aircraft via a Control Nozzle
- Requires additional support Air Compressor Support Equipment (either on the ground or onboard the aircraft)
- Typically more narrow Ground Coverage Lines
- Limited Coverage Levels
- Typically Indirect Attack Only



### Gravity Drop Systems

- Less Complex with Drop Doors and Gravity pulling the Retardant out of the aircraft downward
- Minimal Ground Support Required
- Lighter Empty Weight enables higher capacity
- Best and more consistent Ground Coverage Lines
- More effective and provides higher Coverage Levels
- Able to perform Direct and Indirect Attack effectively

Choice of System is Dependent on Operator Needs



# **Requirements for Effective Aerial Firefighting**

- Safe Operations are paramount! ٠
- Controlled maneuverability in degraded conditions
  - Low altitude/low airspeeds •
  - At near maximum operating weight •
  - Typically hot environment with shifting winds •
- High lift and ruggedized wing structure ٠
- Immediate rapid power response ۲
  - Turboprop ideal turbofans lag
- Large payload capacity per sortie (3000 US gallons) ٠
- Controllable/consistent drop capability ٠
  - To deliver best suppression for conditions •
  - Certified to recognized standards ۲
- Endurance to reduce ground time for refueling ٠

The Hercules Checks All The Boxes

### The most effective drops are conducted at:

- 200-150 feet above terrain
- 120 knots IAS
- Enables retardant or water to fall vertically • and without disbursing from wind shear





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# **Why Herc Is Superior**



- C-130 Aerial firefighting capacity:
  - Up to 4,000 US gallon capacity per sortie
    - Larger capacity than most other widely used airtanker options
      - AT-802 (800 gallons), Dash 8-400MRE (2450 gallons), CL-515 (1621 gallons)
    - More capacity equals longer drop lengths or more effective split load ability
  - Flexible support Direct Attack or Indirect Attack Capable
  - Non-Swept High Lift Wing for outstanding low airspeed/low altitude controlled maneuverability
- Most versatile option for aircraft utilization
  - The C-130 retains basic airlifter capabilities when not configured for aerial firefighting
  - Full mission capable after drop system removal

### The C-130 as an Aerial Firefighter offers the most overall flexibility



# **C-130 Aerial Firefighting System Options**









### MAFFS II – United Aeronautical

- Roll On/Roll Off System
- Minimal Aircraft Mod Electrical Panel/Software
- 3000 gallon capacity Pressurized Discharge
- Operated on US Air Force C-130J-30/C-130H
  - Eight systems in the United States
- Also has been delivered to two International C-130H/J operators



## RADS-XXL – Coulson

- Semi-Roll On/Roll Off System
- Major Aircraft Mod to Cargo Underfloor
- 4000+ gallon capacity Gravity Drop
- Installed on Commercially-operated C-130H/Q/382Gs
- Five systems installed with seven more pending
- Simplest & Best Performance

### Note: Neither system are currently LM Aero certified



### **Current Ops**















**RADS-XL** 



MAFFS II







Best Choice for current Systems Depends on Individual Operator's Requirements



# C-130J FireHerc - Baseline

Enhanced Service Life Wing 4000+ Gallon Gravity Drop Retardant Delivery System Fully Integrated Flight Deck Designed for Low Altitude Missions Advanced Turboprop Performance with Auto-Throttle and FADEC

Hercules Orion Conference HUD for superb Situational Awareness **NVIS Compatible** Advanced (Primary Flight Display) Flight Deck Centralized Advisory, Caution. Advisory & Warning System Stall Warning Stall Warning Speed Stall Warning Current Modern Safety Features: Stall Warning, Energy Cue, Energy Gue Windshear Detection, GCAS

C-130J Technology = Most Capable Aerial Firefighter



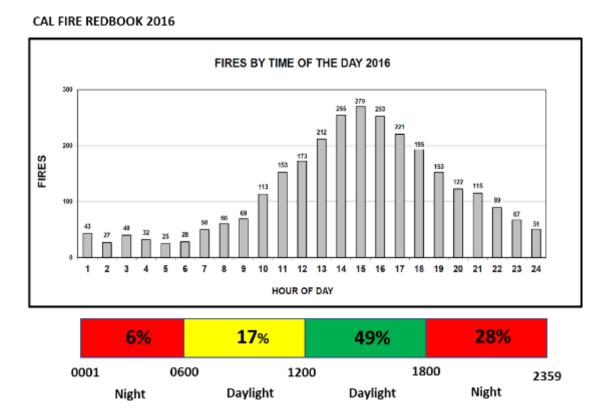
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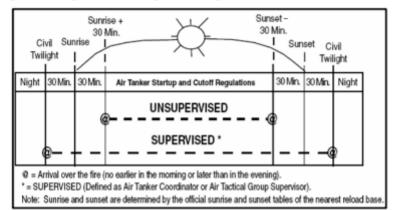
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# **Current Airtanker Operations Tempo**



Figure 3. Multi-engine Airtanker Startup and Cutoff Regulations







### Safety in a Challenging Environment Drives Daytime Firefighting



# C-130J FireHerc – Enhanced (expand into night)

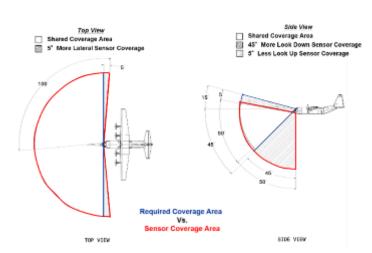
- Addition of Distributed Aperture System (DAS) Sensors (IR & Smoke detection)
- Creates 'Day Like' VFR imagery presentation to Pilots
- Introduce Head-worn Display for increased Horizontal 180° field of view beyond a HUD
- Addition of advanced Mission Planning Tools and Situational Awareness Updates

Advanced Technology Could Enable Night Ops – Faster Containment, Resources Saved





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# **Lockheed Martin Night Ops Enabling Technologies**

#### LM Aero provided:

- Baseline C-130J Super Hercules w/advanced avionics systems, NVIS lighting and proven RADS-XL installed
- Development of Distributed Aperture System (DAS) and Synthetic Vision (SVS) techniques leveraged from F-35 experience
- Open System Architecture for Integrated SA
- Head-mounted Display systems to provide 180° FOV to Flight Crews
- Advanced Mission Planning System

### LM Rotary & Mission Systems (RMS) & LM Space

- Refined Wildfire Behavior Predictive Tools
- Firefighting Intelligence as a Service (FlaaS)
- Cognitive Mission Manager (CMM) System

### Hercules Training Center

 Develop Advance Crew Training Systems tailored for Night Airtanker Operations

### FireHerc Solution Leverages Proven Product From Multiple LM Businesses





# Summary



- The C-130 aircraft is recognized as one of the very best Aerial Firefighting platforms in the world
  - Highest Payload Capability = Large Fire Retardant Capacity per sortie 4,000+ gallons
  - Hot ambient temperature and short field capability does not restrict retardant loads
  - Outstanding maneuverability in challenging low altitude/low airspeed environments provide greater safe flight operations during critical mission phases
  - Cargo Compartment Flexibility enables true multi-mission capability
    - Aircraft can be pre-modified to accept Aerial Firefighting Mission Systems to enable rapid conversion between normal airlift operations to Aerial Firefighting missions
    - Basic airlift mission retained unlike other dedicated fixed-wing aerial firefighter options

Addition of C-130 Aerial Firefighting Capability enables superior support for containment of wildfires to greatly diminish impact to citizens





