Reusable Aeiral Delivery Equipment

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Current Status

Current Status Air Force Bases have been using Reusable REAL® & RUSB® since Q4 2024

Current Status (continued -6)

Number of Reusable Products in use by the Air Force

Current Status

Reusable Equipment Purchased (Q4-2024 to Q3-2026

Entire CDS line is Reusable Equipment.

Base	Base Description	CDS	Skid Board RUSB	REAL Modules	Type of Modules			Belt
					06M12	04M06	23M126	
1	Little Rock, AR	8	8	128	72	8	48	8
2	Hurlburt Field, FL	10	10	160	90	10	60	10
3	AFB Ramstein-Mie, Germany	10	10	160	90	10	60	10
4	109th Airlift Squadron, MN	6	6	96	54	6	36	6
5	109th AW Base, Scotia, NY	4	4	0	0	0	0	0
6	374 Logistics Readiness Squadron, Yokota, Japan	3	3	48	27	3	18	3
7	773 Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK	10	10	160	90	10	60	10
8	97th Logistics Readiness Sq, Altus AFB, OK	8	8	128	72	8	48	8
9	193rd Special Ops Squadron, Middletown, PA	12	12	192	108	12	72	12
10	27th SOLRS / LGRDAS, Cannon AFB, NM	1	1	16	9	1	6	1
11	347 OSS/OSK ADSB, Moody AFB, GA	15	15	240	135	15	90	15
12	109th Airlift Squadron, MN	4	4	64	36	4	24	4
13	374 Logistics Readiness Squadron, Yokota, Japan (7 CDS)	7	7	112	63	7	42	7
14	374 Logistics Readiness Squadron, Yokota, Japan (7 LCLA)	7	7	56	42	0	14	7
15	76 APS/Aerial Delivery, 910 AFRB Youngstown, OH	1	1	112	9	1	6	1
16	F1S1AA 412 OSS OSCX, EDWARDS AFB, CA	5	5	80	45	5	30	5
Total		111	111	1752	942	100	614	107

Current Status (continued -6)

Total Number of Airdrops by Current End-users at Air Force Bases

First three Air Force bases in 2024



Ramstein AFB- Germany



Hurlburt AFB – Florida, USA



Little Rock AFB - Arkansas, USA

Current Status

Total Number of Airdrops (Oct 24 – Oct 26)

No	Air Force Base	Total	CDS/LCLA	Total Airdrops	Drop per CDS
1	Little Rock, AR (Oct 2024 - June 2025)	8	8	62	8
2	Hurlburt Field, FL (Oct 2024 - Oct 2026)	10	10	457	46
3	AFB Ramstein-Mie, Germany (Oct 2024 - Oct 2026)	10	10	88	9
4	109th Airlift Squadron, MN (Nov 2024, Sep 2025, Sept 2026 - Oct 2026)	12	6 2 4	90 35 0	15 18 0
5	109th AW Base, Scotia, NY (black top DZ) (Nov 2024 - Oct 2026)	4	1 1 1 1	30 39 24 30	30 39 30
6A	374 Logistics Readiness Squadron, Yokota, Japan (Jan 2024 - Oct 2026)	10	3 7	188 0	63 0
6B	374 Logistics Readiness Squadron, Yokota, Japan (Dec 2026, LCLA)	7	7	0	0
7	773 Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK (Oct 2026)	10	10	698	70
8	97th Logistics Readiness Sq, Altus AFB, OK (Oct 2026)	8	8	80	10
9	193rd Special Ops Squadron, Middletown, PA (Oct 2026)	12	12	93	8
10	27th SOLRS / LGRDAS, Cannon AFB, NM (Oct 2025)	1	1	2	2
11	347 OSS/OSK ADSB, Moody AFB, GA (Oct 2026)	15	15	143	10
12	76 APS/Aerial Delivery, 910 AFRB Youngstown, OH (Sept-Oct 2026)	1	1	0	0
13	F1S1AA 412 OSS OSCX, EDWARDS AFB, CA (Nov 2026)	5	5	0	0
Total CDSs, Drops, and Drops/CDS		113	113	2059	

Exceeded 35 Airdrops

Entire CDS line is Reusable Equipment

Rusable CDSs have been airdropped over 2059 times.

Summary - Why Using REAL® & RUSB® (Reusables)?

- **Financially: Save cost of ownership**
- **RUSB® and REAL® have been successfully airdropped by Air Force Bases more than 2059 times.**
- **At 6 AFBs the Entire CDS lines are Reusable Equipment**
  Moody AFB (GA), Middletown (PA), Scotia, NY, 109th Minneapolis (MN), Yokota AFB (Japan), Hurlburt Field (FL)
- **We had 5 reported incomplete parachute opening - No damage to RUSB® or payload on CDS platform.**
- **Sustainability: REAL® & RUSB® are sustainable.**
- **Readiness: Improving Arm Forces readiness.**
- **Weatherproof: Resistance to moisture/rain/temperature.**

Summary - Why Using REAL® & RUSB® (Reusables)?

- **Four AFB exceeded 35 Airdrops.**
  - **Hurlburt field AFB, FL (46)**
  - **109th AW Base, Scotia, NY (39)**
  - **374 Logistics Readiness Squadron, Yokota AFB (63)**
  - **773 Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK (70)**

Note: First version of REAL® (called REAP) has been dropped over 500 times and still being dropped.

Summary - Why Using REAL & RUSB (Reusables)?

- **No of CDS drops exceeded 35 at three AFBs.**
  - **Hurlburt field AFB, FL (39)**
  - **374 Logistics Readiness Squadron, Yokota AFB (44)**
  - **773 Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK (58)**

Cost Saving for Aerial Delivery

Savings: $238 per CDS airdrop

Payback is less than 50 airdrops (often less than 1 year)

Airdrops with Parachute Not properly opened
REAL/RUSB CDS Airdrops

* Airdrop at AFB Ramstein-Mie, Germany – October 2024

Mass of 4 CDS airdrops was captured.
REAL/RUSB CDS were not damage.
No Damage to Barrels.

* Airdrop at AFB Ramstein-Mie, Germany – June 2025

2 CDS bundles get caught up with each other & totally snagged for the first half of the drop.
Resulted in parachute damage.
RUSB bundle was fine (no damage).

No Damage to RUSB or Barrel when Parachute did not open



Airdrop at AFB Ramstein-Mie, Germany October 2024
No damage to RUSB or barrels even when parachute did not open





Airdrops with Parachute Not properly opened
REAL/RUSB CDS Airdrops

*** 773 Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska AFB (May 2025)**

First Mass of 4 was dropped with all parachute properly opened.
Second Mass of 4 had 2 incomplete parachute openings.
RUSB bundle was fine (no damage), see following images.

*** 97th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Altus AFB, OK, USA**

First Mass of 4 was dropped with all parachute properly opened.
Second Mass of 4 had 2 incomplete parachute openings.
RUSB bundle was fine (no damage), see following images.

*** 193 Special Operations Squadron, Palatine, PA, USA**

First Mass of 4 was dropped with all parachute properly opened.
Second Mass of 3 had 1 incomplete parachute openings.
RUSB bundle was fine (no damage), see following images.

No Damage to RUSB or Barrel when Parachute did not open

2nd Mass of 4 with incomplete parachute openings, AK







No Damage to RUSB or Barrel when Parachute did not open

Conditions on ground, Altus AFB, OK, July 17, 2025:







Parachute not open properly, it was torn.

No Damage to RUSB or Barrel when Parachute did not open

193 Special Operations Squadron, Palatine, PA, USA

Second airdrop: mass of 3 CDSs













CDS are in very good conditions after impacting the ground in PA DZ.

Summary of Pull and Bent Tests

Improvements:

29% - 194%

Current Status (continued - 5)

Quotes have been sent:

1) 920th LRS, Aerial Delivery, Patrick SFB, FL, USA
2) 68th Rescue Squadron-AFB, AZ, USA
3) 106th ATF LRS/LGR, Westhampton Beach, NY, USA
4) 165th Airlift Wing, Savannah ANGB, GA, USA
5) 166th LRS/ATF DEX, New Castle, DE, USA
6) Joint Base Charleston, SC, USA
7) 41st Aerial Port Sq, Keesler AFB, MS, USA
8) 76 APS/Aerial Delivery, 910th AFRB, Youngstown, OH, USA
9) 647th Logistics Readiness Sq., Joint Base Pearl Har, HI, USA
10) Edwards Air Force Base, CA, USA
11) Kadena AFB, Okinawa, Japan
12) Yokota AFB, Tokyo, Japan
13) Training Center for Paratroopers, SOR, Belgium AFB (NATO)

NATO

Current Status (continued - 5)

Interested Parties at Army:

1) **Chief Joshua D Gaither - WO1 USARMY 11 ABN DIV 2 BCT, Army Base in Alaska**

2) **Joshua Hollar, USASOC Parachute Rigger, Fort Bragg, NC**

3) **Jonathan C Dawson, SOCOM, Special Ops, Army**

4) **2LT Judson Harmon, Army Base in Ramstain, Germany**
Joshua Martinez, Army Base in Ramstain, Germany
Elijah Melendez-Eyster, Army Base in Ramstain, Germany
CW5 Anthony J Haiduk, Army Base (21 TSC) in Ramstain, Germany

Summary of Customers and Interested Bases

- **Air Force End Users / Customers in USA & Overseas**
- **12 Air Force End Users have requested quotes**
- **4 Army bases have expressed strong interest**
- **By the end of 2026, it is projected REAL and RUSB will be used in 10 additional AF bases**

Feedback

Feedback from Air Force Bases

Feedback

✓ Little Rock, Arkansas, USA

"Looks like we are at 14 drops with REAL/RUSB, it looks great still."
"21 drops total, some minor scratches on the skid board, but everything is holding up very well."
"23 and ready to go out again, no damage… all still looks good."
September 27, 2024

✓ Hurlburt Field, Florida, USA

"We are at 12 drops and no further issues. We love it and I'm working the $ to hopefully get the rest of ours converted."
September 12, 2024

Feedback

✓ Hurlburt Field, Florida, USA

"All drops successful, no issues with materials ASIDE from 1 reusable skid board. On its estimated 40th drop (I was in Aerial Delivery here when reusables were first implemented here and was gone a while and only recently returned so I don't have exact numbers others may have been tracking, this is an estimate I made from our tracker), the corner of the skid board presented an approximately 5 inch crack all the way through. It was a normal successful drop, no air starvation in the chute, failure to open, etc., so we believe it is due just to repeated heavy use and/or a particularly awkward landing. In previous correspondence you were made aware of slight warping due to how tight our skid board ties must be, this is a possible contributing factor. We have had no CDS malfunctions and no reported issues/unsuccessful drops."

Feedback

✓ AFB Ramstein-Mie, Germany

During mass airdrop (4 CDS), the Parachute of the last CDS did not open, and still worked. This was a real-world test.

April 29, 2025

✓ 109th Airlift Squadron, Minneapolis, MN, USA

"Fantastic product, satisfied after 3/4 of a year of use. No deterioration in products besides normal wear/tear.
Only notes: Loading by ATF post drop has to be done more carefully than with disposable items. The forklift tines are more likely to do damage than anything else. And that reusable honeycomb should be tied together to prevent slippage."

April 29, 2025

Feedback

✓ 109th Airlift Squadron, Minneapolis, MN, USA

Question: How has your airdrops been? How is performance? How many drops?

Answer: "They have been great! I'll have to get the numbers when I get back to work next week but no problems so far!"

June 19, 2025

Question: Do you have an update as of June 24?

Answer: "We have dropped every bundle about 10 times (range 8, 9, 9, 10, 11) with no incident. One chute opened very late, bundle hit hard, no damage."

June 24, 2025

Feedback

✓ 109th Airlift Squadron, Minneapolis, MN, USA

"During the beginning of CY26Q1 (January) when it was cold we had no performance issues. We don't have any failed chutes but no damage from normal high velocity drops. Our greatest risk remains careful handling during drop zone forklift recovery operations as careless tine application can cut the REAL and retaining band. We plan to order up to 4 more sets this fall."

May 19, 2026

Feedback

✓ Kadena AFB, Japan

"We took the REAL out for exercise Balikatan and it has been a big help not worrying about brining a bunch of honeycomb and taking up space. Also, not having to worry about breaking down the CDS to keep replacing it and saving a lot of time."

April 30, 2025

Feedback

✓ 374 Logistics Readiness Squadron, Yokota AFB, Japan

"Build 3 CDS with RUSB/REAL cost saving $116k a year, no need to replace cardboard honeycomb or wooden skid board over 100 drops."

March 24, 2025

"The new procedures of securing the REAL to the RUSB has work better and easier to reinspect once we reattach a parachute. Before the REAL would move a lot more and when the CDS landed on their side, the REAL would start to fall out without the weight of the cans on it's."

April 29, 2025

"Performing vert well, no issues."

June 9, 2025

Feedback

✓ 374 Logistics Readiness Squadron, Yokota AFB, Japan

"By reducing Costs, conserving resources and streamlining manpower, the new platform allows the unit to allocate support to other mission-critical operations. As the Department of Defense Logistics hub for the Indo-Pacific region, this collaboration between 36 AS and 374 LRS highlights a commitment to excellence to the installation mission, sustaining and maneuvering forces at the speed of need."

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May 15, 2025

Feedback

✓ 374 Logistics Readiness Sq, Yokota AFB, Japan

“Dropped 5 times, No issues.”

May 13, 2026

USAF Times Article on REAL & RUSB







NEWS

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

36 AS, 374 LRS innovates airdrop process

Published May 15, 2025

By Airman Kayla Karelas

374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan -- The 36th Airlift Squadron and 374th Logistics Readiness Squadron implemented a new, reusable system that increases efficiency and cuts overall cost for building container delivery system bundles at Yokota Air Base, Japan, April 10.

The 36 AS routinely conducts airdrop training with CDS bundles crafted by the 374 LRS to maintain readiness and the ability to swiftly deliver supplies across the Indo-Pacific region.

"CDS bundles are one of the most versatile tools in our air supply kit," said Master Sgt. Keith Dengel, 36 AS instructor loadmaster. "CDS drops can deliver a lot of material and equipment in a short period of time to keep the troops on the ground as effective as possible."

Previously, the 374 LRS crafted bundles using plywood and cardboard honeycomb as disposable platforms for airdrops. The new system replaces the disposable platforms with a reusable energy-absorbing layer and reusable, universal skid board - saving approximately $116,000 per year.

"With the previous process, we have to recut the cardboard and rebuild from the ground up," said Tech. Sgt. Abel Moreno, 374 LRS combat mobility flight section chief. "The new system helps alleviate a lot of manpower and resource waste."

Additionally, bundles prepared with the new system were built in an average time of 20 minutes, saving Airmen over an hour of time per bundle the previous process.

Yokota is currently one of six aircrew training bases in the Air Force to use this system.

"We are ready for anything because we practice these skills on a daily basis," said Dengel. "Nothing happens without the time, effort and support of Team Yokota."

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Yokota AFB Conducted their own savings calculations in May 2025

USAF Times Article on REAL & RUSB

✓ 374 Logistics Readiness Squadron, Yokota AFB, Japan

May 15 2025

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✓ Weekly CDS Airdrops: 10, 49 weeks/year

- **Average Savings per Airdrop: $237**
- **Our projected Savings per Airdrop: $238**

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Feedback

Ten (10) CDS airdrops at Alaska AFB (JBER):

Slide easier on shop and aircraft rollers

Save lots of money & labor

They came out of plane very well and easy

The process of rebuilding is faster

May 20, 2025

So far all is good on the performance end.

June 11, 2025

Feedback

Ten (10) CDS airdrops at Alaska AFB (JBER):

"No performance issues to report.

Things still have been slow due to real-world taskings."

May 14, 2026

Feedback

✓ 97th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Altus AFB, OK

"We have used the product once so far with excellent results."

"The product was very easy to reconstitute and simple to train other personnel on."

"I believe other bases would also benefit from this product."

"A top board would be a valuable addition to our setup."

July 29, 2025

Feedback

✓ 347 Operations Support Sq, Moody AFB, GA

"They have been performing fine with 0 new busted barrels since we switched to the thinner baseboard. No trends of any air starvation/incomplete parachute opening…"

May 14, 2026

Feedback

✓ 97th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Altus AFB, OK

"....each one has dropped 32 times since you were here. So far, no problems. We are fast approaching the 35 drops per bundle. Hoping the extreme cold weather coming this winter will not affect the bottom boards."

Sept 2, 2025

Feedback

✓ 97th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Altus AFB, OK

"They have been performing as they were designed, we did have one come back that was warped after a hard landing, but we let it rest for a couple days, and it straightened out and became usable again."

May 15, 2026