

Operational Training Systems Provider

The Canada First Defence Strategy is an initiative to provide the Canadian Forces (CF) with a vision for future operations as well as a plan for consistent, committed long-term funding. As part of this strategy to strengthen Canada's defence forces, the Government of Canada is under contract to acquire a new fleet of 17 C-130J Hercules tactical airlift aircraft and will soon be under contract to acquire CH-47 Chinook medium-to-heavy lift helicopters. As these new aircraft enter service for Canada, highly-trained and mission-ready Canadian Forces personnel will be required to operate these aircraft. Under a program called the Operational Training Systems Provider (OTSP), the Government of Canada selected CAE as the prime contractor to provide comprehensive aircrew training services for Canada's C-130J and CH-47 fleets, and potentially other aircraft platforms in the future.

OTSP background

In 2007, the Government of Canada issued a solicitation of interest and qualification (SOIQ) to find an OTSP capable of delivering comprehensive aircrew training services. CAE assembled a pan-Canadian team to respond to the SOIQ and following a competitive assessment, was deemed the only compliant bidder for the OTSP program. In February 2009, CAE was awarded the first contract under the OTSP program to provide a comprehensive C-130J aircrew training capability, which will include a full suite of C-130J training media as well as 20 years of in-service support.

C-130J aircrew training

The first contract under the OTSP program related to C-130J training systems and services is divided into two phases. First, during the acquisition phase from 2009 to 2011, CAE will lead the design and development of C-130J training media. The C-130J training media will include two full-mission simulators (FMS), one flight training device (FTD), three CAE Simfinity™ integrated procedures trainers (IPT), one fuselage trainer (FuT), laptop-based CAE Simfinity virtual simulators (VSIM), courseware, tactical control centre, training information management system and related information technology equipment.

Following delivery of C-130J training media in the first half of 2012, phase two of the contract will commence with CAE leading the in-service support for the C-130J aircrew training program. During the 20-year in-service support phase, CAE will be responsible for providing a range of training support services, including simulator upgrades, training device maintenance as well as hardware and software engineering support. In addition, CAE staff onsite at Canadian Forces Base Trenton will provide services such as courseware updates, scheduling, obsolescence management, and database modelling and generation for common databases (CDB).

The Benefits

The OTSP program is expected to deliver a range of benefits to Canada. By working closely with CAE as a training systems integrator, Canada's Department of National Defence (DND) will be able to consolidate resources, alleviate duplication of effort, and deliver a world-class aircrew training capability. This will enable DND to make a more efficient use of funding while reducing risks and saving money over the life of the entire program. In addition, the OTSP program will allow Canada to develop training systems and processes that are flexible and can be integrated with existing and future aircrew training programs.

The future

Once the Government of Canada concludes a contract with the Boeing Company to acquire CH-47 Chinook helicopters, CAE and the Government of Canada will negotiate a second contract under the OTSP program to provide a comprehensive CH-47 aircrew training capability.





OTSP fact sheet

Contract value:

C\$330 million

Total jobs:

330 jobs for the first three years and 50 jobs for the next 20 years

- 50% in Quebec
- 40% in Ontario
- 10% in Maritimes and Western Canada

The pan-Canadian team

For the OTSP program, CAE leads a team that includes xwave, Bombardier, Atlantis Systems International and Cascade Aerospace. Specifically for the C-130J aircrew training capability, CAE will subcontract work to each company on its team, including the development of the training information management system and related information technology equipment to xwave, the courseware development to Bombardier; the design and manufacture of the C-130J FTD to Atlantis and finally the design and manufacture of the C130J FuT to Cascade.



Contract details:

Phase 1: Training media

- 1 tactical flight training device: Atlantis
- Courseware: Bombardier
- 2 full-mission simulators: CAE
- 3 CAE Simfinity integrated procedures trainers: CAE
- CAE Simfinity virtual simulators: CAE
- Tactical control centre: CAE
- 1 fuselage trainer: Cascade
- Training management information system: xwave

Phase 2: In-service support

- 20 years in-service support at 8 Wing Trenton, Ontario
- 50 jobs per year over 20 years

CAE's C-130 experience:

- 26 C-130 and C-130J full-mission simulators in service
- More C-130 training systems than any other company
- All the C-130J training systems in service with militaries, including: the US Air Force, US Marine Corps, Royal Air Force, Italian Air Force, and Royal Australian Air Force.
- Operates the only independent C-130 training centres in Tampa, Florida and Brussels, Belgium.



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