

Army Airborne Command and Control System (A2C2S)

Enables commanders from the brigade combat team to the unit of employment to perform battle command functions while on the move from an airborne platform through continuous situational awareness and robust communications.



DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Army's current utility helicopter, the UH-60L Black Hawk (and newer models), will host the Army Airborne Command and Control System (A2C2S). This Battle Command system will consist of two components: an A-Kit and a B-Kit. The A-Kit is permanently affixed to the airframe consisting of antennas, wiring, and aircraft interfaces (power, structural, etc.) to enable the B-Kit to be installed in the host platform. The B-Kit consists of operator positions/workstations, computer systems, and necessary communications devices to host and support the digital battle command process. Sub-components of the B-Kit include the Maneuver Commander's Environment and an integrated suite of radio communications equipment. The Maneuver Commander's Environment are those components that the system operators physically interact with during mission execution. The Multi-Processor Unit, part of the Maneuver Commander's Environment, hosts selected ABCS software programs and other software applications. Through the use of these selected Army Battle Command System programs and the Tactical Internet, commanders can access, manipulate, store, manage, and analyze situational awareness information, intelligence data, and mission plans. In addition to line-of-sight combat net radios, including Single Channel Ground Airborne Radio System, Advanced System Improvement Program, and HAVEQUICK II, A2C2S capabilities support deep operations with non-line-of-sight radios, high frequency, and Demand Assigned Multiple Access and Satellite Communications System Satellite Command.

These capabilities enable warfighters to exercise battle command of assigned and attached elements and to coordinate with adjacent, supported, and supporting forces via voice and data equipment with battlefield information processing and connectivity.

As a complimentary system to the Future Combat System, A2C2S is critical in the following operational roles:

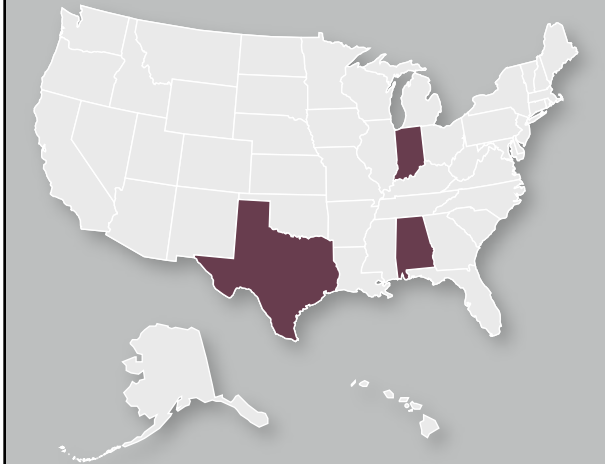
- Airborne battle command on-the-move
- Extended operations as a ground tactical command post
- Jump tactical operations center, early entry command post
- Homeland defense/first responder for national disaster relief

PROGRAM STATUS

- **4QFY04** Reset two A2C2S in support of OIF
- **2QFY05** Integration of broadband satellite communications

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- **4QFY05** Full rate production



CONTRACTORS

Raytheon
(Huntsville, AL; Waco, TX; Ft Wayne, IN)
Program Support: CAS (Huntsville, AL)

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

ACQUISITION PHASE

- Production and Deployment