HOST EXTENSIBLE LAUNCHING SYSTEM
Host Extensible Launching System (ExLS)

The need to integrate and adapt is evident in an ever-changing world. Nowhere is that more important than ensuring naval vessels have the systems they need to defend and deter.

Lockheed Martin has developed an innovative and affordable launching system that integrates and adapts into existing main battery launching systems. The Host Extensible Launching System (ExLS) is a low-cost solution that integrates new missiles and munitions into the MK41 and MK57 Vertical Launching Systems (VLS) variants installed aboard surface combatants. ExLS was designed to rapidly integrate qualified missiles or weapons developed and certified in an All Up Round (AUR) configuration, such as Nulka, RAM Block 2, Sea Ceptor Common Anti Air Modular Missile (CAMM), Longbow and Joint Air to Ground Missile (JAGM).

Maintaining the AUR integrity is critical for fleet commonality and logistics support. ExLS offers the unique ability to load AURs into a reconfigurable system that provides unprecedented flexibility for the U.S. and allied navies. The host ExLS was designed to reduce the cost of integrating new missiles and munitions into a ship’s existing VLS. ExLS fits inside a VLS cell and serves as an adapter between the new weapon and the main battery launcher (MK 41 or MK 57).

Leveraging the same approach, Lockheed Martin has also developed a standalone ExLS to vertically launch munitions on smaller ship classes that do not have a main battery launcher. The standalone ExLS variant can also be used to augment firepower when installed in combination with main battery launchers.

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