Upgraded RAM Missile Ready for U.S. Navy



The amphibious dock landing ship USS Ashland (LSD 48) launches a RAM during an exercise in the Pacific Ocean in March. (U.S. Navy/Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Markus Castaneda

PARIS – The U.S. Navy successfully completed a series of guided flight tests for Raytheon Co.'s Rolling Airframe Missile (RAM) Block 2A short-range, surface-to-air missile, the company said in a release.

Testing occurred at Naval Air Warfare Center in China Lake, California, and from the Navy's self-defense test ship off the coast of Southern California.

RAM is the world's most modern ship self-defense weapon and protects ships of all sizes. It is deployed on more than 165 ships in 11 countries, ranging from 500-ton fast attack craft to 95,000-ton aircraft carriers. The latest software upgrade enhances guidance and the missile's capability to defeat threats.

Raytheon expects to deliver the RAM Block 2A missile to the Navy by the end of the year.

RAM is an international cooperative program between the United States and Germany. Raytheon and the

German company RAMSYS share development, production and maintenance costs.