Army Key Management System (AKMS)

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance

MISSION
To automate the functions of communication securities (COMSEC) key management, control, and distribution; electronic protection generation and distribution; signal operating instruction management; to provide planners and operators with automated, secure communications at theater/tactical and strategic/sustaining base levels.

DESCRIPTION
The Army Key Management System (AKMS) is a fielded system composed of three subsystems, Local COMSEC Management Software (LCMS), Automated Communications Engineering Software (ACES), and the Data Transfer Device (DTD)/ Simple Key Loader (SKL). Under the umbrella of the objective National Security Agency (NSA) Electronic Key Management System (EKMS), AKMS provides tactical units and sustaining bases with an organic key generation capability and an efficient secure electronic key distribution means. AKMS provides a system for distribution of communications security (COMSEC), electronic protection, and signal operating instructions (SOI) information from the planning level to the point of use in support of current, interim, and objective force at division and brigade levels.

The LCMS workstation provides automated key generation, distribution, and COMSEC accounting. The ACES, which is the frequency management portion of AKMS, has been designated by the Military Communications Electronics Board as the joint standard for use by all services in development of frequency management and cryptographic net planning and SOI generation. The SKL (AN/PYQ-10) is the associated support item of equipment that provides the interface between the ACES workstation, the LCMS workstation, the warfighter's End Crypto Unit (ECU), and the Soldier. It is a small, ruggedized hand-held key loading device.

Product Direct Network Operations (PD NetOps) will deploy and sustain the Coalition Joint Spectrum Management Planning Tool (CJSMPT), which began as a Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat (JIEDD) Task Force initiative. It will provide joint spectrum management deconfliction capabilities for both communications and electronic warfare spectrum users.

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES
AKMS systems are considered enabling systems for equipment/systems to receive key and frequency allotments.

PROGRAM STATUS
- **4QFY08:** Released version 6.0 of SKL software
- **4QFY08:** Released LCMS v5.0.3 to Army COMSEC custodians
- **4QFY08:** Procured over 40,000 SKLs for Army units
- **1QFY09:** Released version 1.9 of ACES software

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES
- **FY09–11:** Continue to procure and field SKLs for Army, Air Force, Navy and civilians
- **FY09:** SKL Software upgrade v6.0; ACES Software Upgrade 2.0; LCMS Software Upgrade v5.1
- **FY09:** Refresh LCMS hardware to all Army COMSEC custodians
- **FY09–10:** Train, deploy and sustain Coalition Joint Spectrum Management Planning Tool (CJSMPT) capability
- **FY10:** Refresh ACES hardware to current users

Technology Development	Engineering & Manufacturing Development	Production & Deployment	Operations & Support

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FOREIGN MILITARY SALES
Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Hungary, Germany, Turkey, Spain, Lithuania

CONTRACTORS
Sierra Nevada Corp. (Sparks, NV)
Science Applications International Corp. (SAIC) (San Diego, CA)
CACI (Eatontown, NJ)
Sypris (Tampa, FL)
CSS (Augusta, GA)