Navy’s Next Tomahawk Missile: Block 5



A Tomahawk cruise missile launches from the Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyer USS Shoup during a live-fire exercise. U.S. Navy/Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class William Collins III

ARLINGTON, Va.— Raytheon Missile Co. will build a new block upgrade of the Tomahawk cruise missile for the U.S. Navy even as the company takes older missiles into a recertification program to return them to service.

“Tomahawk has returned to production [after a one-year gap],” said Chris Daily, Raytheon’s Tomahawk program manager, speaking to reporters May 7 at the Sea-Air-Space Expo in National Harbor, Md. “All production beginning in fiscal ’20 will be Block 5.”

> *“Tomahawk will be in the fleet until the 2050s.”*
>
> *Chris Daily,*
> *Tomahawk program manager at RAYTHEON*

He said the fiscal 2020-2021 production — 90 missiles per year — will emerge as Block 5 versions.

The Block 5 version is an upgrade of the Block 4 Tomahawk, with upgrades such as navigation and communications improvements.

A subversion, Block 5A, will be the Maritime Strike Tomahawk (MST), equipped with a multimode seeker that retains a land-attack capability.

“The MST is going to be a great addition to the fleet,” Daily said.

Another, the Block 5B, will be a Block V armed with the Joint Multiple Effects Warhead and will be fielded in 2024-2025.

Daily said the Block 4 Tomahawks being recertified after 15 years in service also will emerge as Block 5 versions. The first deliveries will occur in 2020.

“Tomahawk will be in the fleet until the 2050s,” Daily said.