

LIGHTWEIGHT 155MM HOWITZER

Program Background

The M777A2 Lightweight 155mm Howitzer, which is also known as the “Triple Seven,” is a cornerstone of the PM Towed Artillery Systems (PM TAS) portfolio. Produced by BAE Systems in the United Kingdom, the Lightweight 155 is a Marine Corps-led Joint program with the Army. The M777A2 replaces the Marine Corps’ M198 155mm weapons system.

The M777A2 is capable of firing standard (unassisted) projectiles to a range of 15 miles (24 kilometers),

assisted projectiles to 19 miles (30.5 kilometers), and the Excalibur munitions to ranges in excess of 25 miles (40 kilometers).

The Lightweight M777A2, the world’s first artillery weapon to make widespread use of titanium and aluminum alloys, can be airlifted into remote high-altitude locations that are inaccessible to ground transportation, and it is capable of being transported by the Marine Corps’ V-22 Osprey as well as medium- and heavy-lift helicopters.





Program Status

There are currently 1,071 M777 howitzers on contract: 511 for the Marine Corps and 488 for the Army, with the remaining 72 targeted for foreign military sales. To date, over 950 of these systems have been fielded. Full Operational Capability for the USMC was achieved in June 2011.

The M777 Program has commenced activities to refresh the system's digitized fire control system. Described as a leap ahead towed artillery technology, the digital fire control system has transformed how U.S. Marines employ artillery. As part of the refresh effort, a new Gunners and Assistant Gunners Display (GD/AGD) will be actively fielded in 2014. Using recent advances in display technology, the refreshed display provides greater reliability and significantly improves sunlight readability at a lower overall cost.

Other refresh initiatives in qualification testing are a new Mission System Computer and Chief of Section Display.

LW 155'S Top Program Technology Issue:

1. Corrosion Prevention

The program is interested in corrosion prevention for weapons that are being put into storage or weapons that are placed on ships. Periodic access for personnel performing weapons maintenance is required, as is long-term protection from and/or prevention of corrosion.



LW155 Technical Issue #1 Corrosion

