

## Advanced National Seismic System

### Equipment Policy and Procedures

This document establishes the policy and procedures of the U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) Earthquake Hazards Program (EHP) regarding Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) supplied through the Advanced National Seismic System (ANSS) and Recipient Furnished Equipment (RFE) supplied by any recipient in support of ANSS operations. This policy aims to ensure a high level of standardization of the digitizers and sensors that are used within ANSS.

The Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act (P.L. 95-124 as amended) gives the USGS the Federal responsibility for providing notifications of earthquakes and its reauthorization in 2000 established the ANSS to modernize and expand the Nation's seismic monitoring infrastructure to provide accurate and timely data and information products for seismic events, including their effects on buildings and structures, employing modern monitoring methods and technologies.

The ANSS has established an instrument depot (ANSS Depot) at the EHP's Albuquerque Seismological Laboratory (ASL). The goals of the ANSS Depot are to 1) reduce the number of spares by centralizing equipment replacement and repairs in a USGS-managed facility, 2) improve the ability to see trends in equipment failure and provide timely response, and 3) allow for ASL-repair and testing of GFE and RFE consistent with ANSS standards, as possible.

The principal elements of the ANSS equipment policy are:

1. The request for and allocation of GFE shall be accomplished through the process established in each network's Cooperative Agreement with USGS or through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with USGS.
2. USGS will consider GFE needs for ANSS participating networks that are not under a USGS Cooperative Agreement on a case-by-case basis.
3. GFE title remains vested in the U.S. Government while in the custody of the ANSS participating network.
4. RFE title remains vested in the recipient until excessed by the recipient and accepted by the ANSS Depot; RFE accepted by the ANSS Depot becomes GFE.
5. If equipment fails or becomes obsolete the EHP will provide replacement equipment, subject to the availability of funds and the prioritization of ANSS needs.
6. If RFE is excess to recipient purposes or becomes obsolete or fails, recipients may request acceptance of the equipment by the ANSS Depot for repurposing as spare components within the ANSS, subject to USGS approval.

The principal procedures for control and replacement of equipment are:

1. The USGS and each ANSS participating network shall prepare and verify an annual inventory of federally owned property (GFE) in custody of the network institution. This property inventory is to include a listing of equipment serial numbers and deployment sites, when available.

2. When equipment furnished by the USGS (GFE) to a participating network fails or otherwise becomes inoperable or obsolete, the custody network shall contact the ANSS Depot and request replacement units using the Webform: <https://sslearnquake.usgs.gov/monitoring/anss/internal/depot/index.php>.
3. The ANSS Depot will provide the best replacement possible for the failed or obsolete equipment.
4. Once the ANSS Depot has sent replacements for failed or obsolete equipment, the participating network shall return the replaced equipment to the Depot with a completed equipment form within one week of replacement:

ANSS Depot  
USGS Albuquerque Seismological Laboratory  
Target Road 10002 Isleta SE  
Kirtland AFB, NM 87117 USA

[anssdepot@usgs.gov](mailto:anssdepot@usgs.gov)

The custody network shall pay for shipping to the Depot; the Depot shall pay for shipping to the network. Shipments need not be insured.

5. Replacement of failed or obsolete RFE for use in the ANSS must be requested through a short proposal to the ANSS Depot describing the equipment, the importance of the station to the ANSS, and the proposed replacement. Requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis; approval or disapproval is at the sole discretion of the USGS.
6. Prior to the recipient shipping RFE to the ANSS Depot, written approval must be obtained from the ANSS Depot.