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Australian Defence Force Commences Training Exercises with AeroVironment's RQ-12 Wasp AE Small Unmanned Aircraft System

- Allied forces increasingly deploying AeroVironment's small unmanned aircraft systems
- Wasp AE delivers real-time ISR, on demand, for infantry, littoral or maritime reconnaissance operations

PARIS--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- **Paris Air Show** - [AeroVironment, Inc.](http://www.aerovironment.com) (NASDAQ: AVAV) today announced that the Australian Defence Force (ADF) this month received and began training exercises with the company's RQ-12 Wasp® AE small unmanned aircraft system.

This Smart News Release features multimedia. View the full release here: <http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20150617005721/en/>



Powerful Insight, On Demand: The Australian Defence Force recently received shipment and began training with AeroVironment's RQ-12 Wasp® AE unmanned aircraft systems. (Photo: Business Wire)

up to 50 minutes at a range of up to five kilometers and delivers live, streaming color and infrared video from its pan-tilt-zoom Mantis i22 AE gimbaled payload. Launched by hand and capable of landing on the ground or in fresh or salt water, the Wasp AE provides portability and flexibility for infantry, littoral or maritime reconnaissance operations.

AeroVironment Small UAS

[RQ-11B Raven®](#), [RQ-12 Wasp®](#), [RQ-20A Puma™](#) and [Shrike VTOL™](#) comprise AeroVironment's Family of Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems. Operating with a [common ground control system \(GCS\)](#), this Family of Systems provides increased capability to the warfighter that can give ground commanders the option of selecting the appropriate aircraft based on the type of mission to be performed. This increased capability has the potential to provide significant force protection and force multiplication benefits to small tactical units and security personnel. AeroVironment provides logistics services worldwide to ensure a consistently high level of operational readiness and provides mission services for customers requiring only the information its

ADF placed an AUD \$7.7 million order on Dec. 22, 2014 as part of an Army Soldier Modernization Trial procurement. AeroVironment received the order from XTEK Limited on behalf of the ADF.

"The man packable Wasp AE unmanned aircraft system delivers powerful intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance on demand and directly to small tactical units or an individual warfighter," said Kirk Flittie, AeroVironment vice president and general manager of the company's Unmanned Aircraft Systems business segment.

Flittie added, "Increasingly, allied forces around the world are deploying our small unmanned aircraft systems for valuable, real-time situational awareness to help them operate more safely and effectively." AeroVironment has delivered more than 25,000 new and replacement small unmanned aerial vehicles to customers within the United States and to more than 30 international governments.

The Wasp AE weighs 2.8 pounds, operates for

small UAS produce. AeroVironment has delivered thousands of new and replacement small unmanned air vehicles to customers within the United States and to more than 30 international governments.

The [Puma AE small UAS](#) comprises one component of AeroVironment's advanced, turnkey data collection, processing and delivery solution employed to provide commercial customers with engineering-quality information, on-demand, across multiple industries such as oil & gas, agriculture, mining and others. The Qube® small UAS is tailored to law enforcement, first response and other public safety missions. Small enough to fit easily in the trunk of a car, the Qube system can be unpacked, assembled and ready for flight in less than five minutes, giving the operator a rapidly deployable eye in the sky at a fraction of the cost of manned aircraft and large unmanned aircraft.

About AeroVironment, Inc.

AeroVironment is a technology solutions provider that designs, develops, produces, supports and operates an advanced portfolio of [Unmanned Aircraft Systems](#) (UAS) and electric transportation solutions. The company's electric-powered, hand-launched unmanned aircraft systems generate and process data to deliver powerful insight, on-demand, to people engaged in military, public safety and commercial activities around the world. [Global Observer®](#) is a hybrid-electric, stratospheric UAS designed to provide affordable, persistent reconnaissance and communication over any location on the globe. The [Switchblade™](#) tactical missile system enables the infantry squad and other customers with increased lethality, reach and force protection through its rapid deployment, direct fire and collateral damage avoidance capabilities. AeroVironment's electric transportation solutions include a comprehensive suite of [electric vehicle \(EV\) charging systems, installation and network services](#) for consumers, automakers, utilities and government agencies, [power cycling and test systems](#) for EV developers and [industrial electric vehicle charging systems](#) for commercial fleets. More information about AeroVironment is available at www.avinc.com.

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