U.S.-Mexico Border Cooperation Under the Mérida Initiative

Non-Intrusive Inspection Equipment

The NIIE Program

Facts

Funding

Deliverables

U.S. Embassy Mexico
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Background

Under the Merida Initiative Mexico and the United States have joined as partners to fight transnational criminal organizations through a policy of co-responsibility, cooperation and mutual respect.

A critical component is the delivery of non-intrusive inspection equipment (NIIE) that allows Mexico's authorities to discreetly scan and inspect passenger vehicles, cargo containers and freight rail for firearms, explosives, drugs, bulk cash, contraband or people. NIIE equipment also modernizes and improves border security at land crossings, sea ports and airports by detecting and reducing the flow of illegal goods while facilitating legitimate trade and travel opportunities.

The IP6500 X-Ray Vehicle and Cargo Inspection System (VACIS) inspects vehicles and cargo in high-volume operations, even through heavy shielding

$ 49.7 Million in Deliveries and Growing (Pre-Merida funds are NOT included)

Merida-funded NIIE will contribute to a formidable web of 350 systems linked to a national database to control Mexico's borders and points of entry.

Mérida Initiative NIIE Funds

Delivered – Merida funds	$	49,777,507
Contracted – Merida funds	$	53,525,650
In Contracting Process & planned – Merida funds	$	21,196,843
Merida funds total	**$**	**124,500,000**
Pre-Merida funds	$	20,246,149
Total NIIE funds	**$**	**144,746,149**

Merida Initiative-Delivered NIIE Equipment

Mobile X-Ray Van

To detect contraband found in commercial buses, light trucks and private vehicles along Mexico's highways .

Railroad Gamma Vehicle and Cargo Inspection System (VACIS)

To detect weapons and drugs in cargo containers transiting ports of entry. It allows trained technicians to view the contents of rail cars while they remain in motion .

Ion Scanner/Vapor Tracer

To detect chemicals and harmful gases.

X-Ray Luggage Inspection

To screen large luggage, parcels and boxes at airports, post offices and other government and commercial facilities. It has been implemented in Mexico at airports and different points of inspection.

Z Backscatter Van ("ZBV")

Inspects light commercial and private vehicles for weapons, drugs, explosives, chemicals and illicit money in a matter of seconds either while in motion or in stationary mode.

X-Ray Pallet

To screen pallet-size cargo containers at airports and seaports.

All-Terrain Vehicle and Cargo Inspection System (VACIS)

Thanks to its reliable gamma-ray imaging technology mounted on a rugged four-wheel-drive commercial pickup truck chassis, the all-terrain brings non-intrusive inspection capability wherever it is needed.

CT-30 Kit

To detect contraband hidden inside other objects.

At Least $60 million in NIIE Equipment To Be Delivered in 2011

Contracts are in place for **$53.5 million.** In addition to $7,755.00 funded with Pre-Merida funds.

M6500 X-Ray Vehicle and Cargo Inspection System (VACIS)

To search vehicles and cargo for concealed weapons, nuclear material and other contraband in a variety of locations.

Portal FullScan Vehicle and Cargo Inspection System (VACIS) – Cobalt 60 & Cesium 137

To scan vehicles and cargo for threats, contraband and other suspicious items at checkpoints and secure facilities with minimal impact on the flow of traffic.

An Additional $14.7 million In Contracts Will Further Deepen Capabilities To Detect Illegal Contraband

Rapiscan 536 SV

A completely self-contained mobile X-Ray screening facility to detect contraband, drugs and illicit goods in remote and hard to reach locations.

DELIVERED EQUIPMENT – MERIDA INITIATIVE				
Equipment	**Quantity**	**Agency**	**Delivery date**	**Total amount**
Ion scanners	30	SEDENA	September, 2009	$ 1,100,000
X- Ray minivans	10	SSP	December, 2009	$ 1,200,000
Railroad VACIS	2	SAT	Sept. - Nov, 2010	$ 3,500,000
X-Ray ZBVs	11	(3) SAT	October, 2010	$ 3,000,000
		(8) SAT	February, 2011	$ 8,000,000
X-Ray ZBVs	7	SSP	December, 2010	$ 7,000,000
X-Ray ZBVs	5	SSP	August, 2009	$ 1,000,000
X-Ray ZBVs *	10	SAT	January, 2009	$ 9,309,008
CT- 30 Detection Kits *	68	SAT	December, 2008	$ 1,106,845
Vapor Tracer *	15	SAT	August, 2008	$ 401,445
X- Ray units for luggage inspection *	35	SAT	January, 2009	$ 350,000
Van for luggage inspection *	1	SAT	April , 2008	$ 150,950
X-Ray ZBVs *	5	SSP	August, 2009	$ 3,700,000
X-Ray Pallet *	1	SAT	February, 2011	$ 75,000
CT- 30 Detection Kits	100	SAT	May, 2011	$ 1,600,000
X-Ray ZBVs	2	SAT	May, 2011	$ 2,200,000
X-Ray ZBVs *	3	SEMAR	May, 2011	$ 3,300,000
All-Terrain VACIS	12	SSP	June, 2011	$ 15,600,000
Safety equipment *	68	SEMAR	June, 2011	$ 513,484
Software Smiths Detection	6	SEDENA	June, 2011	$ 30,186
CT- 30 Detection Kits	20	SSP	July, 2011	$ 338,700
CT- 30 Detection Kits	32	SEDENA	July, 2011	$ 525,000
CT- 30 Detection Kits	3	SEDENA	July, 2011	$ 57,258
CT- 30 Detection Kits *	10	SEMAR	July, 2011	$ 181,662
X-Ray ZBVs	4	SSP	July, 2011	$ 4,400,000
Surveillance cameras	12	SEDENA	August, 2011	$ 100,363
Tunnel equipment and safety elements	1	SSP	August, 2011	$ 126,000
* Pre-Merida funds			**TOTAL**	**$ 68,865,901**

ORDERED/CONTRACTED EQUIPMENT - MERIDA INITIATIVE				
Equipment	**Qty**	**Agency**	**Estimated delivery date**	**Total amount**
Ion chamber survey meter	70	SSP/SAT/ SEDENA	September 2011	$182,650
Ion chamber survey meter *	3	SEMAR	September 2011	$7,755
All-Terrain VACIS	10	SEDENA	September 2011	$13,000,000
X-Ray ZBVs	6	SSP	September 2011	$6,600,000
M6500 X-Ray VACIS	5	SAT	December 2011	$15,000,000
M6500 X-Ray VACIS	2	SSP	December 2011	$6,000,000
IP6500 X-Ray VACIS	2	SAT	December 2011	$6,800,000
Portal FullScan VACIS-Cob 60 & Ces-137	4	SAT	December 2011	$5,943,000
***Pre-Merida funds**			**TOTAL**	**$53,533,405**

EQUIPMENT IN CONTRACTING PROCESS- MERIDA INITIATIVE				
Equipment	**Qty**	**Agency**	**Estimated delivery date**	**Total amount**
Surveillance equipment	1	SEDENA	Dec-11	$144,302
Rapiscan 536SV-X-Ray minivan	5	SAT	Jan-12	$800,000
Interase with SSP Bunker to remote NIIE operations	1	SSP	Jan-13	$11,117,039
Tactical Package*	1	SSP	Jan-13	$1,000,000
Tactical Packages*	3	SEMAR	Jan-13	$1,150,000
Civil works and installation of NIIE portals	6	SAT	Jan-12	$485,051
***Complemented with Pre-Merida funds TOTAL**				**$14,706,392**

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Several additional efforts—making this program not only more comprehensive and robust but also expediting deliveries—have been accomplished during July 2011:

Joint NIIE trainings and shared facilities and equipment held by Mexican law enforcement institutions:

- Officers from SEDENA (41), SEMAR, (17), SSP (20) and SAT (5) were jointly trained on the CT-30s at SEDENA's facilities.
- 17 officers from SEMAR were trained by SSP officers on performing tactical surprise operations using mobile NIIE.
- 72 SSP officers have been trained on the use and operation of the ten All-Terrain VACIS donated to this agency. Training has been held at SSP facilities in Mexico City and San Luis Potosi.
- 30 officers from SEMAR and SSP were jointly trained on the use and operation of ZBVs at SEMAR's facilities. Additionally, 18 SSP officers attended the same course at the Federal Police Operation Center .

A new procedure to import equipment was successfully established, whereby, twelve All-Terrain VACIS were directly imported from the factory in San Diego and delivered to the SSP with their radiation sources installed.

Through this new procedure, it is estimated that this equipment will be in operational readiness three months sooner than expected (when compared to the previous procedure of importing such vehicles.)

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