



Defense Security Cooperation Agency
NEWS RELEASE

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Media/Public Contact: (703) 601-3670

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Canada - Multifunctional Information Distribution System/Low Volume Terminals

On 26 May 2005, the Defense Security Cooperation Agency notified Congress of a possible Foreign Military Sale to Canada of 94 Link 16 Multifunctional Information Distribution System (MIDS)/Low Volume Terminals (LVT) as well as associated equipment and services. The total value, if all options are exercised, could be as high as \$34 million.

The Government of Canada has requested a possible sale of 94 Link 16 Multifunctional Information Distribution System (MIDS)/Low Volume Terminals (LVT), 1,000 MIDS batteries, 12 battery tool kits, testing, integration, spare and repair parts, support equipment, personnel training and training equipment, contractor engineering and technical support, and other related elements of program support publications and technical data, U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance and other related elements of logistics support. The estimated cost is \$34 million.

This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security objectives of the United States by improving the military capabilities of Canada and furthering weapon system standardization and interoperability with U.S. forces.

Canada will use these MIDS to rapidly and efficiently receive and transmit digital and verbal tactical command and control information to greatly increase interoperability with the U.S. The MIDS terminals will increase pilot operational effectiveness by at-a-glance portrayal of targets, threats, and friendly forces on an easy-to-understand relative position display. This proposed system will increase Canadian F-18 combat effectiveness while reducing the threat of friendly fire. The Canadians will operate in bilateral or multilateral coalition networks that use classified information approved for release to Canada. The system will increase benefits of joint training exercises and foster interoperability with the U.S Navy and other countries.

The proposed sale of this equipment and support will not affect the basic military balance in the region. Canada is capable of absorbing and maintaining these additional MIDS terminals in its inventory.

The prime contractor will be Data Link Solutions of Wayne, New Jersey. Although generally the purchaser requires offsets, at this time, there are no known offset agreements proposed in connection with this potential sale.

Implementation of this proposed sale will require the assignment of 20 U.S. Government and contractor representatives for one-week intervals annually to participate in training, program management and technical review.

There will be no adverse impact on U.S. defense readiness as a result of this proposed sale.

This notice of a potential sale is required by law; it does not mean that the sale has been concluded.