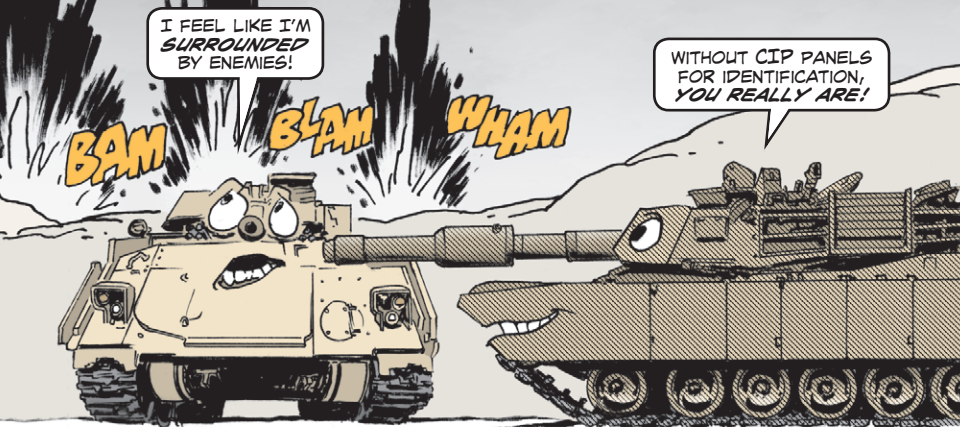


Friend or Foe? CIPs Can Tell

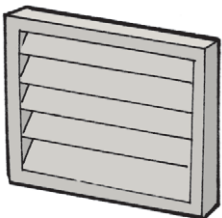


Combat is dangerous enough without having to worry about being shot at by someone on your own side. That's why your vehicle needs combat identification panels (CIPs).

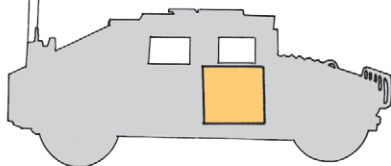
What are CIPs?

CIPs are the ground-to-ground component of the Joint Combat Identification Marking System (JCIMS) and are composed of 24x30-in panels covered with a special thermal tape. When mounted on the front, back and sides of a vehicle, the panels are seen as a unique contrasting "cold spot" when viewed through a thermal-imaging device.

CIPs measure 24 x 30 inches



Panels will appear as "cold spot" through thermal viewer



Gunners that are trained to recognize these unique signatures can tell if the vehicle in their sights is friendly or unknown.

The panels mount to the vehicle using bolts, hook-and-pile tape, or mounting frames. The back side is painted with CARC, so you can turn the system on or off by simply turning the panels around.

How Do You Get CIPs?

CIPs ARE BEING FIELDed AS FREE-ISSUE ITEMS TO UNITS DEPLOYING IN SUPPORT OF OIF/OEF.

IF YOU'RE DEPLOYING AND HAVEN'T RECEIVED THE PANELS, CALL THE OFFICE OF THE PRODUCT MANAGER FOR TARGET IDENTIFICATION AND METEOROLOGICAL SENSORS (PM TIMS) AT DSN 987-5324 OR (732) 427-5324.

JCIMS ARE CLASS II ACCOUNTABLE ITEMS, SO THEY MUST BE ADDED TO UNIT PROPERTY BOOKS AND INDIVIDUAL HAND RECEIPTS.

THE PANELS COME IN KITS THAT INCLUDE FROM THREE TO FIVE PANELS, DEPENDING ON THE VEHICLE. THE KITS ARE AVAILABLE ONLY IN BROWN AND INCLUDE ALL MOUNTING HARDWARE.

AFTER INITIAL FREE DISTRIBUTION, UNITS MUST ORDER REPLACEMENTS THROUGH NORMAL SUPPLY CHANNELS.

HERE ARE THE NSNs FOR THE KITS...

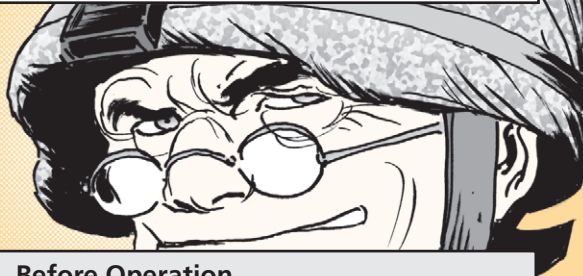


Vehicle	CIPs NSN
M1A1/A2 tank	2350-01-394-2534
M48A5/M60A1 AVLB	2350-01-392-1566
M88A1 recovery vehicle	2350-01-394-2531
M2/M3-series Bradleys	2350-01-398-5170
M113A2/A3 FOV	2350-01-398-5168
M993 MLRS	2350-01-398-5171
M992A2 ammo carrier	2350-01-398-5178
M109A2-A6 SP howitzer	2350-01-398-5180
M578 recovery vehicle	2350-01-421-7060
SEE	2320-01-398-5163
M9 ACE	2320-01-399-6774
D5B tractor	2320-01-400-1809
M93 Fox NBC vehicle	2350-01-398-5173
M1025, M1026, M1043, M1044 HMMWV	2320-01-398-7195
M966, M1036, M1045, M1046 HMMWV	2320-01-398-7190
M996, M997, M1037, M1042, M1097 HMMWV	2320-01-398-7188
M998, M1035, M1038, M1097, M1109 HMMWV	2320-01-398-7194
M1114 HMMWV	2320-01-472-5884
Avenger	2320-01-398-7197
M977, M983, M984, M985, M1977 HEMTT; M1074, M1075 PLS	2320-01-484-7833
M978 HEMTT tanker	2320-01-484-7838
FMTV/LMTV	2320-01-483-9056
M1126, M1127, M1130, M1131, M1132, M1134 Stryker	2320-01-501-9527
M1128 Stryker	2320-01-501-9533
M1129 Stryker	2320-01-501-9531
M1133 Stryker	2320-01-507-2544
M1135 Stryker	2320-01-501-9546

During fielding, units will also receive a compact disk set, *Combat Identification Panels Kit Installation*. This two-CD set provides detailed video on how to install, use, maintain and clean the CIPs. It also includes thermal images of specific vehicles and printable versions of the combat vehicle mounting instructions.



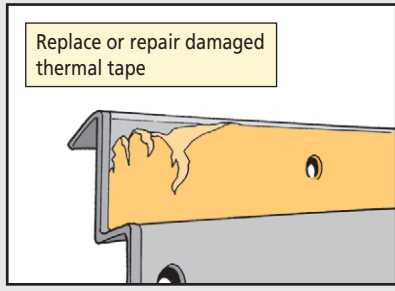
ONCE THE CIPs ARE INSTALLED, OPERATORS NEED TO KEEP THEM IN GOOD SHAPE WITH PMCS.



Before Operation

- Eyeball the CIPs to make sure they're securely attached to the vehicle. If you see bends in the CIP brackets, try to straighten them. Report panels that are missing or can't be repaired.
- Check the painted surface of the panels for damage. Spot paint with CARC if needed, but never paint over the thermal tape.
- Inspect the panel for loose, missing or peeling thermal tape. Loose tape should be repaired using adhesive, NSN 8040-00-938-6860. Replace damaged or missing tape with NSN 8135-01-518-2504. That NSN brings a 150-ft roll of brown self-adhering thermal tape.
- Keep the panels clear of dirt, dust, mud and sand. Use a soft, clean cloth to wipe off the panels. If the tape's dirty, you won't project a good image—in more ways than one.
- If the panels are mounted using hook-and-pile tape, make sure the tape is securely attached to the vehicle. The tape should also be clean and free of debris.

Replace or repair damaged thermal tape



During Operation

When operational conditions allow, make the following checks:

- Report any missing or damaged CIPs.
- Glue down any loose tape.
- Replace any missing thermal tape.
- Wipe the panels with a soft, clean cloth. The panels will need cleaning more often in dusty environments to ensure a strong thermal signature.

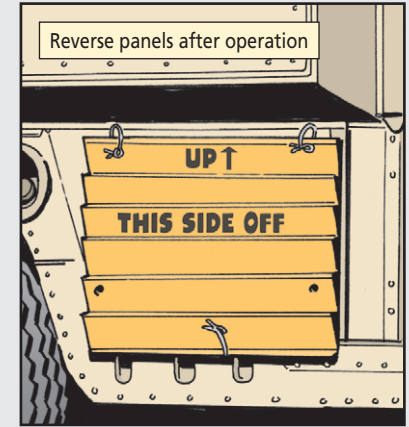
Keep panels clean during operation



After Operation

- Report any missing or damaged CIPs.
- Repair minor damage to the brackets, panels or panel inserts.
- Glue down any loose thermal tape.
- Replace any missing or damaged thermal tape or hook-and-pile tape.
- Remove the panels before washing your vehicle. High-pressure water can peel off the thermal tape or knock off and damage the panels.
- Wash both sides of the CIPs with low-pressure water. Then dry them with a soft, clean cloth.
- Reverse the panels so the CARC side faces out.

Reverse panels after operation



More Info

More information on CIP replacement and replenishment for panel kits, components, and tape is available through the CIP item manager at TACOM. Call DSN 786-6989 or (586) 574-6989.

OR SEND AN E-MAIL TO...

roy.meister@
us.army.mil

