

AGM-114 HELLFIRE

Current as of February 1, 2022



MISSION

The AGM-114 Hellfire missile system is a Semi-Active Laser (SAL) system for use in conventional strike environments. The missile may be launched from a variety of airborne platforms to include unmanned aerial systems. Hellfire provides precision striking power against tanks, armored personnel carriers, air defense sites, patrol boats, bunkers, buildings, nontactical vehicles, personnel, and slow moving fixed and rotary wing aircraft. It consists of a guidance section housing a SAL seeker, warhead, rocket motor, and control sections.

BACKGROUND

The AGM-114 Hellfire missile system is a rocket-propelled, laser-guided, supersonic weapon designed to defeat individual hard point targets well forward of friendly ground-maneuver elements. Uploading and downloading requires no special tools or equipment. The missile includes Built-In Test (BIT) (on aircraft only) for evaluation of missile condition. The AGM-114 provides capability to destroy threat armored vehicles, material and personnel well forward of ground maneuver elements during day or night in electro-optic countermeasure environments.

The AGM-114 Hellfire provides an air-to-ground capability which directly supports the Joint Force Commander in finding and prosecuting time-sensitive targets. During operations, the digital communication link provides targeting data to the missile and enables the missile to inertial navigate, acquire targets, and destroy target sets from various lateral offset angles. Under the Lock On After Launch (LOAL)-direct mode, the missile travels to the target set along the launch line-of-sight. Under the LOAL-low mode, the missile travels to the target set from a lower flight path angle. Under the LOAL-high mode, the missile travels to the target set from a higher flight path angle.











