



AV Selected for \$499M AFRL Contract to Advance Electromagnetic Spectrum Survivable Materials, Awarded \$246M in Task Orders

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ARLINGTON, Va.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct. 1, 2025-- AeroVironment, Inc. ("AV") (NASDAQ: AVAV), a leading provider of advanced research and development innovation for national security missions and warfighter protection, has been selected for a 10-year single-award, indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity (IDIQ) contract valued at \$499 million by the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) for the High-Performance Electromagnetic Spectrum Survivable Materials Advancement (HELMSSMAN) program. Work completed under the program will mature material technology development and deploy protective solutions to the frontlines, guarding warfighters against exposure to harmful electromagnetic radiation.

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High-power laser used for High-Performance Electromagnetic Spectrum Survivable Materials Advancement (HELMSSMAN) by the U.S. Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio

"As technologies advance and battlespace tactics evolve, AV is helping warfighters stay ahead of emerging threats," said Wahid Nawabi, AV Chief Executive Officer. "Whether through our autonomous systems, our layered counter-drone technologies, our advancements in satellite communication and space domain awareness, or—like HELMSSMAN—our advanced research and development, we are taking on the most critical challenges and rapidly transitioning innovation from the lab to the frontlines."

AV has been awarded two initial task orders for this contract valued at \$246 million:

- Under the "Advanced Development of Vision Protection Materials" task order, valued at \$98M, AV will develop a suite of viable electromagnetic spectrum (EMS) protection capabilities that do not increase operational risk or degrade mission performance. The team will research the interaction of EMS elements with materials, systems, and personnel to develop future-proofed vision protection systems for our warfighters.
- Under the "Advanced Development of Materials for EMS Resilience" task order, valued at \$148M, AV will conduct research on the impacts of EMS sources on U.S. materials, components, and systems and provide mitigation options to the warfighter to ensure effective kill chain execution in complex environments. The team will develop test infrastructure and modeling methods to accelerate the fielding of measures validated in realistic environments for warfighter protection.

With these task orders, AV will research, develop, test, evaluate, prototype, demonstrate, and transition technologies to advance the development of vision protection materials and materials for electromagnetic spectrum (EMS) resilience. Work is planned to begin this month.

Leveraging its multi-domain, multi-mission expertise and past performance delivering innovative R&D material solutions to AFRL, AV will advance electronic protection materials through directed energy solutions, test range experience, modeling, and simulation (M&S) capabilities, and space technology transitions. The company has previously supported AFRL through the development of laser-hardened materials and techniques and electronic, photonic, electro-optical, and quantum materials for Intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) and electronic warfare (EW) missions.

"We have demonstrated unique strengths in managing and executing strategic research programs," said Dr. John Hogan, Vice President of Advanced Research and Development at AV. "This contract complements and continues our research and development work in material development with AFRL. We are honored to be a trusted partner in this effort."

The Advanced R&D team at AV, located in Dayton, OH, is dedicated to developing hardened, smart materials that dynamically adapt properties to protect warfighters, their sensors, and their assets, like ground vehicles, aircraft, and structures. With expertise in thermal, optical, and electronic systems, the team identifies challenges and vulnerabilities across various domains and develops material solutions to counteract threats.

About AV

AV (NASDAQ: AVAV) is a defense technology leader delivering integrated capabilities across air, land, sea, space, and cyber. The Company develops and deploys autonomous systems, loitering munitions, counter-UAS technologies, space-based platforms, directed energy systems, and cyber and electronic warfare capabilities—built to meet the mission needs of today's warfighter and tomorrow's conflicts. At the core of these technologies lies AV_Halo, a modular, mission-ready suite of AI-powered software tools that empowers warfighters and enables full-battlefield dominance: detect, decide, deliver. With a national manufacturing footprint and a deep innovation pipeline, AV delivers proven systems and future-defining capabilities at speed, scale, and operational relevance. For more information, visit www.avinc.com.

Safe Harbor Statement

Certain statements in this press release may constitute "forward-looking statements" as that term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are made on the basis of current expectations, forecasts and assumptions that involve risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to, economic, competitive, governmental and technological factors outside of our control, that may cause our business, strategy or actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, our ability to perform under existing contracts and obtain additional contracts; changes in the regulatory environment; the activities of competitors; failure of the markets in which we operate to grow; failure to expand into new markets; failure to develop new products or integrate new technology with current products; and general economic and business conditions in the United States and elsewhere in the world. For a further list and description of such risks and uncertainties, see the reports we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We do not intend, and undertake no obligation, to update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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Media Contact:

Ashley Young
pr@avinc.com
703.718.4060

Investor Contact:

Denise Pacioni
ir@avinc.com
805.795.4108

Source: AeroVironment, Inc.