For Immediate Release

Army Announces Continued Investment Decision for the Joint Multi Role Technology Demonstrator

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala., October 3, 2014 — The U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center, in conjunction with the Program Executive Office, Aviation, announces the selection of two teams led by Bell Helicopter Textron Inc. and Sikorsky-Boeing for continued investment under the Joint Multi Role Technology Demonstrator Air Vehicle efforts. These teams will build technology demonstration aircraft with flight tests starting in 2017.

The two other JMR TD teams, Karem Aircraft Inc. and AVX Aircraft Company, also offer technologies and configurations of interest. The Army will seek to continue technology development efforts with those teams based on resources and opportunities.

“The intent of the JMR TD effort is to maximize the knowledge gain and risk reduction toward an anticipated Future Vertical Lift acquisition program,” said Dan Bailey, JMR/FVL Program Director. “The baseline strategy based on the current funding allocation requires descope from the four initial designs to two for build and flight test.”

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AMRDEC is part of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, which has the mission to develop technology and engineering solutions for America's Soldiers.

RDECOM is a major subordinate command of the U.S. Army Materiel Command. AMC is the Army's premier provider of materiel readiness -- technology, acquisition support, materiel development, logistics power projection, and sustainment -- to the total force, across the spectrum of joint military operations. If a Soldier shoots it, drives it, flies it, wears it, eats it or communicates with it, AMC provides it.

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**Additional Information**

Future Vertical Lift (FVL) Concept – The Future Vertical Lift (FVL) is an initiative for a family of advanced helicopters for use in the United States armed forces. A fundamental FVL principle is the utilization of common hardware such as sensors, avionics, engines, and countermeasures. A Capabilities-Based Assessment (CBA) and strategic plan completed by the DoD calls for FVL to focus and integrate all vertical capabilities and technology development. The initiative is led by an executive steering group that is co-chaired by the J-8 DDFAS and OSD (AT&L) Director of Land Warfare and Munitions.

Joint Multi-Role Technology Demonstrator (JMR-TD) – JMR-TD is the science and technology (S&T) effort managed under the Aviation Development Directorate AMRDEC to mature technologies and reduce risk toward an anticipated FVL Program of Record (PoR). The Army-led S&T JMR-TD is an effort to assess designs for next-generation vertical-lift aircraft by 2030 and to develop and demonstrate standards and performance expectations for advanced electronic and avionics capabilities.