



# Tired Iron to Increased Readiness: F/A-18 Super Hornet *Renewing the Fleet for the Future Fight*



Travis McBurnett  
Director, F/A-18 Sustainment



# F/A-18E/F Super Hornet and EA-18G Readiness



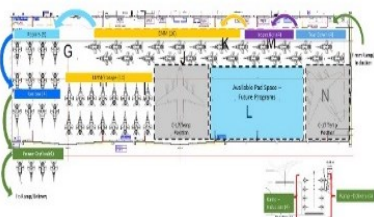
## New Aircraft Production

- Increased aviation capacity
- 10,000 hour new build aircraft creates future readiness
- Integrated supply chain with sustainment

## Improved Readiness

- Aircraft Availability
- Sufficient Capacity
- Improved Capability

## Boeing Mod/Production



## Service Life Modification

- Productionized process to maximize throughput
- Validate and replicate results to Scale
- Accelerate warfighting capabilities
- Engineering Empowerment
- SEAL – SLM Enabled At Lemoore



## Rhino Readiness

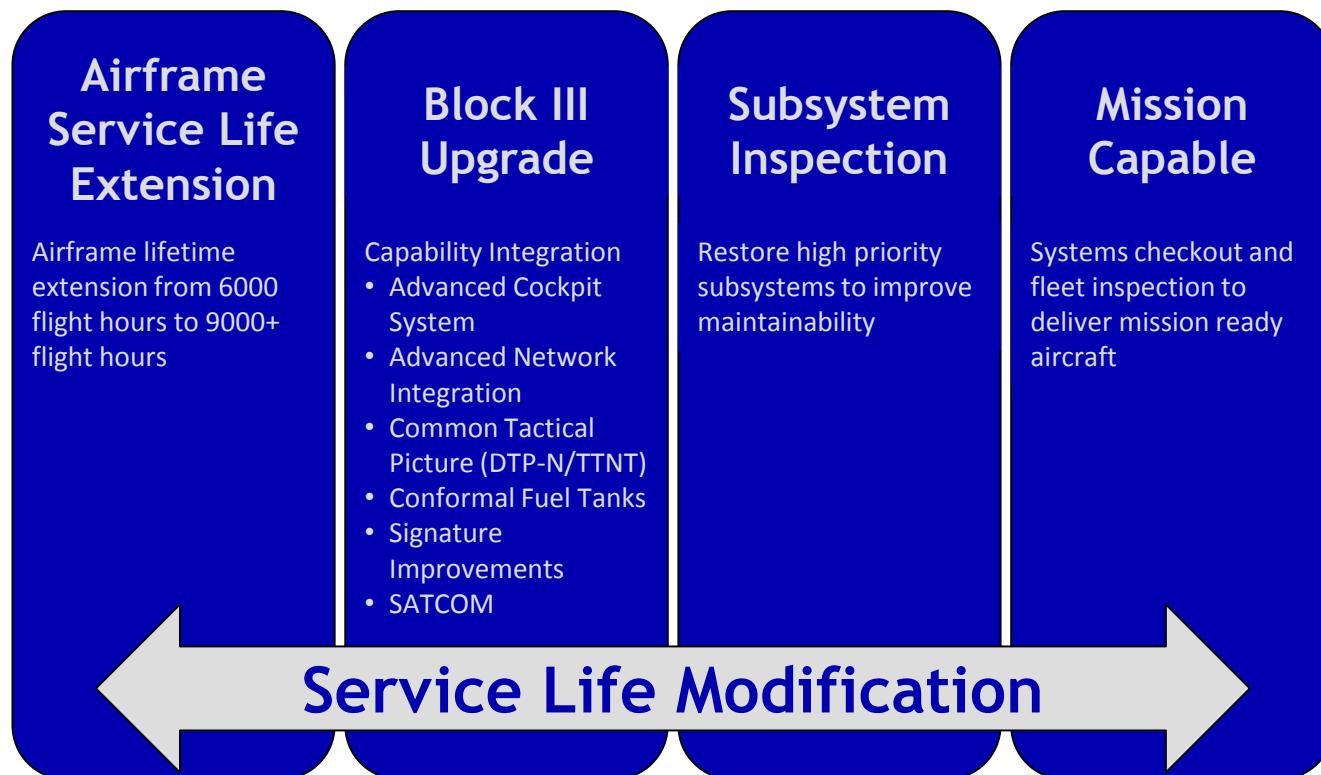
- Data analytics drives predictive decision making
- SHOGUN – Improved Parts Availability
- SEAL – Building jets at Lemoore





# Super Hornet Service Life Modification Program

Service Life Modification (SLM) is the recapitalization of the F/A-18E/F fleet to Block III capability.



*Service Life Modification: Renewing the Fleet for the Future Fight*



# Service Life Modification: a Novel Approach

## Analyze

### Service Life Assessment Program (SLAP)

### Service Life Extension Program (SLEP)

- F/A-18 Block I and Block II Fatigue Life Analysis Using Fleet Utilization Data
- Tear Down of 2 USN Aircraft to Augment Analysis with Inspection
- Airframe Lifetime Extension From 6,000 to 10,000 Flight Hours



2 USN Learning Aircraft

## Productionize

### Deploy 'Best of Boeing' Manufacturing Practices

- Define a Production Flow Approach and Deploy BDS, BGS, and BCA Best Practices in St. Louis and San Antonio
- Integrate SLM Specification, Fleet TDs, and O-Level Maintenance Work Scope and Remove Redundant Sequences to Benefit Cost and Schedule
- Drive Traditionally Unplanned Work into Planned, Kitted Repeatable Work

### Service Life Modification (SLM)

- Develop Material and Tooling Kits for Service Life Extension, Block III Upgrade, Subsystems Inspection, and Mission Capability

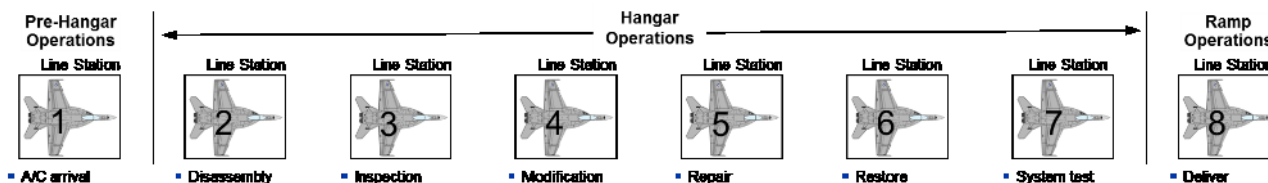
## Deliver

### On Cost and on Schedule, Continuously Improving

- Continuous Updates to Repair Bill of Material (RBOM) Based on Usage
- Standard dispositions in Structural Repair Manual (SRM) for Fleet Use
- NAVDER engineering Authority to Shorten Defect Resolution Cycle
- Improved Fleet Readiness
- Contribute Findings to Spares Configuration
- Block III Capabilities to Stay Ahead of Future Threats



F/A-18 E Block III



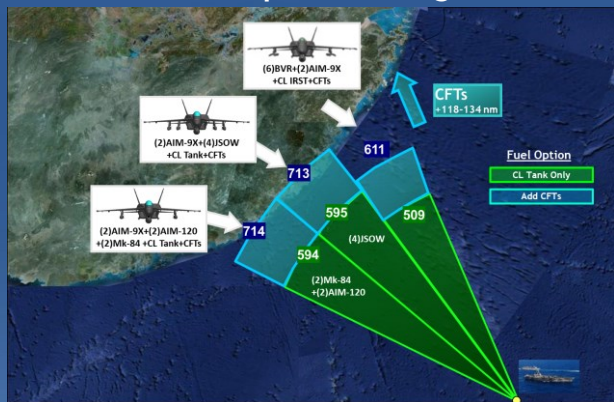
**Production best practices yielding predictable, repeatable results**





# F/A-18E/F Super Hornet Block III

## Conformal Fuel Tanks Compatible Range



## Signature Improvements Lower Radar Cross Section

## Advanced Cockpit System Increased Situational Awareness



10,000+ Hour  
Airframe



DTP-N  
Open Architecture, Multi-level secure processor

TTNT  
High Throughput, Low Latency Data Link

Block II IRST\*  
Long Range. Counter Stealth

SATCOM\*  
Advanced Network Connectivity

\*Program of Record independent of Block III



## Summary

- **Super Hornet transitioning from a Tired Iron aircraft to one with extended life and improved readiness**
- **Value proposition increased when combined with improved capability**
- **Productionized process and engineering empowerments are key enablers**
- **Continuously learning to drive unplanned work into planned and kitted repeatable work**

