Northrop Grumman to Manufacture US Navy's Advanced Lightweight Torpedo



Launched from surface ships, fixed-wing aircraft, and helicopters, the MK54 MOD 2 Advanced Lightweight Torpedo is key to the U.S. Navy's strategy to address modern and future submarine threats. (Photo Credit: Northrop Grumman)

Features a newly developed, Northrop Grumman-designed warhead that delivers increased weapon lethality

[Release From Northrop Grumman]

PLYMOUTH, Minn. – Jan. 12, 2026 – Northrop Grumman (NYSE: NOC) will manufacture and deliver to the U.S. Navy a new advanced lightweight torpedo with a custom-designed warhead to increase its lethality. Northrop Grumman will draw upon decades of production expertise to deliver a weapon that fires from multiple naval platforms.

- Northrop Grumman will perform the integration and initial proof of manufacturing at the company's facility in Plymouth, Minnesota, and Allegany Ballistics Laboratory (ABL) in Rocket Center, West Virginia.

- The contract, worth $233 million, covers the proof of manufacturing and qualification phases, as well as delivery of multiple torpedoes for qualification testing.

- Northrop Grumman's state-of-the-art facilities and technologies allow for rapid delivery of this urgent U.S. Navy requirement.

Expert:

Dave Fine, vice president, armament systems, Northrop Grumman: "Northrop Grumman is leveraging over 80 years of innovative torpedo technology, combined with our capacity and speed in delivery, to accelerate the design qualification and manufacturing for the advanced lightweight torpedo. This new weapon will provide U.S. and allied sailors with a next-generation response to counter the most advanced undersea threats."

Details on the Advanced Lightweight Torpedo Program:

The MK54 MOD 2 was designed under a cooperative development agreement with the Australian Defence Force, led by the U.S. Navy. This upgraded torpedo will enhance the existing inventory of MK54 MOD 0 and MOD 1 variants with Northrop Grumman’s advanced warhead and processing capabilities, resulting in increased performance and lethality. Capable of tracking, classifying, and attacking underwater targets, MK54 MOD 2 will operate in all ocean environments.