



# Technology & Development Status Report

## Aviation Program

### FY 2009



Date Last Edited: 12-14-2005

**PROJECT:** **Aerial Delivery (Airtanker Tank and Gating Systems)**      **CENTER:**      **SDTDC**

**Number:**      0E01P06      **PROGRAM LEADER:**      Carl Bambarger

**SPONSOR:**      WO      **Project Leader:**      Ryan Becker

**Proposer:**

### **PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

This project provides continuing technical support to the Interagency Airtanker Board (IAB) in the requirements, development, and testing of the Forest Service's Fleet of contracted retardant delivery systems (airtankers, helitankers, and helicopters with buckets).

The project also supports the field with prompt technical assistance and services. Also, coordination with the Airtanker Industry, Cooperators, other US agencies and International Governments and Operators is provided.

WO aviation is supported with airtanker technical information as needed.

### **Changes to objectives:**

### **SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- October 2005: Submitted revisions to the tank and gating section of the IAB criteria for Board review. Provided recommendations for consideration of very large airtankers in tank and gating criteria.
- October-November 2005: Provided technical assistance to the Wildland Fire Chemical Systems program of MTDC during drop testing to characterize the impact of retardant rheological properties on drop patterns. The test collected exceptionally high-quality data from about 150 drops.

### **Output:**

**Planned:** MAFFS II (AFFS) drop testing and data analysis

Airtanker pattern statistical analysis

Airtanker contract selection analysis tool

LIDAR equipment analysis and test results

Drop testing support for next-generation air tanker development

**Actual:** Provided over 60 man-hours of technical support to S2 drop tests in Marana, AZ October to November 2005