

Joint Effects Targeting System (JETS) Target Location Designation System (TLDS)

INVESTMENT COMPONENT

Modernization

Recapitalization

Maintenance

MISSION

Provides the dismounted Forward Observer and Joint Terminal Attack Controller the ability to acquire, locate, mark, and designate for precision GPS-guided and laser-guided munitions, and provides connectivity to the Joint forces through fire and close air support digital planning/messaging devices.

DESCRIPTION

The Joint Effects Targeting System (JETS) is an Army-led, Joint interest program with the Air Force (USAF) and Marine Corps to develop and field a one-man portable targeting system for forward observers and Joint Terminal Attack Controllers (JTACS).

This future system will answer the need for a very lightweight, highly accurate targeting system that will allow target engagements with precision munitions (e.g., JDAM, Excalibur, and laser-guided weapons) and provide crucial digital connectivity to request and control indirect fires and close air support from all joint assets. The JETS' light weight will allow small units supported by

Army forward observers or JTACs to have access to precision targeting in all operational environments.

The JETS consists of two major subsystems: the Target Location Designation System (TLDS) and the Target Effects Coordination System (TECS).

The TLDS will provide the dismounted observer and JTAC with a common enhanced lightweight handheld capability to rapidly acquire, accurately locate, positively identify, and precisely designate targets. The TECS will interface with the TLDS and will provide a networked, automated communications capability to plan, coordinate, and deliver fire support, as well as provide terminal close air support guidance. Based on a strategy approved in FY11 by the Army Acquisition Executive and endorsed by the Joint Fire Support Executive Steering Committee (JFS ESC), the TECS requirement will be satisfied by continued development of existing service-specific forward entry systems, which will comply with a Joint common minimum messaging set.

SYSTEM INTERDEPENDENCIES

Other Major Interdependencies

U.S. Army Portable Forward Entry Device, U.S. Air Force Tactical Air Control Party-Close Air Support System, and U.S. Marine Corps StrikeLink

PROGRAM STATUS

- **FY11:** Technology Development Activities for JETS TLDS for Milestone B
- **FY11:** Approval of TECS development strategy

PROJECTED ACTIVITIES

- **FY13:** Milestone B Decision for JETS TLDS
- **FY16:** Initial operational capability for JETS TLDS

ACQUISITION PHASE

Technology Development

Engineering and Manufacturing Development

Production and Deployment

Operations and Support

Joint Effects Targeting System (JETS) Target Location Designation System (TLDS)

FOREIGN MILITARY SALES

None

CONTRACTORS

BAE Systems (Nashua, NH)
Northrop Grumman Guidance and
Electronics, Laser Systems (Apopka, FL)

