



Rapid Aerostat Initial Deployment System

Iraq and Afghanistan



The Rapid Aerostat Initial Deployment (RAID) systems consist of infrared sensors carried via an aerostat or stationary platform capable of detecting hostile troop and/or equipment movement at great distances. The systems were developed by Raytheon to meet the Army's developing critical needs in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, enabling US forces to respond rapidly to threatening situations. Raytheon was awarded an Army contract to provide 41 RAID systems for use in Iraq and Afghanistan. The RAID system towers were specified to be galvanized because of military specification requirements.

The trailer, fender, outrigger, and tower components were all galvanized for corrosion protection. The durable galvanized coating can withstand the rigors of international transport and handling of the systems, as well as the intense environment where they are installed. The equipment will be subjected to chemical warfare, military combat, and extreme temperature variances. The use of galvanizing ensures the RAID systems will continue to protect American and Coalition forces and save lives throughout the term of these military operations and beyond.

Specifier/Engineer
US Tower Corporation

