



RDA

Research Development and Acquisition



Summary

- Technology Creation for STRATCOM, NORTHCOM, ARSTRAT, MDA, DOD and the Army
- Technology Transition to meet both current and future capability gaps
- Capability/Concept Definition to solve both current and future capability gaps
- Enhance Interoperability of Space and Missile Defense Systems
- Test Execution for Space, Missile Defense and High Energy Laser systems
- Contracting & Acquisition for the Army, DOD, and other government agencies
- Collection and Dissemination of Space and Launch Intelligence

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command (SMDC/ARSTRAT) Research, Development, and Acquisition (RDA) elements provide joint warfighters with the technological edge – turning Concepts into Combat capabilities.

SMDC/ARSTRAT RDA elements are diverse in their functions and capabilities. These elements create and transition technology; plan and conduct test and evaluation; conduct contracting and acquisition management activities; and provide selected space intelligence. By optimizing the resources of industry, academia, and the government, SMDC/ARSTRAT RDA provides efficient and cost effective solutions to technology and acquisition challenges facing the warfighter. The proven methodology employed by SMDC/ARSTRAT has delivered the technology that underlies the missile defense systems being deployed today and planned for the future. It has made possible the Army's tactical exploitation of national capabilities (TENCAP) and the delivery of space products to the ground warfighter.

The Research, Development and Acquisition elements of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command (SMDC/ARSTRAT) conduct mission related research, development, and acquisition in support of Army Title 10 responsibilities and serve as the focal point for desired characteristics and capabilities in support of USSTRATCOM missions. From exploratory basic research, through testing, to the transition of technology, the vision of RDA is to provide support from "Research to Reality" for the joint warfighter.

Three primary organizations, all headquartered in Huntsville, Alabama, comprise the RDA:

- The SMDC/ARSTRAT Technical Center (TC) develops and transitions space, missile defense, and other related technologies; plans and executes test and evaluation programs and related analysis, and manages and operates the US Army Kwajalein Atoll/Reagan Test Site and the High Energy Laser Systems Test Facility.
- The U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll/Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site supports operational and developmental testing of theater and strategic ballistic missiles and missile interceptors; provides support to NASA's space operations and experiments; and supports USSTRATCOM with near earth surveillance, deep space surveillance, satellite tracking, and new foreign launch coverage.

– The High Energy Laser Systems Test Facility (HELSTF) at White Sands Missile Range, N.M. provides Directed Energy (DE) expertise to the Warfighter and the Nation by serving as the SMDC/ARSTRAT Test and Evaluation facility for current and future DE technologies; supporting DE technology integration into the Army Objective Force and Future Combat System; and supporting DoD/DoE and other service High-Energy Laser testing.

- The Contracting and Acquisition Management Office serves as the principal business advisor to the commanding general and head of the contracting activity, awards the command's fiscal year Obligation Program, manages and directs all SMDC/ARSTRAT acquisition systems, develops contracting policies and procedures, and provides Cost Analysis, Cost Estimation, Earned Value Analysis and Program Assessment.
- The Technical Interoperability and Matrix Center (TIMC) integrates technical and operational requirements with materiel developers, improves interoperability for warfighters, increases the capability and efficiency of Space and Integrated Air and Missile Defense (IAMD), and provides oversight for command matrix personnel.



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