

## Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS)

**PROGRAM/PROJECT:** Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS)

**LEAD AGENCY:** United States Navy (Office of the Oceanographer of the Navy (CNO N096))

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### **SERVICE AREA (S)/INITIATIVE (S)**

- ***National Aviation Weather Initiatives:***  
1: 5, 7    2: 5    4: 2    6: 6

### **FUNDING**

- ***Programmed/Planned (\$'s/FY):*** Funded through FY05

### **TYPE OF PROGRAM/APPLICATION**

Product Improvement

### **SCOPE OF PROGRAM/PROJECT**

- ***What's being developed, procured, etc:*** The Automatic Surface Observing System (ASOS) was developed by the National Weather Service (NWS) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) as a cost-effective way of replacing human weather observers without diminishing the capability to provide pilots and other end users with critical near-real time weather observation data. There are currently 71 operational units installed at Navy and Marine Corps facilities around the world. Pre-Planned Product Improvements (P<sup>3</sup>I) are scheduled to include a new ACU processor, dew point sensor, ice-free wind sensor, enhanced precipitation sensor and ceilometer from FY04 through FY09.
- ***How operations will be changed/improved:*** Supporting Commander Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command's Guidance on CONUS Aviation Realignment, Naval ASOS configuration will be normalized with NWS/FAA in order to allow unattended observations at selected sites. Maintainability of the system will be improved through higher MTBF and reduced periodic maintenance.

### **PROGRAM/PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

- ***Basic guidance document for this program:*** Engineering Change Proposals based on the NWS ASOS Product Improvement Master Implementation Plan will guide the upgrades. Basic requirements for this program are documented in the Navy's Operational Requirements of May 91.
- ***Program/Project verification process:*** This program has completed milestone III and is currently undergoing post-production improvements. The NWS ASOS Program Management Committee (APMC) has overall responsibility for program verification and all Requests for Change (RC) will be managed through the subordinate ASOS Configuration Control Board (ACCB).
- ***Method used for end product validation:*** NWS will conduct system testing (ST) and operational acceptance testing (OAT) for all upgrades.
- ***Operational training for the user:*** Hands-on training and/or text training materials will be provided to users

### **SCHEDULE/IMPLEMENTATION**

- ***Next major program milestone:*** Memorandum of Agreement between the Navy and NWS documenting services and supplies required is expected FY04 first quarter. Deployment of the upgrades will begin FY04. Normalization with NWS/FAA configuration is expected by FY06.
- ***Program becomes operational:*** ASOS is an operational system.
- ***Plans for further improvements:*** Additional improvements beyond FY09 have not been identified.