

C-17 Globemaster III

Since its engineers began work in 1989 on the electronic flight control system for the U.S. Air Force's newest airlifter, BAE Systems has taken on an increasingly important role on the C-17 Globemaster III. Today, BAE Systems is the transport's premier avionics supplier, its products playing a central role in the war on terrorism and other military missions.

BAE Systems develops and produces electronic systems that govern the flight of the aircraft, manage the delivery of cargo, oversee navigation and other mission-critical functions, and control on-board utilities such as electrical and fuel systems. Continual upgrades to these systems ensure that the C-17 maintains its effectiveness and flexibility for all types of missions.

In 2006, the company was contracted by Boeing Integrated Defense Systems, the C-17 prime contractor, to equip an additional 18 aircraft to support current U.S. Air Force and foreign military needs. These orders include modernized and upgraded configurations of more than half the supplied systems. Once delivery is complete in early 2009, the active C-17 fleet will have grown to almost 200 aircraft worldwide.

The C-17 has demonstrated its strategic and theater airlift capability in every recent worldwide military operation. The four-engine transport can carry large combat equipment and troops, or humanitarian aid, across long distances. It can land on small, unimproved airfields anywhere in the world. The C-17 is designed to fulfill military airlift needs well into the 21st century.

Capable of rapid strategic delivery of troops and all types of cargo, and of performing tactical airlift and airdrop missions, it has been the airlifter of choice in the global war on terrorism, flying thousands of humanitarian and troop/equipment delivery missions in Afghanistan and Iraq. In addition, the C-17 played a major role in disaster relief following the 2004 tsunami and Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Largest supplier of C-17 avionics

Flight controls

Cargo delivery

Navigation systems

Electrical, fuel, and other utility systems

Continual upgrades to maximize performance

Head-up display



BAE Systems Equipment on the C-17



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