



U.S. ARMY AVIATION AND MISSILE COMMAND AVIATION & MISSILE RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT & ENGINEERING CENTER

COCKPIT AIR BAG SYSTEM (CABS)

This Aviation Applied Technology Directorate (AATD) Cockpit Air Bag System (CABS) program represents the first effort to design, develop, qualify, and field an inflatable Supplemental Restraint System (SRS) into military helicopters. Army helicopter mishap statistics confirm that, in potentially *survivable* accidents, contact injuries to the head and torso account for two-thirds of all major and fatal injuries. Contact injuries are those injuries that result from impact with interior cockpit structures and/or equipment. Extensive development and testing of CABS has shown that the desired levels of aircrew protection can be achieved during survivable crashes. The CABS is an Acquisition Category III program funded by the Product Manager, Aircrew Integrated Systems. The U.S. Army OH-58D Kiowa Warrior and UH-60A/L Black Hawk helicopters are currently completing the qualification phase, and are planned for production and fielding pending Milestone III Decisions in FY01. AATD also initiated analysis efforts this year to establish the initial electronic crash sensor unit thresholds and to determine the applicability of the CABS or alternate inflatable SRS technology for the CH-47F and AH-64D aircraft.



Without CABS - cyclic contact, high head rotation



With CABS - no cyclic contact, less head rotation



UH-60 Black Hawk



OH-58D Kiowa Warrior