

MARINE AIR-GROUND TASK FORCE SECONDARY IMAGERY DISSEMINATION SYSTEM

DESCRIPTION

Marine Air-Ground Task Force SIDS (MSIDS) consists of three suites of outstation equipment and one set of base station equipment. The outstation includes a basic still-photo digital camera with waterproof case, an advanced still-photo digital camera, a night vision intensifier tube, a rugged handheld computer with data controller hardware/ software, and a set of fixed and telephoto lenses. The base station consists of a rugged laptop computer and a printer. The equipment that comprises MSIDS is made up entirely of commercial-off-the-shelf equipment.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

MSIDS provides the only self-contained, hand-held, ground imagery capability for MAGTF reconnaissance units. This imagery is essential for mission planning and intelligence. Other MAGTF near-real-time imaging systems, such as unmanned aerial vehicles and F/A-18 ATARS, only provide overhead imagery and cannot capture the detail and ground perspectives available with MSIDS. In asymmetric threat environments where targets of interest are often

small, highly mobile units such as terrorists or guerilla units, it is imperative that the MAGTF be able to identify individuals and structures from the ground level. The required detail is neither available from overhead sources, nor available in the initial fielded version of MSIDS. Technology insertions via a block refresh plan will enable reconnaissance Marines equipped with the system to receive needed technological upgrades in a more timely fashion.

PROGRAM STATUS

In FY 2004, the Marine Corps will refresh the entire MSIDS imagery capability and update operating software. In FY 2005 we will refresh all computers and update operating software. These efforts are essential to the MSIDS life-cycle support strategy.



PROCUREMENT PROFILE:

FY 04

FY 05

Quantity:

Advanced digital cameras	219	
Night-vision devices (current)	73	
Basic digital cameras	73	
Outstation computers		231
Base station computers		77

DEVELOPER/MANUFACTURER

System Integrator: Northrop Grumman Information Technologies (NGIT), Stafford, VA
Integrity Data Inc (IDC), Colorado Springs, CO