



DESIGN | DEVELOP | DELIVER | DOMINATE

OAG008050

Next Generation Squad Weapons (NGSW)

PEO Soldier | Fort Belvoir, VA



OTHER

ACQUISITION LIFE CYCLE PHASE

- Material Solution Analysis
- Technology Maturation & Risk Reduction
- Engineering & Manufacturing Development
- Production & Deployment
- Operations & Support

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

None

DESCRIPTION

The Next Generation Squad Weapons (NGSW) Program is an iterative, prototyping effort, using Middle Tier Acquisition Authority, to develop operationally relevant, squad-level lethality to combat proliferating threats, informed by Soldiers' feedback.

The NGSW prototyping effort consists of the Rifle (NGSW-R) and Automatic Rifle (NGSW-AR) with a common 6.8 mm cartridge and Fire Control (NGSW-FC) between the two systems. The effort aims to field to the Close Combat Force with the NGSW-R as the planned replacement for the M4A1 and the NGSW-AR as the planned replacement for the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon.

The program is in a competitive prototyping iteration with three vendors for weapons and ammunition (SIG Sauer, General Dynamics – OTS, and Textron Systems) and two vendors for fire control (Vortex Optics and L3Harris). The first prototype test, beginning in the third quarter of Fiscal Year (FY) 2020, will serve as a “diagnostic test” to inform the weapon and ammunition vendors on their current performance and feed another design iteration. The second prototype test, beginning in the second quarter of FY21, will be a “for record test” and will inform the weapon systems selection.

BENEFIT TO THE SOLDIER

The NGSW program significantly increases lethality and probability of hit at the squad level. Due to the nature of the General-Purpose ammunition, the 6.8 mm projectile will outperform even the most modern 5.56 mm and 7.62 mm ammunition. These weapon systems will give Soldiers significant capability improvements in accuracy, range, signature management, and lethality.

SPECIFICATIONS

- Though the specifics are competition sensitive, the NGSW-R, NGSW-AR, NGSW-FC, and the 6.8 mm ammunition will be compatible with all the currently fielded enablers, while providing an open Adaptive Soldier Architecture to integrate with developing enabler programs.

PROGRAM STATUS

- **FY18:** Squad Designated Marksman Rifle/Advanced Armor Piercing Ammunition selected as near-term solution
- **FY20**
 - Prototype Test #1 (Diagnostic)
 - Awarded two Other Transaction Authorities to prototype squad fire control

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- **FY21:**
 - Prototype Test #2 (Record) onward selection of weapon, ammo, FC, and Production decision
 - Selection of squad fire control system and Production award
- **FY22:**
 - Selection of rifle, automatic rifle and ammunition, and Production award
 - First Unit Equipped (rifle, automatic rifle, 6.8 mm General Purpose ammunition, and fire control)
- **FY23:** Reduced Range Ammunition Fielded

NGSW

CONTRACTORS

General Dynamics Ordnance and Tactical Systems

(St. Petersburg, FL)

L3Harris (Melbourne, FL)

Sig Sauer (Newington, NH)

Textron (Providence, RI)

Vortex Optics (Barneveld, WI)

