Joint Tactical Radio System Multifunctional Information Distribution System (MIDS)

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

- Modernization
- Recapitalization
- Maintenance

MISSION

Provides real-time information and situational awareness to the Joint and coalition Warfighter in the airborne, ground, and maritime domains through secure, scalable, modular, wireless, and jam-resistant digital data and voice communications.

DESCRIPTION

The Joint Tactical Radio System Multifunctional Information Distribution System (JTRS MIDS) is a secure, scalable, modular, wireless, and jam-resistant digital information system currently providing Tactical Air Navigation (TACAN), Link-16, and J-Voice to airborne, ground, and maritime Joint and coalition warfighting platforms. MIDS provides real-time and low-cost information and situational awareness. The MIDS Program includes the MIDS-Low Volume Terminal (MIDS-LVT) and the MIDS JTRS Terminal.

MIDS-LVT is the foundation of the MIDS international cooperative program with Joint service participation. MIDS-LVT provides interoperability with NATO users, significantly increasing force effectiveness and minimizing hostile actions and friend-on-friend engagements. Three principle configurations of the terminal are in production and use an open-system, modular architecture. MIDS-LVT(1) provides a Link-16 capability to Navy and Air Force platforms, which were previously unable to use the Joint Tactical Information Distribution System (JTIDS) due to space and weight limitations. MIDS-LVT(2) is an Army variant of MIDS that is a functional replacement for the JTIDS Class 2M terminal. MIDS-LVT(3), also referred to as MIDS Fighter Data Link (FDL), is a reduced-function terminal for the Air Force.

MIDS JTRS is a Software Defined Radio (SDR) that is compliant with the JTRS Software Communications Architecture (SCA). MIDS JTRS maintains the Link-16, J-Voice, and TACAN functionality of MIDS-LVT, but it also accommodates future technologies and capabilities. MIDS JTRS improvements over MIDS-LVT include Link-16 enhanced throughput (ET), Link-16 frequency remapping (FR), and programmable crypto. MIDS JTRS accommodates incremental delivery of the advanced JTRS waveforms through MIDS JTRS platform capability packages, such as the Joint Airborne Networking-Tactical Edge (JAN-TE) capability.

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES

Other Major Interdependencies

Link-16, TACAN, JAN-TE Waveforms, multiple Joint and coalition airborne, ground, and maritime platforms

PROGRAM STATUS

- **1QFY11:** MIDS JTRS IOT&E report issued by commander, operational test and evaluation force
- **2QFY11:** MIDS JTRS IOT&E report issued by director, operational test and evaluation

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- **2QFY12:** MIDS JTRS initial operational capability with the USN F/A-18E/F Super Hornet
- **2QFY12:** MIDS JTRS full production and fielding decision

ACQUISITION PHASE

Technology Development | Engineering and Manufacturing Development | Production and Deployment | Operations and Support

Joint Tactical Radio System Multifunctional Information Distribution System (MIDS)

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

MIDS-LVT:
1,881 terminals (internationally)
JTRS MIDS:
None

CONTRACTORS

ViaSat Inc. (Carlsbad, CA)
Data Link Solutions:
Rockwell Collins (Cedar Rapids, IA)
BAE Systems (Wayne, NJ)
EuroMIDS (Paris, France)
Thales (France)
Selex (Italy)
EADS (Germany)
Indra (Spain)