

Snipe

Aerial targets

The Snipe is one of a range of remotely piloted vehicles offered by QinetiQ Target Systems, an organisation dedicated to the design, manufacture and operation of aerial targets and unmanned vehicle systems.

The Snipe is a reliable and realistic, low-cost, remotely piloted target aircraft designed for air defence simulation on land and at sea and as a target operator training aircraft.

Originally produced as a simple, model aircraft type target that was controlled manually through a radio control link, the latest version may be fitted with QinetiQ's own, mini CASPA avionics unit to give it an autonomous flight capability to over 40 km.

The target, which can be launched either by hand or by means of a lightweight catapult launcher, is in service in a number of countries and varying climatic conditions where it is fitted with infra-red and visual augmentation, miss distance (scoring) systems and an active radar augmenter. The capability of this low-cost system makes it ideally suited as a direct kill target for use against gun and short-range missile anti-aircraft weapons with a high kill probability.

QinetiQ Target Systems can provide targets and operating services to weapon system manufacturers and end-users who do not wish to operate their own target service.

Key features

- 2.2 metres wingspan
- Equipped with a three-axis autopilot, digital command and telemetry links and an automatic fail-safe system
- Endurance in excess of 45 minutes
- Can carry an MDI and smoke and infra-red tracking flares simultaneously



Specifications

Physical	
Wing span	2.20 metres (7ft 3in)
Length	1.76 metres (5ft 9in)
Typical all-up-weight	14 to 18.5kg (30lb 14oz to 40lb 12oz)
Performance	
Speed range	13 - 50 m/s (24 - 97 knots) (47- 180 km/hr.)
Operating range	> 40km (25 miles)
Endurance	> 45 minutes at typical mission, mixed throttle settings
Recovery	Parachute or skid landing
Other features	
Command and control	QinetiQ's mini-CASPA avionics which incorporates digital proportional command and telemetry links (typically UHF between 300MHz and 470MHz), with digital autopilot and three-axis IMU, integrated GPS, autonomous waypoint navigation and independent fail-safe system that operates automatically in the event of loss of or interference to the command link.
Typical payloads	Up to eight smoke tracking flares Four infra-red tracking flares (Combinations of flares may be carried and activated as required). Mini Doppler radar and acoustic MDI systems Exhaust powered black-body infra-red augmenter (These payloads may be mixed and most carried simultaneously)

Note: Due to continuous process improvement, specifications are subject to change without notice.

Collaborating with QinetiQ

At QinetiQ we bring organisations and people together to provide innovative solutions to real world problems, creating customer advantage.

Working with our partners and customers, we collaborate widely, working in partnership, listening hard and thinking through what customers need. Building trusted partnerships, we are helping customers anticipate and shape future requirements, adding value and future advantage.

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