Special Focus > Industry Support & Challenges



Streamlight, Inc. - Comprehensive Lighting Solutions for all Aviation Assets By Matthew Baker

S treamlight, Inc. has nearly 45 years of experience making tough, durable, long-lasting flashlights to serve the specialized needs of military users. Since 1973, the company has designed, manufactured and marketed high-performance flashlights, and today offers a broad array of lights, lanterns, and scene lighting solutions for the operator which feature extreme brightness, programmable settings and variable beam outputs, while remaining very easy to operate and maintain. The company's products are commercially available, powered by commercial batteries, and today are used by many Department of Defense (DoD) aviation commands, major aircraft manufacturers, as well as several aviation organizations.

Following are several examples of key products that Streamlight provides to military aviation as well as others in the aviation community: refueling and other operations under low light conditions. It also can be quickly reconfigured to put light in a confined space such as in the narrow confines of an aircraft. With its long run times, the light can be used continuously both on the ground and airborne for up to 18 hours. It packs to a compact size for easy stowing in confined spaces or on smaller aircraft, and is maritime-certified with an assigned NSN.

Personal Lighting Equipment

Streamlight provides a variety of safety-rated, DoD-approved personal lighting equipment for the aviation operator which are compact, offer long run times and multiple power modes. Many of these products feature waterproof operation, while also functioning as a personal distress marker for use in water rescues and other emergencies.

For example, the Sidewinder series of tactical lights each offer twenty functions, four selectable LED light colors and intensity levels, plus strobe, and an articulating light head into one compact, lightweight and waterproof package. Streamlight also provides a survival light for DoD aviators, the Sidewinder Rescue, which features a sliding diffuser that projects omnidirectional light that can be seen in all directions. The Sidewinder Compact II, which was originally built for ground combat roles, has evolved so that it can now be mounted to flight helmets to provide in-cockpit illumination and also serve as a rescue beacon for egress/ ejection operations. It attaches to any aircrew helmet via direct attachment, rail system or by using an NVG bracket.

Another versatile lighting tool for the aviation operator is the Stylus series of ultra-slim, compact penlights, which can be easily clipped to or carried in a flight suit pocket. These versatile, high-intensity LED lights feature a long battery life, and also are available

in models with red or green LEDs which can help pilots preserve night vision when reading maps or charts.

Portable Scene Light

The Portable Scene Light is ideal for lighting large scenes, and can be quickly reconfigured to put light in a confined space such as in the narrow confines of an aircraft. It packs to a compact size for easy stowing.

Large Area Lighting: the Streamlight Portable Scene Light

Both pre-flight and in-flight operations require considerable amounts of light, and the Streamlight Portable Scene Light delivers. This completely portable flood light can be conveniently carried and rapidly deployed in less than 30 seconds. With its 5,300 lumen output, it is ideal for lighting large scenes, such as when performing on-the-ground maintenance,

The Complete Package: From Rescue to Maintenance Operations

Streamlight also offers a range of other products used in everything from ground aircraft recovery and firefighting operations to aircraft maintenance and repair. The right-angle



Sidewinder Compact II

The Sidewinder Compact II tactical light is available with various mounting options. The Aviation model includes an NVG mount for helmets.

Streamlight Survivor features a low-profile bezel that prevents snagging on gear and equipment, and two optional Smoke Cutter® plugs for customized light options in smoke, fog, and mist while emitting an extremely bright beam. The Vantage 180 easily attaches to full-brim fire helmets, and also can be used as a handheld or right-angle light.

Many tool cribs in aviation maintenance and repair bays also are equipped with Streamlight products like the Stinger LED – which offers a strong balance between lumens and intensity as well long run times – and the compact Stylus Pro which provides exceptional brightness and utility for a light its size.

For under the hood or engine, the 4ÅA ProPolymax, and other lights in the company's ProPolymer series offer super bright light, while being able to stand up to the toughest environments with their durable polymer casings. These extensively safety rated products have maritime/shipboard approvals for use in carrier-based operations.

Streamlight products also are found in all toolboxes used for repairing fixed wing, jet, drone and helicopter aircraft, as well as the equipment required to support them.

Setting the Table for Rescue/Domestic/State Response Operations

Streamlight continues to work with industry in order to integrate its military-grade technology into disaster recovery equipment used by DoD and other response crews who conduct rescue and recovery efforts during low light and other challenging conditions. The company has working agreements with several rescue and flight helmet companies, permitting the integration of hands-free solutions.

For example, products like the Sidewinder Compact II and Vantage 180 were extensively used during flood and swift water rescue operations recently in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico because of their small size, light weight, long battery life, plus the ability to attach them to a helmet, headband or vest. During the Northern California fires this year, Streamlight products such as the Survivor and the new Vulcan 180, with its 180-degree rotating head, also were in demand by on-site firefighting and air-to-ground rescue crews because they provide a bright, long-reaching light, while also offering hands-free operation. The Portable Scene Light, which can be deployed and collapsed in a matter of seconds to set up a hasty rescue safe spot, was also used in these operations.

Customers Turned End-Users

When military members retire or transition into the commercial aviation sector as employees, they tend to take their Streamlight products with them, or look to the company for specialized lighting to assist them in their new professions. From airline pilots to engineers to manufacturing professionals, these former customers trust the products they use enough to advocate for including Streamlight lighting equipment in their companies' customer contracts as well.

Availability

Today, Streamlight products are available on a wide number of contracts like those of the General Services Administration (GSA), FedMall, Tailored Logistics Support (TLS), Eport, General Dynamics IT, and Special Operations Forces Support Activity (SOFSA), managed by Lockheed Martin. Products also are available at military on-base retail locations like the Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES), the Marine Corps Exchange (MCX), the Navy Exchange (NEX), and the Coast Guard Exchange (CGX), as well as Servmart and other base service/supply stores. Streamlight also has Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) – managed national stock numbers (NSN) on all military-approved equipment, as well as contracts with ServMart and other GSA contract holders. Many of these resellers bring more than 50 years of experience providing aviation and military flight solutions.



Vantage 180

The Vantage 180 is a multi-function light that easily attaches to full-brim fire helmets, and also can be used as a handheld or right-angle light.

Future Innovations

As lighting technology evolves, Streamlight will continue to work with the aviation community to develop even more effective new lighting tools. The company strongly encourages test and evaluations from the end user community, as its resources cannot be challenged without knowing the demands of aviation operators and their various field-craft. The company takes military end-user feedback to the highest level of the organization as well as shares it with the entire company to keep employees motivated to always find ways to do better for military and other aviation users.

Mr. Matthew Baker is the Director of Sales-Military and Federal divisions for Streamlight, Inc., headquartered in Eagleville, PA.