Non-Intrusive Inspection Systems (NIIS)

MISSION
Protects U.S. forces and critical warfighting materiel by inspecting cars, trucks, or cargo containers for the presence of explosives, weapons, drugs, or other contraband with nuclear (gamma) and X-ray technology.

DESCRIPTION
The Non-Intrusive Inspection Systems (NIIS) program consists of commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) products that are employed within a layered force protection system that includes security personnel trained to maintain situational awareness, aided by a range of other products including military working dogs, under-vehicle scanning mirrors, and handheld or desktop trace explosive detectors. The NIIS produce a graphic image from which a trained operator can “look into” places such as false compartments that other systems cannot see.

NIIS currently include a variety of products with differing characteristics that are added to the Army commander’s “tool box.” They include mobile, rail-mounted but re-locatable, and fixed-site characteristics. The primary systems employed are as follows:

The Mobile Vehicle and Cargo Inspection System (MVACIS) is a truck-mounted system that utilizes a nuclear source that can penetrate approximately 6.5 inches of steel. It can be employed in static locations or moved rapidly between access control points to provide protection where it is most needed.

The Re-locatable Vehicle and Cargo Inspection System (RVACIS) is a rail-mounted system that utilizes the same nuclear source as the MVACIS but is mounted on a High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle. RVACIS provides a capability that other NII systems do not—off-installation external vehicle checkpoints in remote locations.

The Militarized Mobile VACIS (MMVACIS) uses the same gamma source as the other VACIS products but is mounted on a High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle. MMVACIS provides a capability that other NII systems do not—off-installation external vehicle checkpoints in remote locations.

The Z-Backscatter Van (ZBV) is a van-mounted system that utilizes backscatter X-ray technology. While it can penetrate only approximately one-quarter inch of steel, it can be employed in static locations where room is limited and scanning of cars, larger vehicles, or containers with smaller, less complex loads is expected.

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES
None

PROGRAM STATUS
- 1QFY10: MMVACIS fielding
- 4QFY10: ZBV procurement and fielding

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES
- 2QFY11: Final engineering change proposal contract to be awarded
Non-Intrusive Inspection Systems (NIIS)

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES
None

CONTRACTORS
American Science & Engineering, Inc. (Billerica, MA)
Rapiscan Systems (Torrance, CA)
Science Applications International Corp. (SAIC) (San Diego, CA)