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Lite Machines Corp., a micro-helicopter designer and manufacturer, has developed a next-generation unmanned aerial system for several branches of the U.S. military.



Currently in the testing phase, this system centers around the company's micro, unmanned, aerial vehicle (MUAV) named Voyeur™. Voyeur™ is an electric powered, tube-launched, rotary-wing vehicle capable of vertical take off and landing operation and high-speed, horizontal flight. It can travel up to 50 miles to reach its target and then hover for extended periods to execute long or close range intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance functions. These flight capabilities, combined with a sophisticated control system, provide a package with unprecedented functionality and versatility for numerous customers and applications.

Voyeur adds the ability to hover within a few feet of its target, and if needed, to actually touch the target. Its capacity to engage a moving or non-moving target in this manner opens up mission possibilities long considered unattainable. When fully operational, Voyeur will be able to autonomously locate, track and engage targets. Sensors or transmitters can be positioned at sea or on land, IEDs can be located and detonated in advance of troop exposure, and the vehicle can ultimately return to the point of launch or other predetermined recovery point.

In addition, low production cost makes Voyeur™ potentially disposable. Its low cost is due to the way Lite Machines maintains design and manufacturing operations, which include in-house CNC prototyping and manufacturing facilities that are well suited to precision, high volume, low cost production. The company has manufactured and sold thousands of micro-helicopters worldwide since 1995, and they've done so with minimal staff. Manufacturing has been, and will continue to be, highly automated. Robotic assembly not only drives the unit price down, but provides a platform that is completely scalable. As Voyeur gains exposure with increased military applications, the demand for variants will likely increase substantially, and a sharp increase in demand will not pose problems often seen in many programs that transition high technology to the marketplace.



Paul Arlton



Dave Arlton

Facts & Figures

ESTABLISHED:	1991 – Founded by Paul and Dave Arlton
KEY PERSONNEL:	Paul Arlton, President; Dave Arlton, Vice President
AWARDS:	\$10.5M Phase III U.S. Navy ID-IQ contract
EMPLOYEES:	8
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