



Space & Aviation

From its very beginnings DARPA has maintained an ambitious effort to ensure that the United States retains its preeminence in space. DARPA programs have challenged the conventional concepts of access to and use of space as the ultimate high ground. DARPA's Space and Aviation contributions include:

Launch Platforms



Saturn V Rocket Engine Taurus Launch Vehicle

DARPA's early contributions to launch platform development helped propel men to the moon while the latest generation of rockets provide quick-response, low-cost launches for tactical satellites.

Ballistic Missile Defense

DARPA radar systems were a key element of ballistic missile defense. Work in the Strategic Defense Initiative pushed the development of state-of-the-art laser and optics systems.



ARPA Maui Optical Station (AMOS) Talon Gold - Space Based Laser

Satellites



Global Low Orbiting Message Relay (GLOMR) Transit 2A Early GPS Satellite Orbital Express Satellite

DARPA's satellite technology contributions are reflected in everything from designs for the first weather satellite to the latest generation of inexpensive, low cost multifunctional satellites

Advanced Aircraft Technology



X-29 Joint Strike Fighter Engine

DARPA's contributions to the field of aviation design have resulted in the development of innovative engines and the widespread use of novel materials and body designs.

Unmanned Aerial Vehicles

DARPA funding has provided the military with a wide range of UAVs vital to the support the Warfighter worldwide.



Predator Global Hawk

REF: X4