



Australian Government
Department of Defence
Capability Acquisition and
Sustainment Group

KC-30A Service Life Extension Program

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Department of Defence | Capability Acquisition and Sustainment Group



Aim

- Provide the Aircraft Airworthiness & Sustainment Conference an overview of the KC-30A Service Life Extension Program (SLEP)

Scope

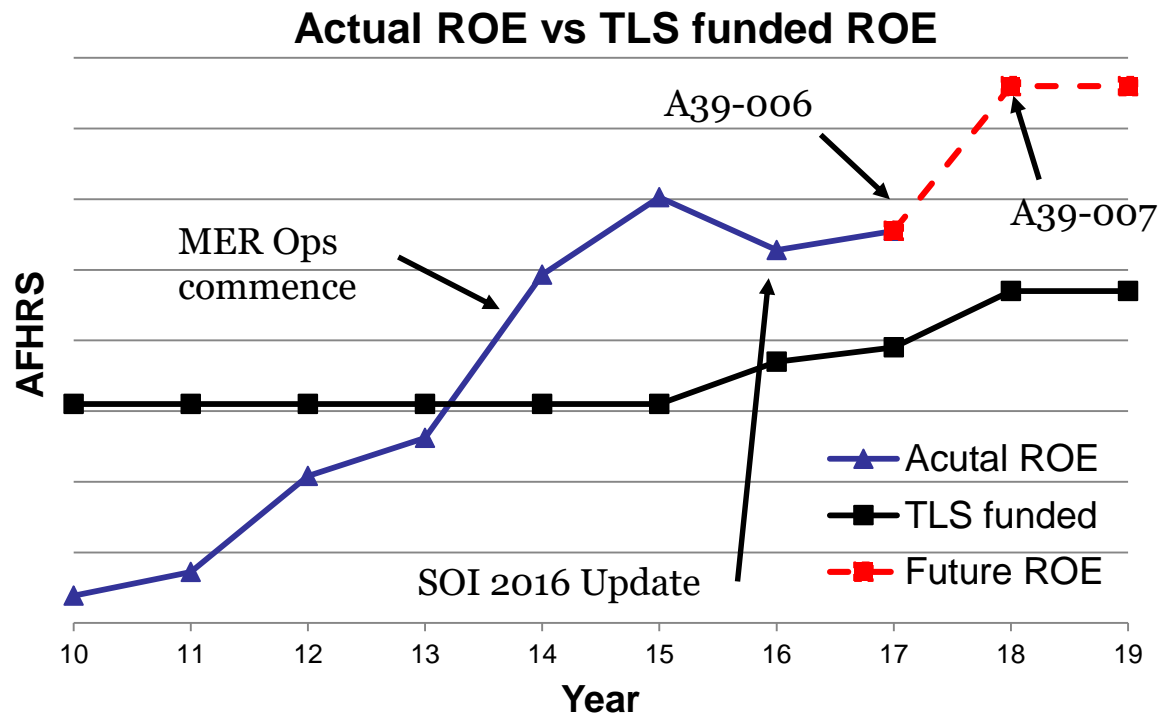
- Background
- Business Case (Requirement & Need)
 - (CASG - Andrew Hutchinson)
- Detailed Mission Definition Development
 - (NGA-TS – David Kaveri)
- MRTT Service Life Extension Program (SLEP)
 - (Airbus DS – Javier Gomez-Escalonilla)

Background

- The fatigue life of the KC-30A is current tracked by both Flight Cycles and Flight Hours for the aircraft and Boom Cycles and Boom Hours and Advanced Refuelling Boom System (ARBS)
- The KC30A has two main missions
 - Air to Air Refuelling (AAR)
 - Air Logistics Support (ALS)
- The KC-30A is required to continue to support AAR and ALS operations out to at least 2041.

Background

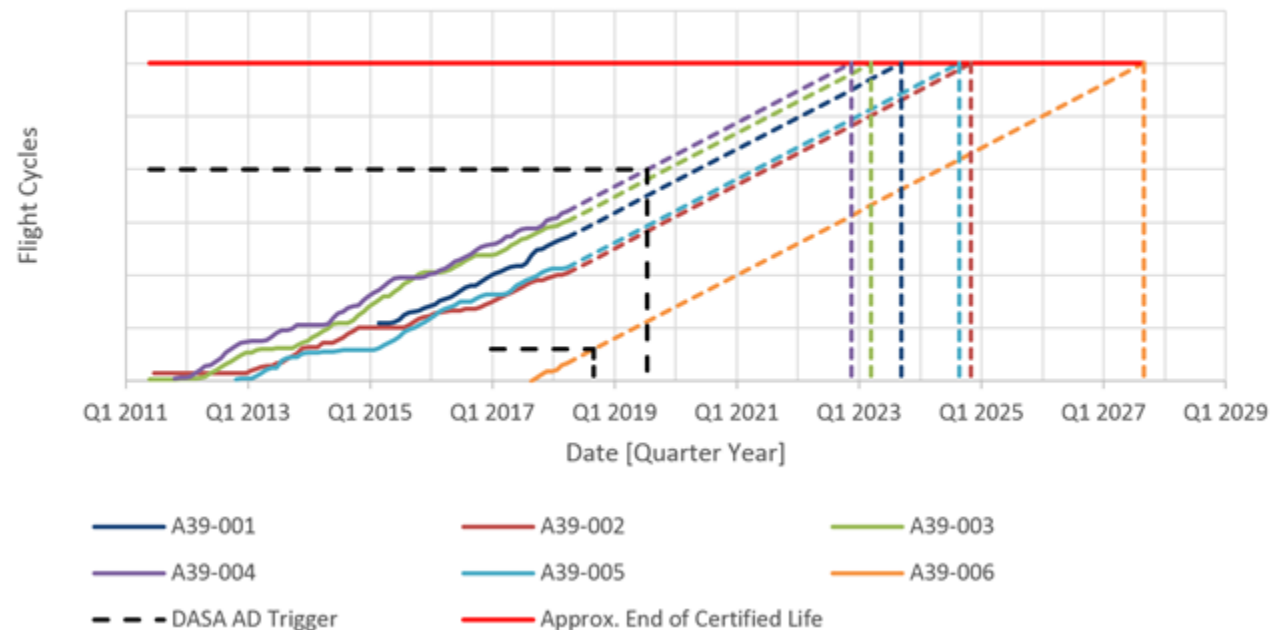
- AIR 5402 acquired 5 x MRTTs – designated KC-30A
- AIR 7403 acquired 2 x MRTTs (Acft 6 delivered in 2017, Acft 7 to enter service in 2nd halve of 2019)



Business Case

- The first aircraft is predicted to reach certified fatigue life limits in 2023. (DASA AD Limit)
- At current usage levels three aircraft will reach their fatigue life limit in 2023. (DASA AD Limit)
- In service usage (incl ARBS) are higher than anticipated during acquisition.
- SLEP required to enable KC-30A operations IAW SOIU until PWD of 2041.

KC-30A Fleet Certified Life Projections Based on Flight Cycles



Business Case

- SLEP to be conducted over 3 phases
 - Ph2A - Green Aircraft structure and systems
 - Ph 2B - Military systems including ARBS and Pod
 - Ph2C – Engines
- INTA and DASA certification of major change to type design required for Ph2A and Ph2B
- NGA-TS required to incorporate support system changes out of all 3 phases.
- In order to ensure ADF CRE was adequately accounted for NGA-TS were contracted to develop the KC-30A Detailed Mission Definition Report.