

**GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS****Aircraft:** P-3C ORION CUP +**Length:** 35,6 m**Wingspan:** 30,4 m**Height:** 10,3 m**Max take-off weight:** 64.410 kg**Speed :** 760km/hr**Autonomy:** 16 hrs**OVERVIEW**

The P-3C CUP+ results from a 5 P-3C modernization program acquired from the Netherlands, and the prototype was formally delivered in September 2010.

The P-3C CUP+ keeps all maritime patrol capabilities inherited from the P-3P, including Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), Anti-Surface Control (ASuW) and Search and Rescue (SAR). In addition, a set of sensors associated to a modern system fully integrated tactical mission, enables the P-3C CUP+ to also operate in several missions in the terrestrial environment. It is also equipped with a self-protection system MLWS (Missile and Laser Warning System), which allows the detection of threats and the trigger counter-measures.

The combination of these capabilities with the innate characteristics of this aircraft, which highlights its huge autonomy, action range, speed, availability to carry sensors and weapons, operate day and night and in any weather conditions, resulted in a weapon system extremely versatile and flexible.

The P-3C CUP+ began its operation on January 1, 2011, participating in NATO operations "Active Endeavour" in the Mediterranean Sea and "Ocean Shield" in the Indian Ocean, against piracy, with excellent results and a 100% readiness.

The P-3C CUP+ has the ability to launch the following weapons: AGM-84 HARPOON, AGM-65F / G MAVERICK, Torpedo MK-46A (s), MK-82/83/84 and MK 36 Mines.

The P-3C is based at Beja Air Base in Portugal and operated by the 601SQN - "LOBOS"

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