RQ-21A Blackjack

In partnership with the Department of the Navy, Insitu developed the RQ-21A Blackjack program to fill the requirement for a small tactical unmanned aircraft system capable of operating from land and sea. The system is modular, versatile and multi-mission capable, providing rapid transitions between land and maritime environments. Blackjack’s open payload architecture is customized with imagers, communication and signals intelligence capabilities and other tools to give the warfighter a look ahead in all operational environments.

KEY FEATURES

- Rapidly integrates new payloads for expanded mission sets.
- Roll-on, roll-off capability supports ship-to-objective maneuvers.
- Expeditionary and runway independent to support tactical missions on land and at sea.
- Long endurance.
- Minimal footprint accommodates small sites and deck operations.

SYSTEM

DIMENSIONS

- Length: 8.2 ft / 2.5 m
- Wingspan: 16 ft / 4.9 m

WEIGHTS

- Empty structure weight: 81 lb / 36 kg
- Max takeoff weight: 135 lb / 61 kg
- Max payload weight*: 39 lb / 17 kg

STANDARD PAYLOAD CONFIGURATION

- Electro-optic imager
- Mid-wave infrared imager
- Laser rangefinder
- IR marker
- Communications relay and AIS

PERFORMANCE

- Endurance: up to 16 hours
- Ceiling: >19,500
- Max horizontal speed: 90+ knots
- Cruise speed: 60 knots
- Engine: 8 HP reciprocating engine with EFI; JP-5, JP-8

PAYLOAD INTEGRATION

- Onboard power: 350 W for payload
- Onboard connectivity: Ethernet (TCP/IP), data encryption

* Reduces Endurance