Army Key Management System (AKMS)

MISSION
Automates the functions of communication securities (COMSEC) key management, control, and distribution; electronic protection generation and distribution; and 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/Simple Key Loader (SKL). Under the umbrella of the objective National Security Agency Electronic Key Management System, 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 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 (AN/GYK-49) workstation provides automated key generation, distribution, and COMSEC accounting. The ACES (AN/GYK-33), 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, and the Soldier. It is a small, ruggedized hand-held key loading device.

The Coalition Joint Spectrum Management Planning Tool (CJSMPT) is supported for deployment and sustainment. 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
- **FY11**: Procured over 6,000 SKLs for Army units
- **FY10**: ACES software upgrade version 2.0; SKL software upgrade version 6.0
- **FY11**: Refurbished and fielded LCMS hardware to Army COMSEC custodians
- **FY10**: Trained, deployed, and sustained CJSMPT capability

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES
- **FY11**: LCMS software upgrade version 5.1
- **FY11**: Continue to procure and field SKLs for Army, Air Force, Navy, and civilians
- **FY11**: Complete refresh of ACES hardware to current users
- **FY11**: SKL software upgrade version 7.0
FOREIGN MILITARY SALES
Australia, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom

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