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# DOT Weekly

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## LAND AND SEA

L3Harris Technologies successfully launches five missile tracking satellites from a Florida-based space force station. The satellites are part of the Missile Defense Agency's hypersonic and ballistic tracking space sensor program (HBTSS) and the Space Development Agency's tracking layer program. The HBTSS satellite is an on-orbit prototype designed to track manoeuvring hypersonic missiles beyond the capabilities of current ballistic missile detection systems.

**Source:** [L3Harris](#)

The U.S. Marine Corps prepares to test a prototype autonomous vessel that can discreetly supply ground forces with missiles. Known as the "autonomous low-profile vessel," the prototype is designed to transport two naval strike missiles for the "navy/marine corps expeditionary ship interdiction system."

**Source:** [Inside Defense](#)

## CYBER, SYSTEMS, AND SOFTWARE

Google introduces an artificial intelligence (AI) cyber defense initiative to use artificial intelligence in strengthening global cybersecurity. The initiative focuses on using AI to improve threat detection, automate vulnerability management, and enhance the efficiency of incident response against evolving cyber threats.

**Source:** [Google](#)

## SPACE AND AEROSPACE

Lockheed Martin's Pony Express-2 mission, aimed at demonstrating how space enhances "combined joint all-domain command and control," is set for launch. Pony Express-2 mission is a self-funded technology demo employing two small satellites.

**Source:** [Lockheed Martin](#)

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## SPACE AND AEROSPACE

Collins Aerospace supplied the U.S. Air Force with vehicle-mounted air traffic control systems. The systems, known as "air traffic navigation, integration, and coordination systems, offer full air traffic control capabilities and can be easily transported to operate in challenging environments.

**Source:** [RTX](#)

Raytheon Technologies gears up to showcase its latest commercial and defense technologies at the upcoming Singapore airshow scheduled from February 19 to 24, 2024. The company aims to underscore its dedication to meeting the demands of an expanding military and commercial aviation clientele in the region.

**Source:** [RTX](#)

The INDUS-X Summit, a significant milestone in India-U.S. defense collaboration, will take place on February 20–21, 2024, in New Delhi. The two-day summit will foster innovation, collaboration, and knowledge exchange, including workshops, panel discussions, and forums with senior leaders in the defense sector.

**Source:** [Press Information Bureau](#)

## BUSINESS UPDATES

BAE System successfully wins the government approval to acquire Ball Aerospace. The transaction, valued at \$5.5 billion, has been completed through a combination of existing cash reserves and new external debt.

**Source:** [BAE System](#)

ScioTeq, a Belgium-based provider of defense and avionics solutions, announces the establishment of ScioTeq pvt ltd in Bangalore, India. The wholly owned subsidiary will enhance global presence through procurement, sales, and services, while also collaborating with local partners to support trade sales and manufacturing for the Defense market.

**Source:** [Scio Teq](#)

Motorola Solutions acquires Silent Sentinel, a United Kingdom-based company known for its specialized long-range cameras. Silent Sentinel's rugged thermal cameras, designed for challenging conditions, provide clear visibility in military, aviation, maritime, and critical infrastructure environments.

**Source:** [Motorola Solutions](#)

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## BUSINESS UPDATES

Mobix Labs, a semiconductor company, secures a significant design win from RaGE Systems. The partnership will drive advancements in multi-octave wideband antenna technology for applications namely mmWave 5G communications, imaging sensor applications, and radar sensors.

**Source:** [Mobix Labs](#)

Lockheed Martin and Red 6 successfully collaborate on a ground-breaking initiative to integrate Red 6's augmented reality training technology into a TF-50 simulator.

**Source:** [Lockheed Martin](#)

Pratt & Whitney, a business under RTX, finishes a critical evaluation of its "next-generation adaptive propulsion" with the U.S. air force, advancing the program towards its detailed design review.

**Source:** [Pratt & Whitney](#)

Pratt & Whitney inaugurated its India digital capability center in Bengaluru. The center aims to speed up innovation, leading digital transformation for Pratt & Whitney globally. It will work closely with supply chain operations, fostering collaboration with other RTX entities in India like Collins Aerospace and RTX Enterprise Services.

**Source:** [RTX](#)

The South Korea's defense acquisition program administration (DAPA) awards Pratt & Whitney a \$355 million performance-based logistics (PBL) contract. The contract marks the third consecutive PBL contract between Pratt & Whitney and DAPA since 2012, providing continuous maintenance for the Republic of Korea air force's F-15 eagles and F-16 fighting falcons.

**Source:** [RTX](#)

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## GOVERNMENT UPDATES

The U.S. secretary of state Antony J. Blinken met with Indian external affairs Minister Dr. Subrahmanyam Jaishankar in Munich, Germany, during the Munich security conference. They talked about the importance of ensuring freedom of navigation in the Red Sea. Secretary Blinken emphasised that the U.S. and Indian strategies for maritime security in the Red Sea complement each other, contributing to economic stability in the region.

**Source:** [U.S. Department of State](#)

The U.S. Secretary of State, Antony J. Blinken, met with China's Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Munich during the Munich security conference. They discussed maintaining peace in the Taiwan Strait and the South China Sea. The talks covered various regional and global issues, with Secretary Blinken expressing concerns about China's support for Russia's actions in Ukraine. They also discussed the Middle East and the Korean Peninsula, agreeing that their senior officials should follow up on these discussions.

**Source:** [U.S. Department of Defense](#)

The U.S. Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy, Liz Allen, is travelling to Jordan, Sri Lanka, and India from February 12–22, 2024. In India, she will discuss with business leaders and U.S. program alumni to strengthen collaboration with the U.S.-Indian diaspora, corporations, and the business sector. She will also highlight the dynamic U.S.-India partnership and its potential benefits for both nations and the wider region in the coming decade.

**Source:** [U.S. Department of State](#)

The office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering announced the next projects to receive funding via the "accelerate the procurement and fielding of innovative technologies" (APFIT) pilot program. APFIT, established under the National Defense Authorization Act of fiscal year-2022, is a competitive program for mature technologies lacking funding to transition into production, aiming to meet warfighter demands.

**Source:** [U.S. Department of Defense](#)

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## GOVERNMENT UPDATES

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg and deputy secretary General Mircea Geană will attend the Munich Security Conference (MSC) on February 16 and 17, 2024. On the first day, Stoltenberg will make joint press statements with the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen. On the second day, he will be part of a high-level panel discussing "the future of Ukraine and transatlantic security" at the MSC.

**Source:** [NATO](#)

## TENDERS AND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The U.S. Air Force selects Northrop Grumman Corporation's "litening large aperture targeting pod" for deployment across its existing litening inventory. The targeting pod incorporates notable improvements in electro-optical and infrared sensing as well as processing capabilities.

**Source:** [Northrop Grumman](#)

Merlin, a developer of autonomous flight technology, partners with the United States Air Force. Under the partnership, Merlin will work on designing, integrating, testing, and demonstrating aspects of the Merlin pilot on the KC-135 *stratotanker* for the first time.

**Source:** [Business Wire](#)

On February 13, 2024, the Indian ministry of defence inked a deal with *Bharat Electronics Limited*, Hyderabad, to buy eleven *shakti* electronic warfare systems and related equipment for the Indian Navy.

**Source:** [Press Information Bureau](#)

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## About Us



IndUS Tech Council (IndUS Tech) is a Washington D.C. and New Delhi-based organization focused on accelerating U.S.-India technology collaboration, innovation, and investments. IndUS Tech's mission is to position the U.S.-India technology ecosystem for global innovation through thought leadership, policy advocacy, and facilitating collaborative partnerships between the two nations' private sectors.

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