

SPACE SYSTEMS COMMAND
Media Release



SPACE SYSTEMS COMMAND

Date: Feb. 22, 2021

Contact: Media Relations Division

Telephone: (310) 653-1131

Office of Public Affairs (SSC/PA)
483 N. Aviation Blvd.
El Segundo, Calif. 90245-2808

SSC awards DARC Site 1 Contract to Northrop Grumman

LOS ANGELES AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. ---- Space Systems Command (SSC) has awarded a cost plus incentive fee prototype agreement for the Deep Space Advanced Radar Capability (DARC) for \$341M to Northrop Grumman Corporation through the Space Enterprise Consortium (SpEC) Other Transaction Authority on Feb. 22, 2022.

The DARC Site 1 is an approved Middle-Tier Acquisition (MTA) Rapid Prototype to provide 24/7 all-weather capabilities that increases the ability to detect, track, identify and characterize objects in deep space.

“Partnering with Northrop Grumman on DARC Site 1 is a crucial first step in building out a global system to ensure the ability to detect, track, identify, and characterize objects in Geosynchronous orbit (GEO) to protect and defend our most valued space assets against adversarial action. DARC is a testament to our ‘Allied by Design’ approach where working in close collaboration and cooperation with our closest allies will produce a mutually beneficial partnership,” said Lt. Col. Kelly Greiner, materiel leader, Ground Radar Portfolio, Space Systems Command Space Enterprise Special Programs Directorate.

DARC is a ground-based radar system consisting of three geographically separated sites around the world that deliver deep-space satellite tracking and custody capabilities, provides an advantage over current radar and optical sensors, fills critical gaps, and significantly enhances current Space Domain Awareness capabilities.

The initial DARC Site 1 Operational Leave-behind Capability is currently scheduled for September 2025.

Space Systems Command (SSC), headquartered at Los Angeles Air Force Base in El Segundo, California, is the U.S. Space Force field command responsible for developing and acquiring lethal and resilient space capabilities for warfighters by rapidly identifying, prototyping, fielding and sustaining innovative, space-based solutions to meet the demands of the National Defense Strategy. SSC’s functions include developmental testing, production, launch, on-orbit checkout,

and maintenance of USSF space systems, as well as and oversight of USSF science and technology activities.

Interested media representatives may submit questions regarding this topic by sending an e-mail to sscpa.media@spaceforce.mil.

Get the latest Space Systems Command and Los Angeles Garrison news at:

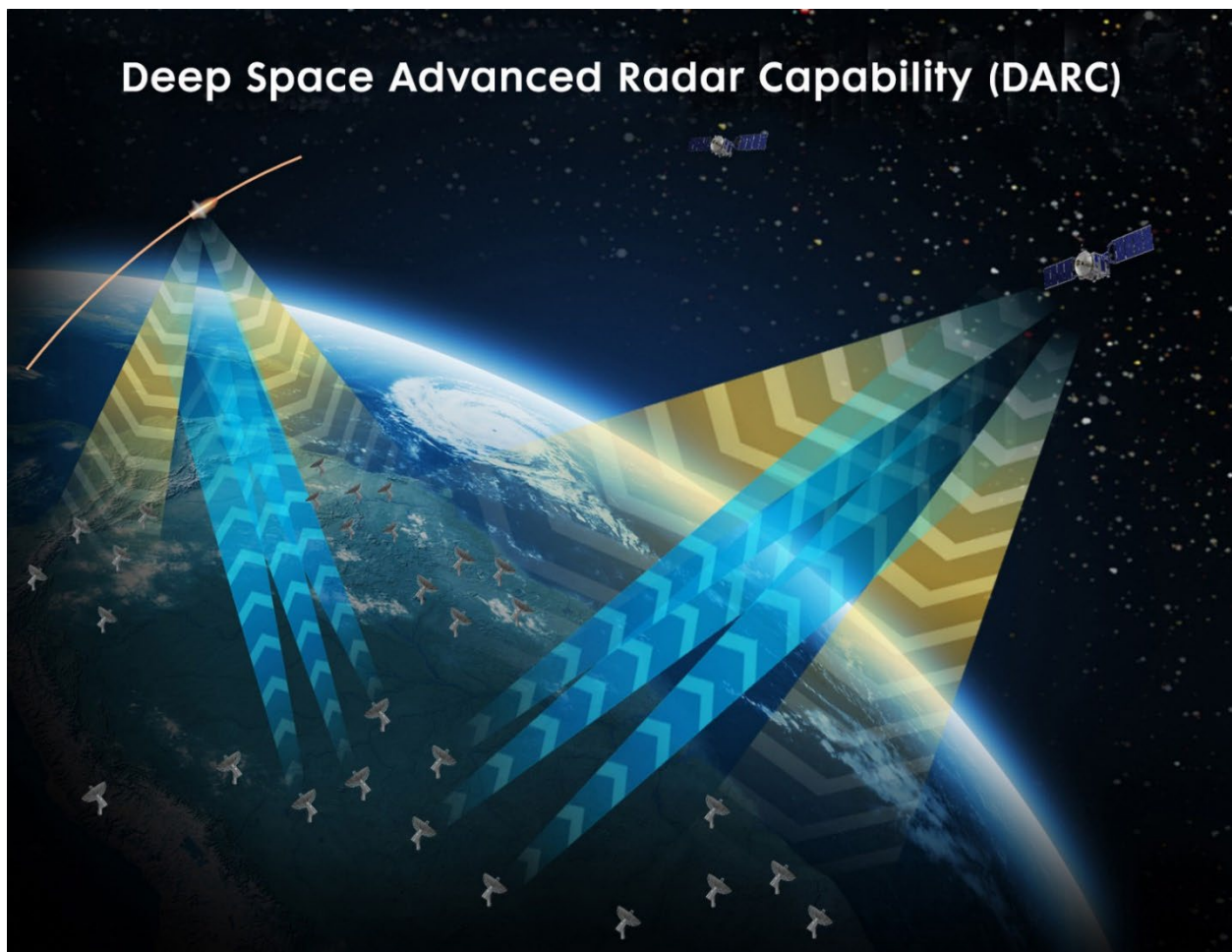
www.ssc.spaceforce.mil & www.losangeles.spaceforce.mil

Facebook: @SpaceSystemsCommand

LinkedIn: @USSF-SSC Twitter: @USSF_SSC and Instagram: @USSF_SSC

#DiscoverSSC #SpaceStartsHere

#SSC #SpaceStartsHere #SemperSupra



Artist's rendition of the Deep Space Advance Radar Capability (*Graphic courtesy of Northrop Grumman Corporation*)