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# DOT Weekly

NEWSLETTER FEB 17 – FEB 23, 2024

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## LAND AND SEA

The U.S. Secretary of Navy, Carlos Del Toro, announces the maritime economic deterrence executive council (MEDEC) under the Department of Navy. MEDEC aims to mitigate foreign investment risks, safeguard innovation and technology, and protect research efforts through coordinated initiatives.

**Source:** [The U.S. Navy](#)

The Indian Army's battle axe division conducted a successful test of locally made anti-tank guided missiles at the *Pokhran* field firing range in *Jaisalmer*. The missiles, weighing 15 *kilograms*, are designed for both day and night operations, with a range of 2.5km.

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

Huntington Ingalls Industries announced that its Newport News Shipbuilding division has started testing the electromagnetic aircraft launch system (EMALS) on the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy. EMALS will replace the current steam catapults on U.S. Navy *Nimitz*-class aircraft carriers.

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

## CYBER, SYSTEMS, AND SOFTWARE

Scale AI teams up with the U.S. Department of Defense's chief digital and artificial intelligence office (CDAO) to develop a testing and evaluation framework for responsible use of large language models (LLMs) in the department. The company will create tailored benchmark tests, integrate them into their platform, and support CDAO's testing strategy for LLMs.

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

General Radar Corporation, a U.S. company known for advanced radars, introduces radar-as-a-service for monitoring airborne threats. The cost-effective solution revolutionizes the traditional radar market, offering a quicker and more efficient alternative to the lengthy process of developing, and deploying ground-based radars, which typically takes a decade.

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

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## SPACE AND AEROSPACE

Rocket Lab is set to launch a dedicated mission named 'live and let fly' for the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) from Virginia. The launch marks Rocket Lab's initial NRO mission launch from the United States, following four previous launches from launch complex 1 in New Zealand.

**Source:** [Rocket Lab](#)

## BUSINESS UPDATES

Skydio, a major U.S. drone manufacturer, partners with Aeroarc, a leading drone manufacturer in India, to advance artificial intelligence collaboration between the two countries. The partnership focuses on bringing advanced autonomous flight technology to India. Skydio will assist Aeroarc in the development, manufacturing, deployment, and support of small, unmanned aircraft systems for Indian customers.

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

Novaria Group, a manufacturer of hardware for the defense and aerospace industries, acquires Anillo Industries, a global supplier of essential military and commercial aerospace hardware.

**Source:** [Novaria Group](#)

McNally Capital, a private equity firm, successfully completes the sale of Advanced Micro Instruments (AMI) to Enpro. AMI is a top provider of specialized analyzers and sensing technologies for monitoring critical parameters in various applications. The sale, finalized on January 29, 2024, represents McNally Capital's fifth realized portfolio company.

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

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## BUSINESS UPDATES

Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, Inc. (MEPPI) and Skydio join forces to provide a comprehensive solution for monitoring and automating substation inspections. By combining Skydio's autonomous drone technology with MEPPI's power-I system, the collaboration aims to enhance accuracy, and safety in collecting and analyzing crucial infrastructure data.

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

Air India selects Collins Aerospace, an RTX business, to provide avionics hardware for its growing Boeing 737 MAX fleet. The agreement, revealed at the Singapore Airshow 2024, signifies a significant and lasting collaboration between the two for the airline's 737 MAX fleet.

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

## GOVERNMENT UPDATES

On February 20–21, 2024, New Delhi hosted the two-day India-U.S. Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS-X) meeting, showcasing a key moment in the collaborative defense innovation efforts between the two countries. The 2024 INDUS-X Summit brought together U.S. and Indian government officials, researchers, investors, technology incubators, start-up leaders, and defense executives to discuss future plans for the initiative.

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

India kick starts a nine-day naval exercise in Visakhapatnam, involving around fifty navies. The twelfth edition of the 'Milan' exercise includes participation from countries like the U.S., Japan, Australia, France, Bangladesh, South Korea, Vietnam, Indonesia, and Malaysia. The goal is to enhance maritime cooperation in the face of a challenging geopolitical environment and global concerns about the deteriorating security situation in the Red Sea.

**Source:** [Press Trust of India](#)

On February 23, 2024, Dr. Michael Chase, deputy assistant secretary of defense for China, Taiwan, and Mongolia, held discussions at the Pentagon with brigadier general D. Gankhuyag, state secretary of the Mongolian ministry of defense, as part of the annual bilateral defense framework. Both officials emphasized their dedication to enhancing U.S.-Mongolia defense ties and collaborating on mutual interests for a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

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

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## GOVERNMENT UPDATES

The U.S. deputy secretary of defense Kathleen Hicks and other top department of defense leaders attended the twenty- eighth council of governors plenary meeting on February 22, 2024, in Washington, D.C. The deputy secretary underscored the significance of these meetings for sharing information and ideas to enhance collaboration on national security issues, specifically addressing states nationwide. The meeting centered on progress in key areas like cybersecurity, emergency management, military affairs, and workforce matters.

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

The U.S. and twenty-five partner nations enhanced space interoperability during the Global Sentinel exercise. The event, from February 5 to February 16, 2024, brought together space operators to focus on security cooperation and operational collaboration in frontier warfare.

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

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, Yogi Adityanath, inaugurates South Asia's largest ammunition and missile facilities in *Kanpur*. The facilities, launched by Adani Defense and Aerospace, will produce high-quality small, medium, and large caliber ammunition for the global armed forces, paramilitary forces, and police.

**Source:** [The Economic Times](#)

## TENDERS AND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) selects Sierra Lobo from Ohio to assist in designing, developing, testing, and operating spaceflight hardware at NASA's Glenn Research Center in Cleveland. The contract, called the space flight systems development and operations contract III, is valued at around \$282.1 million.

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

The U.S. Navy grants Raytheon, and McKinney, Texas, a \$4.7 million contract for producing and delivering nine multi-spectral targeting systems along with spare parts. The contract supports the program office for multi-mission tactical unmanned aerial systems at the naval air system command.

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

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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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