

RQ-6 Outrider

Users: U.S. Army, Navy, Marine Corps

Manufacturer: Alliant Techsystems/Mission Technologies

Inventory: 14(?) Delivered/244 Planned (4 UA per system) (2006)



Background: The joint Army/Navy RQ-6 Outrider began as the Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (TUAV) Advanced Concept Technology Demonstrations (ACTDs) in May 1996. The airframe was based on the Mission Technologies Hellfox UA, which had first flown in Dec 1995. The maiden flight of the Outrider occurred on 7 Mar 1997. A crash occurred on the twelfth flight in Oct 1997, but flights resumed the following month. Serious weight, engine reliability, and EMI questions led the Navy to withdraw from the program. It was also supposed to fly with a heavy fuel engine but never did. The ACTD ended in Aug 1998 after 185 flights had been completed. Due to Outrider's failure to meet its performance and cost goals, the Army cancelled the program and recompleted its TUAV requirements in 1999, selecting the AAI Shadow 200 at that time.

Characteristics:

	RQ-6		RQ-6
Length	10.5 ft	Wing Span	13.0 ft
Gross Weight	555 lb	Payload Capacity	60 lb
Fuel Capacity	85 lb	Fuel Type	Gasoline
Engine Make	1xUEL AR-801R	Power	42 hp
Data Link(s)	LOS	Frequency	

Performance:

Endurance	5 hr	Max/Loiter Speeds	110/60 kt
Ceiling	15,000 ft	Radius	108 nm
Takeoff Means	Runway	Landing Means	Runway
Sensor(s)	EO/IR	Sensor Model(s)	Tamam POP

