

Lockheed P-3 Orion Long Range Tracker (LRT)



U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Air and Marine Operations (AMO) operates the P-3 Long Range Tracker (LRT) aircraft which performs a wide variety of operational missions, especially those that require long station time overhead, hemispheric range, and missions throughout all weather and environmental conditions. The versatile P-3 also serves as a force multiplier in joint operations with local, state, and federal partners for National Special Security Events and consequence management efforts.

The P-3 LRT aircraft is a high-endurance, all-weather, tactical turbo-prop aircraft. They are primarily used to conduct long-range aerial patrols and surveillance missions along the U.S. borders and in drug transit zones in Central and South America.

P-3 LRT aircraft often fly in tandem with the P-3 AEW. In order to take advantage of both aircraft's strengths, the P-3 AEW detects and tracks multiple targets and the accompanying P-3 LRT intercepts, identifies, and tracks those targets.

In Fiscal Year 2020, AMO P-3 crews contributed to the seizure or disruption of 111,134 pounds of cocaine.

Performance and Weights:

- Maximum Speed
 405 knots (466 mph)
- Service Ceiling Altitude 28,000 feet
- Range4,000 nautical miles (4,603 miles)
- Endurance
 12 hours
- Maximum Gross Weight
 135,000 pounds
- Crew

Eight (pilot, copilot, flight engineer, and radar/sensor operators)

Features:

- Electro-optical/infrared sensor, which allows for crewmembers to maintain awareness of targets in all environments.
- APG-66 radar, used for detecting and tracking targets of interest.
- SeaVue marine search radar, which provides increased scanning capability to detect targets from great distances.