

Navy Awards \$6.7 Million to Logos Technologies for Infrared Wide-Area Sensor

FAIRFAX, Va. – Logos Technologies recently received approval to disclose that it has been awarded a \$6.7 million contract from the U.S. Naval Air Systems Command to develop, deliver, and perform proof-of-concept flight tests on a wide-area motion imagery (WAMI) sensor, the company said in a July 28 release. The sensor system will be called Cardcounter and is being developed to integrate onto the Navy and Marine Corps RQ-21A small tactical unmanned aircraft system (UAS).

Cardcounter will be a missionized capability derived from Logos Technologies' BlackKite sensor. BlackKite is an ultra-lightweight WAMI prototype with infrared capability.

"We see this contract as a major step for us, the Navy/Marines, and the warfighter in general," said Doug Rombough, vice president for business development at Logos Technologies. "In embracing miniaturized wide-area motion imagery systems for tactical UAS, the Department of Defense is taking a technology that has already proven itself on the battlefield with aerostats and providing the tactical commander with guardian angel-like overwatch."

BlackKite, upon which Cardcounter will be based, weighs fewer than 28 pounds, yet is powerful enough to image an area of more than 12 square kilometers (about 5 square miles) in coverage. Within that vast coverage area, sensor operators can detect and track all vehicles in real time.

"There's nothing like BlackKite out there in the market today," said Rombough. "It is a force multiplier in terms of enhanced situational awareness. The system catches and records the entire area in real time and streams multiple video 'chip-

outs' down to handheld devices on the ground."

Cardcounter will leverage BlackKite's high-performance, multi-modal edge processor, which can store six or more hours of mission data. With this technology, users can forensically analyze the recorded imagery to better contextualize what is currently unfolding in the real-time imagery, drawing connections between people, places and events. The initial \$6.7 million award from NAVAIR will cover the development of two Cardcounter prototypes, with a planned delivery by the end of September 2020 and ready to begin flight testing on the RQ-21A Blackjack.