

# Cargo drone makes debut in Afghanistan

An unmanned helicopter designed to lift supplies and equipment to U.S. troops is being deployed in Afghanistan. The Kaman K-MAX can be flown into under-fire areas without risk to aircrew, reducing the need for truck convoys that are often targeted by insurgents

**Kaman K-MAX helicopter**

**Cockpit:** Seat also allows piloted missions

**Rotors:** Twin counter-rotating intermeshing blades eliminate need for tail rotor, improving lift performance

**T53-17 turbine engine**

## SPECIFICATIONS

Weight (empty) **2,334kg**

Max. speed **148.2kph\***

Range **396.3km\***

Operating cost **\$1,100 per hr**

*\*With external load*

## Laptop-controlled

Ground-based operator details destination and route

Sources:  
Lockheed Martin,  
Kaman Aerospace

## Cargo hook:

Aircraft can winch four different loads – each programmed to release at different times

## PAYLOAD CAPABILITY

**1,960kg**

**2,347kg**

**2,574kg**

**Maximum payload: 2,722kg**

Altitude (metres)

6,000

4,500

3,000

1,500

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