



The F-35 and F-22 Draw Crowds at the Singapore Airshow

For the first time, both 5th Generation fighters, the F-35 and F-22, were on static display at the Singapore airshow last week. The VMFA-121 Green Knights deployed two F-35Bs from MCAS Iwakuni, Japan, for the first appearance of the jet in South East Asia, and the 525th Fighter Squadron Bulldogs deployed two F-22 Raptors from Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, to Asia's largest air and trade show.

The event highlighted the 50th Anniversary of the Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF) and the F-35 full scale model was a hit attraction as people lined up to sit in the cockpit.

The airshow was a great event for the people of Singapore to see the 5th Generation fighters up close.



Australian Industry Achieves F-35 Contract Value Milestone



The Australian Minister for Defence Industry, the Hon Christopher Pyne MP, pictured here, [announced](#) this week that Australian industry has been collectively awarded over \$1 billion AUD in industrial participation contracts for the F-35 program. The strength of Australia's defense industry has made it a significant and crucial contributor to the program, which will support up to 5,000 Australian jobs by 2023.

"More than 50 Australian companies directly shared in the production contracts to date, with many more indirectly benefiting through supply chain work," Minister Pyne said. "Australian industry continues to prove its global competitiveness by performing better than initial forecasts, with Australian industry involvement expected to exceed \$2 billion by 2023."

Congratulations to the Australian defense industry on this significant milestone. Global industry plays a key role in delivering and sustaining the transformational F-35 for the warfighter. We look forward to celebrating in Australia again later this year when the first two Australian F-35A aircraft arrive for permanent basing at RAAF Base Williamtown, New South Wales, in the December timeframe.

Going Up! Vertical Lift Module Improves Efficiency

Achieving the F-35 program's cost reduction goal of an \$80 million F-35A by 2020 requires the team to bring forward creative new ways to improve processes and drive down cost. Corey McKinney, Lockheed Martin Applications Engineer, and his team did just that.

Corey and the team simplified tool management for the assembly workers and freed up much needed space with the inclusion of Vertical Lift Modules (VLM), which are enclosed, automated high-speed, high-density storage units containing trays of production tools, stored and retrieved to both the shop floor and the mezzanine. VLMs reduce labor costs for storing and retrieving tools while improving tool inventory tracking.



"We have incorporated many improvements to increase our production capability for the F-35," said Corey. "VLMs enable us to now store hundreds of tools near their point of use, while also maximizing available floor space by storing tools vertically."

I'd like to thank Corey and the team for their efforts to help us ramp to rate and drive cost down for our customers. Keep the ideas coming!

If you have an idea to help transform the F-35 enterprise, please send an email to F35.Communications@lmco.com.

F-35 Spotted on California Highway



The F-35A can be found cruising around the highways of California. The bus pictured here, wrapped with an F-35A, was spotted this week advertising the upcoming LA County Air Show. I encourage all of our teammates in Palmdale and at Edwards AFB to be on the lookout for this 5th generation bus.

With [Arizona's new F-35 license plate](#) and the bus out in California, drivers on the road are catching a glimpse of the F-35 across the country!

In related news, Luke's F-35 Heritage team also recently announced the dates and locations they will be performing throughout the year. Hundreds of thousands of people will get to see the transformational capabilities of the F-35 at the airshows on the Heritage Team's

schedule this year. You can find them [online](#) for the nearest date and times for you and your family and friends to go see for yourselves.

