MK 45 Weapon System

Steven J. Cannon
NSWC/Port Hueneme Division
Louisville Detachment

08 April 09
Agenda

- Patrol Coastal Class Ship Capability Gap
- Solution Overview
- Planned Demonstration Event
- Path Forward
- Additional Features Under Consideration
Patrol Coastal Class Ships

MK 96

MK 38 MOD 1
PC Weapon Systems

• **Current Configuration**
  – MK 38 MOD 1 forward
  – MK 96 AFT (6 ships updated with MK 38 MOD 2)

• **Issue/Capability Gap**
  – Forward mount not stabilized or optically supported
  – High sea states will not allow crew in the focsle area
    • Loading
    • Operating
    • Maintaining
  – MK 38 MOD 2 not a good candidate due to green water and would be inaccessible, like the MK 38 MOD 1

• **Developing requirement for a forward Weapon System**
  – Remote controlled with on-mount EOS
  – Out range small arms
  – Optics capable of providing improved operational awareness
  – Weapon light enough to remove and stow below deck during extreme sea-states
Solution

• MK 38 MOD 2 Program of Record replaces the MK 96 aft Weapon System
• Develop a lightweight alternate Weapon System for the forward position
  – Install in an alternate location
MK 38 MOD 2 Installation
Aft Location
MK 45 Weapon System

HSV 2 SWIFT

USCG 87’ Patrol Boat
COCHITO
MK 45 Weapon System

- Two axis gyro stabilized
- Remote firing utilizing on-mount optics
- Autotracker
- WSES RB approved for HSV 2 SWIFT

- Cooled FLIR (3-5 micron)
- 2 fixed FOV’s (10.8° and 2.2°)
- Day color camera
- Variable zoom (43° to 1.8°)
- 1 Hz eye safe laser rangefinder
- “NightHunter” spotlight
- Optics Wiper/washer
MK 45 w/M240, MK 19, M2HB
DARPA LW Mount – G Wagon Installation
Naval Expeditionary Overwatch (NEO)
Gunslinger Spiral 3 Mount

Mount Weight Approx. 265 (No Gun or Ammo)
Overall Dimensions with M2HB = 29.4”H x 38”W x 65.2”D
Working Radius with M2HB = 42.2”

Two Axis Drive
FOG Stabilized

Elevation
-25 deg
+50 Deg

On-Mount Ammo Box
• 400 .50 Cal M2HB
• 1,600 7.62 M240

Slip Ring
360 Deg Cont.

Sight Package
Spot Light
Naval Expeditionary Overwatch (NEO)
Gunslinger Spiral 3 Mount

M240 7.62
1,600 Round Capacity

M2HB .50 Cal
400 Round Capacity
Modular Advanced Weapon System (MAWS) Development

Repackage current MK 45 and MK 45 LW Systems and add new capabilities into a new Modular Advanced Weapon System (MAWS)
Modular Advanced Weapon System (MAWS)
Common Base Assy

Base Structure Contains:
• Azimuth power drive
• Slip-Ring
• In gimble electronics (Amp Box)
Modular Advanced Weapon System (MAWS)
Integral Slip Ring

Scaleable slip-ring design allows the addition of circuit paths as needed for payload requirements
Modular Advanced Weapon System (MAWS)

Three Axis Configuration

Three Axis Drive Trunnion Assy contains independent sight and payload drives.

Support Trunnion

Sight Assy

Common Mechanical and Plug and Play Electronic Interfaces
Modular Advanced Weapon System (MAWS)
Two Axis Configuration

Sight Assy

Two Axis Drive Trunnion Assy contains common sight and payload drive

Support Trunnion

Common Mechanical and Plug and Play Electronic Interfaces
Modular Advanced Weapon System (MAWS) Sight Interface

- Sight interface has common mechanical and electrical interfaces for plug and play compatibility between sight packages.
Modular Advanced Weapon System (MAWS) Principle Concept

- **Modular Advanced Weapon System**
  - Modular/Scaleable design is adaptable to many payloads and various performance requirements
  - Lightweight
    - Baseline construction – Aluminum weldments, castings when possible
    - Objective – Composite manufacture when possible
      - Composite Study Funded
  - Cost
    - Modular design allows configuration options that satisfy cost/performance requirements
Modular Configurations

- M2HB .50 cal
- M240 7.62
- MK 19 40mm
- Long Range Acoustical Device (LRAD) 500 and Optics Package
- M134 7.62mm Gatling Gun
- LW25 25mm with LRAD 500
- M230LF 30mm
- Surveillance Payload w/ Alternative Spotlight
Weapon Choice
• Details:
  – 30mm Chain Gun
  – Effective Range - ~2,500 Yards
  – Lightweight - Approx. 160 lbs
  – Fires electric primed ammunition
  – M230 linkless Chain Gun used on Army AH-64 Apache Helicopter and MH-60 Aircraft
  – M230LF variant being applied to this program is derived from the M230 with the follow modifications:
    • Modified feeder for linked ammunition
    • Added recoil attenuation buffers
    • Percussion firing mechanism – upgrade kit

• Known Issues:
  – M230LF Not Type Classified
  – Requires some degree of design finalization by ATK
  – Level of Marinization unknown
Weapon System Integration

MK 45/MAWS
PC Location Option
for Sept 09 Demonstration
3D MODEL PROFILE VIEW
PILOT HOUSE VIEW
• 7° Depression Angle,
• Located at Frame 13
• Gun Barrel 9' 2" above Main Deck,
• 266° Overall Coverage

No Engagement Zone

≈149 ft.
Path Forward
Patrol Coastal At-Sea Demonstration

- Funded by IWS3C, Mr. Kevin LaPointe
- Supported by PCRON, Commodore Coughlin
- Objectives
  - Safely demonstrate the advantages the MK 45 Weapon System
    - Optics
    - Remote operation
    - Stabilization
    - Location improvement
    - Ability for ship’s crew to remove and stow the cannon
- Schedule
  - TEMPALT SIDs finalized by 15 May
  - Install TEMPALT 01-24 June 09
  - Install MK 45 31 Aug – 4 Sept 09
  - Demonstration 14-25 Sept 09
Additional Features Under Consideration
Modular Advanced Weapon System (MAWS)

Auxiliary Drive

Proposed configuration for NEO Spiral 2 to support escalation of force initiative
Modular Advanced Weapon System (MAWS)
Laser Designator/Sight Improvements

• Integrate a combination ELRF and designator into the current sight package
• Add an azimuth drive system for the sight to improve the stabilization of the sight
  – Verify accurate designation
  – Allow active target leading
Modular Advanced Weapon System (MAWS)
Missile Options