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Two Programs Named as Aviation Week Program Excellence Finalists at Rockwell Collins

Our Joint Precision Approach and Landing System (JPALS) program was selected in the Sub-System Level Research and Development/System Development and Demonstration category. Our F/A-18 Displays Performance Based Logistics (PBL) program was selected in the Sub-System Sustainment category.



The F/A-18 PBL program provides repair services, program management, obsolescence management, configuration management, engineering support, warehouse management, stock distribution and field service engineering for the U.S. Navy and Marine Corp's F/A-18 heads down and heads up display suites. With the program nearing the 10 year mark, Bill Lynch, principal program manager, said the nomination speaks volumes for the program's accomplishments.

"I think it demonstrates the team's collective ability to continue to reinvigorate ourselves at every opportunity," said Lynch. "The team has fully utilized the Lean tools that are available to invent new processes and procedures that allow us to exceed the customer's expectations."

The core F/A-18 Displays PBL team has a footprint that spans the United States with collaborative team involvement from five different states and numerous customer support locations.

Rockwell Collins' other finalist, JPALS, is a GPS-based landing system that is replacing the U.S. Navy's aging radar-based systems. The JPALS team has already executed more than 50 automatic landings of two F/A 18 jets on an aircraft carrier at sea and is now working with the new F-35 Joint Strike Fighter jet models B and C. The team recently completed at sea testing with the aircraft on the USS Eisenhower.

"It's a pretty amazing recognition but the real recognition goes to the JPALS team who've proven they can really step up," said Chris Caldbeck, principal program manager for Precision Solutions. "We've had over 1200 employees, from nearly all business units, touch this program in the past seven years and without their professional dedication we wouldn't be as successful as we are."

Aviation Week created the Program Excellence Awards to recognize and promote program excellence in terms of performance, leadership capability and lessons that can be shared within the aerospace and defense industry.

For more information, please visit www.rockwellcollins.com.