U.S. Navy links Standard Missile-6 with F-35 Joint Strike Fighter in first-of-a-kind flight test

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Raytheon multi-mission missile teams with next-gen aircraft to destroy over-the-horizon target

WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE, N.M., Sept. 14, 2016 /PRNewswire/ -- In a first-of-its-kind engagement, a Raytheon Company (NYSE: RTN) Standard Missile-6 linked with an F-35 fighter destroyed a medium-range, medium-altitude, subsonic target. The USS Desert Ship (LLS 1), a land-based U.S. Navy Combat System equipped with the latest AEGIS Baseline, fired the SM-6, which intercepted the over-the-horizon target, out of sight of its operators.

The mission was the latest in a test series for Naval Integrated Fire Control – Counter Air, or NIFC-CA, a program designed to link U.S. Navy ships and various airborne sensors, such as the F-35, into a single integrated sensor network. During this capability demonstration, the SM-6 received continuous updates from the network, including the fighter aircraft, leading to the successful intercept of the target.

"This test once again demonstrates the multi-dimensional capability provided by pairing the NIFC-CA system and the multi-mission SM-6," said Mike Campisi, SM-6 Senior program director. "By linking SM-6 with airborne sensors on the F-35 or other aircraft through NIFC-CA, we help to dominate the combat environment and defeat the threat."

SM-6 provides U.S. Navy vessels with extended-range protection against fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft, unmanned aerial vehicles, cruise missiles and ballistic missiles in the terminal phase of flight, and an offensive capability against surface targets.

In April 2015, Raytheon delivered the first full-rate production SM-6 from its $75-million, 70,000-square-foot SM-6 and Standard Missile-3 all-up-round production facility at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama. Raytheon has currently delivered more than 300 SM-6 missiles with continuing production.

About Standard Missile-6
SM-6 delivers proven over-the-horizon, air defense through the time-tested advantages of the Standard Missile's airframe and propulsion.

- SM-6 uses both active and semi-active guidance modes and advanced fuzing techniques.
- It incorporates the advanced signal processing and guidance control capabilities from Raytheon's Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missile.
- SM-6 delivers multi-mission capability for long range Fleet Air Defense, Sea-Based Terminal Defense, and Anti-Surface Warfare.

About Raytheon
Raytheon Company, with 2015 sales of $23 billion and 61,000 employees, is a technology and innovation leader specializing in defense, civil government and cybersecurity solutions. With a history of innovation spanning 94 years, Raytheon provides state-of-the-art electronics, mission systems integration, C5I products and services, sensing, effects, and mission support for customers in more than 80 countries. Raytheon is headquartered in Waltham, Massachusetts. Follow us on Twitter @Raytheon.

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