



Israel army: UAV's to evacuate wounded

Published: Aug. 7, 2009 at 8:38 AM

The Israel Army's Medical Corps wants unmanned aircraft vehicles to evacuate wounded troops and drop supplies to soldiers in the battlefield, the army said.

For some time the army has been searching for an unmanned vehicle capable of reaching troops on the ground in varied locations, including urban areas and at sea, Lt.Col. Dr. Gil Hirshorn, head of the corps trauma unit was quoted saying on the army's Hebrew language Web site.

Hirshorn said the Medical Corps believes the UAV fits the bill and said the army is considering the purchase of the Mule unmanned aerial vehicle, developed by the Israeli company Urban Aeronautics.

The specific model being considered has room for two soldiers lying down, Hirshorn said.

It has vertical take-off capabilities and can ferry cargo and passengers in and out of constricted areas, and will fly via GPS satellite coordinates to designated areas and land at locations selected by beacon-bearing spotters, the company said.

The Aviation International News online Web site said the Mule requires 500 pounds of fuel to carry a 500-pound payload on a two hour mission and has a maximum airspeed of 100 knots.

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