

Provides soldiers and maneuver commanders a full range of Countermine capabilities and immediate solutions to counter improvised explosive devices.



DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATIONS

The Countermine program is pursuing immediate solutions to the improvised explosive device (IED) problem in Operations Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Iraqi Freedom (OIF), as well as measures to counter conventional mines. It comprises several different systems:

- Airborne Standoff Minefield Detection System (ASTAMIDS) detects and locates minefields and obstacles from aerial platforms.
- AN/PSS-14 Mine Detecting Set is a handheld multi-sensor mine detector deployed both in OEF and OIF.
- Ground Standoff Mine Detection System Future Combat System (GSTAMIDS FCS) is a mine detection and neutralization system designed to integrate onto FCS unmanned ground vehicles. Block 0 is in use in OIF.
- Mongoose Explosive Standoff Minefield Clearer clears lanes for mounted troops through a rocket-deployed array of shaped-charge munitions that can be launched across minefields and command-detonated.
- Anti-Personnel Obstacle Breaching System (APOBS) is a rocket-propelled line charge used to clear wire obstacles and anti-personnel mines.

The following equipment is in use in OEF/OIF:

- Aardvark Mk IV Medium Flail is a half-track vehicle with a mechanical flail system that destroys mines.
- Hydrema 910 Mine Clearing Vehicle is a medium flail designed to destroy all types of mines.
- Berm Sifter is a mechanical sifter mounted on a military front-end loader that sifts mines from earth berms.
- Checkmate Mine Safety Shoes are distributed-pressure designed shoes that will not detonate anti-personnel mines.
- MineLab F1A4 Handheld Mine Detector is an Australian-built detector that senses metal mine components.

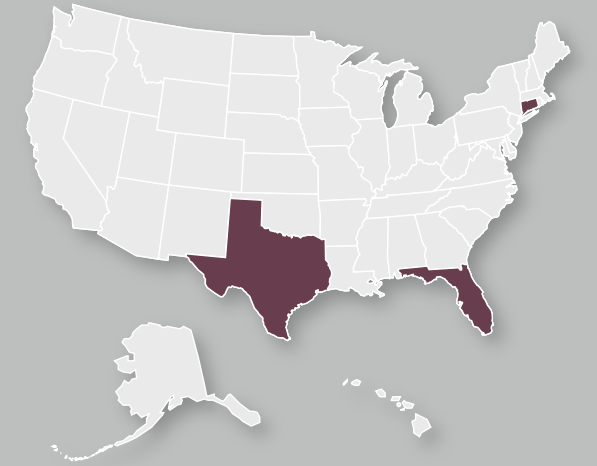
- Mine Clearing Armor Protection (MCAP) kit protects the D9 dozer during mine removal.
- Interim Vehicle Mounted Mine Detector (IVMMD) is a two-vehicle system with metal detectors and proofing trailers used for route clearance operations to protect soldiers from mine blasts and IEDs.
- Buffalo Heavy Mine Protected Vehicle is used for countermine IED missions and protects soldiers from mine and IED blasts.
- Alvis RG-31 Medium Mine Protected Vehicle is used for command and control of clearance operations and protects soldiers from mine blasts and IED detonations.

PROGRAM STATUS

- APOBS is in production.
- Awarded the GSTAMIDS FCS development contract.

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- **2QFY05** Begin full rate production for AN/PSS-14.
- **3QFY05** Field additional Buffaloes, IVMMD's and RG31s to OEF/OIF.



CONTRACTORS

ASTAMIDS: Northrop Grumman (Melbourne, FL)
GSTAMIDS: FCS and Mongoose: BAE Systems (Austin, TX)
AN/PSS-14: CyTerra Corporation (Waltham, MA; Orlando, FL)
APOBS: Ensign Bickford Aerospace and Defense (Simsbury, CT)

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

ACQUISITION PHASE

- Concept and Technology Development
- System Development and Demonstration
- Production and Deployment