

## New Amphibious Combat Vehicle

### Background

- The Marine Corps initiated development of a ground and combat tactical vehicle strategy in 2008; the goal is to field vehicles with the correct balance of performance, protection, payload, mobility, transportability and fuel efficiency.
- The Secretary of Defense, Secretary of the Navy and Commandant reaffirm the necessity for the Nation to possess the ability to conduct a full range of amphibious operations; this includes forcible entry, which will require a self-deploying amphibious vehicle able to project ready-to-fight Marines from sea to land in permissive, uncertain and hostile environments.
- Cost projections for Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle (EFV) procurement alone would consume the projected budget for all Marine Corps vehicles while placing great pressure on the balance of Marine Corps procurement for the balance of this decade.
- We have concluded that we must revise our approach for developing a future Amphibious Combat Vehicle, with increased emphasis on affordability, to ensure we can field this capability in the numbers required for amphibious operations.

### Discussion

- We need to open the trade space for vehicle performance requirements and include cost as a requirement to drive affordability trades; ultimately, we need to procure at a rate that brings healthy competition and efficient production.
- Integrating the Marine Personnel Carrier, Service Life Extension Program and upgrades for a portion of the existing Amphibious Assault Vehicles, and a new Amphibious Combat Vehicle, we create greater opportunity to field this critical capability within challenging resource constraints.
- This is a significant course change relative to the EFV program; we further recognize that the challenges to our ground and combat tactical vehicle programs in total cannot be solved through this single program change but will require similar focus across the vehicle portfolio.
- This is one step of what needs to be a number of steps in each of the program areas to create a more affordable vehicle portfolio.
- We are looking at making tough decisions in terms of our investments and priorities regarding fielding new capabilities.
- We have to do the cost trade-offs early on in the requirements process, not in the acquisition process.

### **Key Messages**

- Our priorities are our Commandant's priorities.
- We will conduct this work with full transparency with the Congress.
- There's no single silver bullet; there is no sacred cow.
- Because of our need for protection, there's been an exponential increase in cost.
- We will live within resource constraints and make the right capability decisions.
- We will fix the requirements-acquisition relationship.
- We're pursuing technology, new ideas and new concepts.

### **Facts & Figures**

- We have more than 1,000 AAVs; we would like to use some of them as a hull form.
- Overall ground vehicle inventory will be reduced by about 10,000, a significant savings in replacement cost and operationalizing cost.
- In the past, it has taken 18 months to do an analysis of alternatives; we need to do that in about nine months.