

Joint Tactical Ground Station (JTAGS)

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance



MISSION

Disseminates early-warning, alerting, and cueing information of ballistic missile attack and other infrared events to theater combatant commanders by using real-time, direct downlinked satellite data.

DESCRIPTION

Joint Tactical Ground Stations (JTAGS) are forward-deployed, echelon-above-corps, transportable systems designed to receive, process, and disseminate direct downlinked infrared data from space-based sensors. Ongoing product improvement efforts will integrate JTAGS with the next-generation Space-Based Infrared System (SBIRS) satellites. SBIRS sensors will significantly improve in-theater missile-warning parameters. Expected improvements include higher quality cueing of active defense systems, decreased missile launch search area, faster initial report times, and improved impact ellipse prediction.

JTAGS processes satellite data and disseminates ballistic missile warning or special event messages to Warfighters in support of regional combatant commanders over multiple theater

communication systems. Five JTAGS are deployed worldwide as part of the U.S. Strategic Command's Tactical Event System. Army Space and Missile Defense Command Soldiers operate JTAGS, providing 24/7/365 support to theater operations.

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES

Other Major Interdependencies
U.S. Air Force's ACAT I, SBIRS satellite program

PROGRAM STATUS

- **1QFY09-4QFY09:** Worldwide fielding of JTAGS upgrades: Common Data Link Interface, Joint Tactical Terminal, Multifunctional Information Distribution System, and information assurance improvements; upgrades to all five JTAGS units and the JTAGS development lab

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- **1QFY12-3QFY12:** Complete fielding of JTAGS block upgrades including commercial antenna systems and information assurance
- **2QFY12-4QFY12:** Fielding of the Initial SBIRS Geosynchronous Orbit (GEO) satellite capability

- **4QFY12:** Initial SBIRS GEO certification for operational use
- **1QFY12-4QFY13:** Software support, contractor logistics support, and depot operations continue.
- **3QFY12:** Begin new contract for support of Pre-Planned Product Improvement program, includes full GEO satellite integration and de-shelter

ACQUISITION PHASE

Technology Development

Engineering and Manufacturing Development

Production and Deployment

Operations and Support

Joint Tactical Ground Station (JTAGS)

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

None

CONTRACTORS

Develop, Deploy, Sustain (CLS):
Northrop Grumman Electronic Systems
(Colorado Springs, CO)

SETA support:
BAE Systems (Huntsville, AL)

