

Improved Ribbon Bridge (IRB)

Improves mobility by providing continuous roadway or raft capable of crossing military load classification 96 (wheeled)/80 (tracked) vehicles over non-fordable wet gaps.

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance



Description & Specifications

The Tactical Float Ribbon Bridge System consists of the Improved Ribbon Bridge (IRB) bays (30 interior and 12 ramps); 14 Propulsion Bridge Erection Boats (BEB), and 56 Common Bridge Transporters (CBT). These components are required to transport, launch, erect, and retrieve up to 210 meters of floating bridge. The IRB has a Military Load Capacity (MLC) of 96 wheeled (normal) and 110 (caution)/MLC 80 tracked vehicles and is used to transport weapon systems,

troops, and supplies over water when permanent bridges are not available. This MLC will support the joint force commander's ability to employ and sustain forces throughout the world. The Float Ribbon Bridge is issued to the Multi-Role Bridge Company (MRBC).

The M14 Improved Boat Cradle (IBC) and the M15 Bridge Adapter Pallet (BAP) are used to carry the BEB and IRB bays on the CBT.

Program Status

- **Current:** This system has been fielded since 2004

Projected Activities

- Fieldings are ongoing based on the Army Requirements Prioritization List (ARPL)

ACQUISITION PHASE

Concept & Technology Development

System Development & Demonstration

Production & Deployment

Operations & Support

Improved Ribbon Bridge (IRB)

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

None

CONTRACTORS

IRB Bays manufacturer:

General Dynamics Santa Barbara
Sistemas (Kaiserslautern, Germany)

Logistic support:

AM General (Livonia, MI)

CBT manufacturer:

Oshkosh Truck Corp. (Oshkosh, WI)

BEB manufacturer:

FBM Babcock Marine (Isle of Wight,
United Kingdom)

