



Source: NASA

DOT Weekly

NEWSLETTER MAR 02 – MAR 08, 2024

VOL: 2

ISSUE: 11

DOT Weekly

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LAND AND SEA

The Indian military successfully acquires passive exoskeletons from Newndra Innovations in Rajasthan to aid logistics and potentially combat operations. The exoskeletons, provided to the Indian Army, and Indian Air Force enhance a soldier's ability to carry weight by 5 to 35 kg as needed.

Source: [Janes](#)

On March 06, 2024, the Indian Navy commissioned the first squadron of MH-60R seahawk multi-role helicopters at INS Garuda in Kochi. The Seahawk is a maritime version of the well-known Blackhawk helicopter.

Source: [All India Radio](#)

SOFTWARE, SYSTEMS, AND CYBER

Nothing critical to report this week.

SPACE AND AEROSPACE

Boeing's first crewed mission using the starliner capsule, known as crew flight test, faces another delay. Initially set for mid-April, the launch plan has been changed, as confirmed by NASA and Boeing on, March 8, 2024.

Source: [Space.com](#)

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BUSINESS UPDATES

Bechtel Plant Machinery Inc. chooses Velo3D's metal additive manufacturing solution to transform the supply chain for the U.S. Navy. The technology, developed entirely in the United States, features a comprehensive integration of software and hardware solutions.

Source: [VELO 3D](#)

Viasat, a global satellite communications leader, selects Rocket Lab USA in demonstrating its hybrid space communication networks. Rocket Lab will produce a spacecraft bus and offer mission operation support for Viasat's demonstrations.

Source: [Viasat](#)

Defense Unicorns, a software startup specializing in open-source software and AI capabilities for national security systems, secures \$35 million in a series A funding round. The funding was led by Sapphire Ventures and Ansa Capital.

Source: [Business Wire](#)

L3Harris Technologies selects Maxar Space Systems, a provider of space technologies, to design and produce eighteen "maxar 300 spacecraft platforms" and provide associated support for the "tranche 2 tracking layer program" in collaboration with the space development agency.

Source: [MAXAR](#)

Exploit intelligence company VulnCheck partners with Cyware, a leader in threat intelligence management. VulnCheck will integrate its exploit intelligence solutions with Cyware's threat intelligence exchange to assist enterprise customers in quickly identifying and prioritizing vulnerabilities.

Source: [VulnCheck](#)

Evolv Technology, a security tech company specializing in artificial intelligence-based weapons detection, partners with Footprint Center to use Evolv's advanced screening solution, Evolv Express, to enhance security measures.

Source: [Evolv](#)

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GOVERNMENT UPDATES

On March 5, 2024, Washington, D.C. hosted the twentieth meeting of U.S.-India counter terrorism joint working group and the sixth designations dialogue. The discussions focused on assessing evolving terrorism threats, encompassing internet and technological exploitation, global terrorist mobility, financing, recruitment, and the rise of violent extremism.

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

The Indian ministry of defence partners with BEML Limited, Bharat Electronics Limited, and Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited through a memorandum of understanding to create an "advanced fuelling and control System" for heavy-duty engines. The joint effort aims to utilize local capabilities in developing a system with improved efficiency, and reliability.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

U.S. secretary of defense Lloyd J. Austin releases the inaugural investment strategy for the office of strategic capital (OSC). The strategy outlines key technology sectors that the OSC will emphasize and details how it plans to stimulate private investment in these critical industries. In December 2022, the secretary introduced the OSC to encourage and expand private capital for national security.

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

Indian Defense Minister Rajnath Singh launched the "acing development of innovative technologies with iDEX scheme." The scheme, spanning 2023-24 to 2025-26, aims to promote innovation in crucial defense technologies, with a focus on developing thirty deep-tech strategic and critical technologies within the specifies timeframe.

Source: [Press Information Bureau](#)

From March 7 to March 8, 2024, the United States and Japan convened the second annual U.S.-Japan strategic dialogue on democratic resilience in Washington, D.C. During the dialogue, both nations engaged in discussions regarding bilateral initiatives aimed at furthering a free and open Indo-Pacific region and advocating for human rights globally.

Source: [Department of State](#)

Sweden officially joined North Atlantic Treaty Organization on March 7, 2024, making it the alliance's thirty-second member. The country deposited its accession instrument to the north atlantic treaty with the United States in Washington, D.C.

Source: [NATO](#)

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TENDERS AND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The office of the undersecretary of defense for research and engineering (OUSD(R&E)) grants SAIC a \$96 million contract to modernize business operations. Under this agreement, SAIC will collaborate with OUSD(R&E) BusOps to update policies and procedures using SAIC's expertise in data management, and strategic planning.

Source: [SAIC](#)

Xwing, a startup in aviation autonomy and defense technology, wins a phase I small business innovation research (SBIR) contract from the U.S. Army under the "tech SBIR autonomy program." In the upcoming months, Xwing will demonstrate its capability for autonomous airlift and logistics missions in live operational demonstrations for the U.S. Army.

Source: [Business Wire](#)

The U.S. Army awards Palantir Technologies a \$178.4 million worth contract to develop and deliver the "tactical intelligence targeting access node (TITAN) ground station system." TITAN is the army's advanced deep-sensing capability, incorporating artificial intelligence and machine learning.

Source: [Palantir Technologies](#)

National Aeronautics and Space Administration awards Momentus a contract to attain flight and payload integration services to advance procedures and technologies for space operations.

Source: [Momentus](#)

The U.S. Army awards ECS a three-year \$190 million contract to integrate artificial intelligence capabilities for the department of defense.

Source: [ECS](#)

The U.S. Space Force awards Boeing a \$439.6 million contract to manufacture the twelfth wideband global SATCOM (WGS) communications satellite. The WGS constellation plays a crucial role in providing high-capacity, resilient, and secure communication capabilities to the U.S. military and its allies.

Source: [Boeing](#)

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