



August 17, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For More Information, contact:

Todd Jones - VP Marketing & Public Affairs
First-Light USA
Ofc:217-687-4048
Mobile: 217-418-4954
jones@firstlight-usa.com
firstlight-usa.com/glidr

First-Light USA Launches New Illumination Platform for the United States Air Force

(Seymour, IL USA). First-Light USA, manufacturer of portable, tactical lighting solutions, is excited to announce the launch of GLIDR, a multi-functional, tactical illumination device for Aircrew. GLIDR represents a revolutionary shift in Air Force portable lighting across the entire airframe spectrum. Designed & developed under an AFWERX SBIR (Small Business Innovation Research) contract, GLIDR thoughtfully and elegantly meshes the functionality of multiple existing lights into a single compact device created specifically for Aircrew.

In 2018, First-Light USA participated in an AFWERX Open Topic Competition calling for innovative solutions that could positively impact Air Force flight equipment, ultimately enhancing the ability of Airmen to successfully perform their missions. In early 2019, First-Light USA was awarded a contract to create a completely new, hands-enabling illumination device that could be used by all aircrew regardless of job. GLIDR replaces the need for multiple single-purpose lights by providing adjustable white light, Infrared capability, Night Vision-compatible light (NVIS MIL Spec 3009), and beacon functions in an incredibly rugged and lightweight form. Featuring a 360-degree rotating steel clip and a pivoting lamp housing, GLIDR delivers 2-AXIS adjustability of the light from numerous mounting locations including the flight vest, flight suit, and helmet. An accompanying nylon strap with detachable hook-and-loop patch allows GLIDR to be worn as a headlamp or attached to any opposing hook-and-loop surface.

In response to the opportunity to develop a new product with AFWERX, Jeremy Ross, CEO and Founder of First-Light USA stated, “Teaming with AFWERX gave us invaluable insight and access into what Airmen truly need to help accomplish their missions on a daily basis. During the development process, we were able to speak directly to Aircrew, from pilots to loadmasters, to learn what their pain points were and of any potential gaps in the lighting currently available to the Air Force. This type of opportunity for discovery and the feedback it generates is imperative in delivering a successful end product.”

GLIDR will be in full production in late 4th Quarter of 2020 and available Sole Source to the Air Force and all other branches of the US Military. A modified version will be released in the near future that is tailored to ground forces and combat medics, keeping in line with First-Light’s history of delivering critical illumination at the point-of-injury.

#



AFWERX is the Air Force's team of innovators who encourage and facilitate connections across industry, academia, and the military to create transformative opportunities and foster a culture of innovation. Their mission is to solve problems and enhance the effectiveness of the service by enabling thoughtful, deliberate, ground-up innovation. Encompassing a number of programs supported with relatively small amounts of funding, the initiative is intended to circumvent bureaucracy and engage new entrepreneurs in Air Force programs.

First-Light USA is the developer and manufacturer of battle-tested, portable lighting solutions for Military and Law Enforcement Officers. Our lights have earned Standard Issue positions with Combat Lifesavers, Combat Medics, Abrams Tank crews and are trusted by Warfighters across all branches of the military. LEO's, EMS personnel, and countless other First Responders also rely on First-Light products every day. First-Light USA products are proudly built in the USA. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @firstlightusa.