Alion to Provide Enabling Technologies for Next-Gen UUVs

McLEAN, Va. – The Department of Navy, Naval Undersea Warfare Center, Newport, Rhode Island, has awarded Alion Science and Technology a multiple award contract to develop, build and support the U.S. Navy unmanned undersea vehicle (UUV) family of systems (FoS), the company said in an Oct. 17 release.

The scope of the contract covers systems and subsystems required to support the advancement of UUV FoS, including current UUV systems and subsystems, as well as, any future UUV systems and subsystems. The value of the contract, with all option years, is $794 million.

Alion will design, develop, fabricate, test, install, document and deliver rapid prototype material solutions associated with the products, systems, subsystems, ancillary and peculiar support equipment, and the development of Navy UUVs. UUVs encompass those unmanned undersea systems, both tethered and non-tethered, which can operate independently from, or in concert with, submarines and surface ships.

Mission roles for UUVs are very broad, varied, and include: search, detection and classification, weapon targeting and placement, undersea warfare training, and countermeasures, communications, mapping, intelligence collection, component integration, servicing and recovery, special warfare support, surveillance and other related activities.

“The ability to deploy unmanned vehicles with sensors that can covertly survey a contested environment and detect threats sooner, will provide the host platform an advanced situational awareness that increases the effectiveness of their tactical decision making with less risk to fleet personnel,” said Vince

Stammetti, senior vice president of Alion. “In addition, the relatively low cost of a UUV as compared to the cost of building a ship, provides the Navy a low-cost, force-multiplier alternative. Under the FoS contract, the Navy has tasked industry to use their imagination to find even more ways to use them to increase capabilities.”