

LAND

Vertical Launch MICA (VL MICA) is a short range, ground based air defence system deploying the MICA fire-and-forget missile, currently the only missile in the world capable of being fitted with either a heat-seeking homing head (VL MICA IR) or with an active, radar homing head (VL MICA RF). This unique capability ensures an outstanding kill probably, even in severe IRCM-ECM environments.

VL MICA provides an optimum level of defence against a wide range of targets, including fixed-wing aircraft, helicopters and UAVs. Moreover, its characteristics (fire-and-forget guidance, vertical launch) make it particularly effective against saturation attacks carried out by a large number of low signature targets such as guided bombs or missiles and cruise missiles attacking from any direction (360° coverage).

Thanks to its range and altitude, VL MICA's performance in providing area defence, the protection of highly sensitive civilian or military assets as well as cover for manoeuvring land forces is unmatched by any other low-level air defence system.

Organisation of a typical VL MICA unit is based on a vehicle-mounted shelter-protected Tactical Operations Centre (TOC) also known as the Platoon Command Post (PCP). This is capable of carrying out all Command, Control and Coordination functions, including real-time engagement, mission planning, system monitoring and connection with the higher level of command. The TOC remotely controls a tri-dimensional radar mounted on a separate vehicle and three to six vertical launcher units also mounted on vehicles.

The VL MICA system design ensures ease of deployment, facilitates integration within a global air defence network, minimizes the need for personnel and reduces the logistic footprint and Life Cycle Cost.

# VERTICAL LAUNCH MICA VL MICA

## VERTICAL LAUNCH SHORT RANGE AIR DEFENCE SYSTEM



- Fire and Forget
- All weather all types of targets
- Anti-saturation attack
- Based on the extensively proven MICA RF and IR missiles

## LAND

### Operational performance

- All weather
- Fire-and-Forget
- IR or RF homing head
- Salvo firing (one launcher = 4 missiles, 4 different targets in 6 seconds)
- 360° coverage (vertical launch)
- 10 minutes for full deployment
- 15 minutes for launcher reload (2 men)
- 3 operators for permanent control of a complete operational unit (platoon)

### Effectiveness

- Interception range : up to 20 km
- Interception altitude : up to 30,000 ft

### Lethality

- 12 kg, focused fragmentation warhead
- Impact / proximity radar fuze
- Optimised triggering

### Aerodynamics

- Thrust vector control
- Long chord wings
- Outstanding manoeuvrability (50G at 7 km, 30G at 12 km)

### Logistics

- Missile totally protected from external environment (sealed container)
- No missile preventive maintenance (one check each 5 years)
- Shelf-life: 25 years
- Built-in-Test in each vehicle plus remote monitoring from the TOC

### Name

- VERTICAL LAUNCH MICA  
VL MICA

### Missile characteristics

- Weight: 112 kg
- Length: 3.1 m
- Diameter: 0.16 m



### MBDA Contacts

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