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## AeroVironment Introduces New Remote-Controlled Multi-Pack Launcher for its Switchblade and Blackwing Tactical Missile Systems

- 1 New all-environment launch system enables remote launch of Lethal Miniature Aerial Missile System rounds for Forward Operating Base and Mobile Force Protection
- 1 AeroVironment's Blackwing loitering reconnaissance aircraft can also be launched in rapid succession from ground vehicles and surface vessels to enable rapid-response Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) and Cross-Domain operations

WASHINGTON--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- **Association of the United States Army Annual Meeting and Exposition - AeroVironment, Inc.** (NASDAQ: AVAV), a global leader in unmanned aircraft systems for both military and commercial applications, today introduced a Multi-Pack Launcher (MPL) for its Switchblade® Lethal Miniature Aerial Missile System and its Blackwing™ tube-launched unmanned aircraft.

This Smart News Release features multimedia. View the full release here:

<http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20161004005621/en/>



The MPL can be employed in Forward Operating Bases and controlled from remote locations, such as bunkers and buildings, to protect system operators from incoming fire. For land forces, the MPL can also be integrated into tactical ground vehicles to provide force protection and ISR on-the-go. MPL comes in a standard 6-pack configuration weighing 160 pounds fully loaded. AeroVironment's design is scalable from 2 to 20 Switchblade/Blackwing rounds and enables rapid reload of less than 30 seconds per round. The MPL can be powered via shore and tactical vehicle power, and is also equipped with solar panels and an internal battery pack to ensure uninterrupted operation. Future naval versions of MPL will enable surface ships to launch multiple Blackwing UAVs rapidly to provide multi-UAV ISR and Cross-Domain Communications, Command and Control.

"Our new Multi-Pack Launcher is compact, modular and rugged to provide fixed and mobile force protection and ISR for our warfighters in frontline operating environments," said Kirk Flittie, AeroVironment vice president and general manager of its Unmanned Aircraft Systems business segment. "We designed MPL from the ground-up to address warfighters' needs, based on our extensive operating and training experience in the field, for easy installation, integration and operation. The MPL's ability to launch either our Switchblade rounds or our Blackwing UAVs provides additional flexibility to our customers to address a growing number of mission requirements in the future."

### About AeroVironment Tactical Missile Systems

Switchblade and Blackwing™ form the basis of AeroVironment's emerging family of [Tactical Missile Systems](#). Switchblade is a rapid launch, high precision,

AeroVironment Introduces New Multi-Pack Launcher for Switchblade Lethal Miniature Aerial Missile System and Blackwing Unmanned Aircraft (Photo: Business Wire)

force protection loitering missile that minimizes collateral damage. Designed initially for dismounted infantry operations, Switchblade spawned a number of variants in development for new customers and new applications. Blackwing is a variant

of Switchblade designed to provide intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities for longer missions and can be launched from submerged submarines and unmanned underwater vehicles.

## About AeroVironment

AeroVironment (NASDAQ: AVAV) provides customers with more actionable intelligence so they can proceed with certainty. Based in California, AeroVironment is a global leader in unmanned aircraft systems, tactical missile systems and electric vehicle charging and test systems, and serves militaries, government agencies, businesses and consumers. For more information visit [www.avinc.com](http://www.avinc.com).

## Safe Harbor Statement

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" as that term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements include, without limitation, any statement that may predict, forecast, indicate or imply future results, performance or achievements, and may contain words such as "believe," "anticipate," "expect," "estimate," "intend," "project," "plan," or words or phrases with similar meaning. Forward-looking statements are based on 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 the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, reliance on sales to the U.S. government; availability of U.S. government funding for defense procurement and R&D programs; changes in the timing and/or amount of government spending; risks related to our international business, including compliance with export control laws; potential need for changes in our long-term strategy in response to future developments; unexpected technical and marketing difficulties inherent in major research and product development efforts; changes in the supply and/or demand and/or prices for our products and services; the activities of competitors and increased competition; failure of the markets in which we operate to grow; failure to remain a market innovator and create new market opportunities; changes in significant operating expenses, including components and raw materials; failure to develop new products; the extensive regulatory requirements governing our contracts with the U.S. government; product liability, infringement and other claims; changes in the regulatory environment; 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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