

# Improved Target Acquisition System (ITAS)

Provides superior surveillance capability that enables the soldier to shape the battlefield by detecting and engaging targets at long range.



## DESCRIPTION AND SPECIFICATIONS

The TOW Improved Target Acquisition System (ITAS) is the reconnaissance, intelligence, surveillance, and target acquisition (RISTA) platform, providing long-range heavy antitank and precision assault fires capabilities to Army and Marine Corps light, airborne, air assault, and Stryker Brigade Combat Team (SBCT) forces. It is a multi-mission weapon system used as a tank killer, precision assault weapon, and as the Infantry task force's long range surveillance asset.

ITAS is a major product upgrade modification, replacing the existing M220A4 Tube Launched, Optically Tracked, Wire Guided 2 (TOW 2) system in light infantry units. ITAS operates from the High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV), the dismount tripod platform, and Stryker anti-tank guided missile vehicles.

The improved design greatly reduces its number of components, minimizing logistics support and equipment requirements. Built-in diagnostics and improved interfaces greatly improve target engagement performance. ITAS performance-based logistics support halves TOW 2 support costs. ITAS's second-generation infrared sensor technology provides gunners with more than double the range of the AN/TAS TOW sight. ITAS also provides improved probability of hit through aided target tracking, improved missile flight operations, and an elevation brake to minimize launch transients.

The ITAS modification kit consists of an integrated (day/night sight with laser rangefinder) target acquisition subsystem, fire control subsystem, lithium-ion battery power source, and a modified traversing unit. With it, the soldier can detect long-range targets and then either engage them with TOW missiles or direct the employment of other weapon systems to destroy them. With the PAQ-4/PEQ-2 Laser Pointer, ITAS can be used for .50 caliber or Mk-19 grenade engagements. TOW 2B Aero (extended range) provides an extended maximum

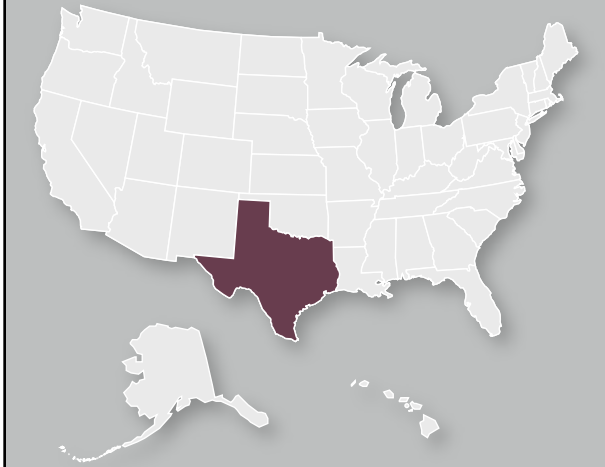
range to 4,500 meters for long-range engagement of armored vehicles. TOW Bunker Buster is designed for military operations in urban terrain or bunker engagements during assault operations.

## PROGRAM STATUS

- **FY98** First unit equipped completed to 1-17th Cav, 82nd Airborne
- **Current** ITAS has been fielded to 82 Airborne Div; 1st, 2nd and 3rd SBCTs; the 101st Air Assault Division; 2nd Infantry, 10th Mountain, and 25th Infantry Divisions; and 39th Separate Infantry Brigade
- **Current** The Marine Corps selected ITAS as its Anti-Armor Weapon System-Heavy choice to replace all Marine Corps heavy anti-tank/assault systems.
- **Current** Hardware fieldings active and National Guard units nine months ahead of schedule per requests from deploying units
- **Current** ITAS is being considered as a future combat acquisition system
- **2QFY04** Lithium-ion qualification testing completed
- **3-4QFY04** Fielded to 101st Air Assault Division

## PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- **FY05-06** Integration of far target location and radio frequency transfer of forward-looking infrared imagery
- **FY06-11** Production will procure 630 systems
- **FY09** Army production continues



## CONTRACTORS

**Prime:** Raytheon (McKinney, TX)  
**Training Devices:** BAE Systems (Austin, TX)

## INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

## ACQUISITION PHASE

- Production and Deployment
- Operations and Support