



F-35 Lightning II Program

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NORWAY RECEIVES FIRST F-35A

Fort Worth, Texas, Sept. 22, 2015 – The Government of Norway received their first F-35A Lightning II during an formal roll-out ceremony at Lockheed Martin's production facilities in Fort Worth, Texas on 22 September.

"We all know that the F-35 is not simply another fighter. We know that it is much more," said Her Excellency Ine Eriksen Søreide, Norwegian Minister of Defence. "The F-35 provides us a capability we've never had before. It's by far the most advanced fighter ever made. Today we are indeed turning the future into the present. The F-35 represents a new way of thinking, a new way of operating, which will benefit the entire Norwegian Armed Forces."

Norway is planning to acquire up to 52 F-35As in the years leading up to 2025. The first aircraft to arrive in Norway will be delivered in 2017, and will then begin preparations for Norway's initial operating capability with the F-35 in 2019.



Norwegian Minister of Defence, Her Excellency Ine Eriksen Søreide, with the Norwegian Armed Force's first F-35A Lightning II, known as AM-1, at the Lockheed Martin F-35 production facility in Fort Worth, Texas.

The Honorable Frank Kendall, U.S. Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology & Logistics, pointed to the Norway partnership as crucial to the F-35 program. "We are here because of the persistence, not just of the design team and the military, but also of the political leaders who have been involved... and also, in this case, of the Norwegian people," said Kendall. "I want to thank the Norwegian people for their persistence and their consistent support for this program."

F-35As will transition the Norwegian Armed Forces into a next generation net-centric fighter force capable of assuring the nation's territorial integrity and national security. AM-1 and Norway's second jet, known as AM-2, are scheduled to be delivered to the Royal Norwegian Air Force later this year, and will be based at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, where they will be used for Norwegian and partner country pilot training.