As DoD’s constructive disruptor for space acquisition, SDA will quickly deliver needed space-based capabilities to the joint warfighter to support terrestrial missions through development, fielding, and operation of the Proliferated Warfighter Space Architecture—a constellation of hundreds of satellites in low Earth orbit. SDA capitalizes on a unique business model that values speed and lowers costs by harnessing commercial development to achieve a proliferated architecture and enhance resilience. SDA will deliver a minimum viable product—on time, every two years—by employing spiral development methods, adding capabilities to future generations as the threat evolves.

**High-Level Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tranche 0 – Warfighter Immersion</th>
<th>Program / Demo Name</th>
<th>FY 2023</th>
<th>FY 2024</th>
<th>FY 2025</th>
<th>FY 2026</th>
<th>FY 2027</th>
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<td>20 SVs</td>
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<td><strong>Ground Segment</strong></td>
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**Architecture Adoption**

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<th>Tranche 1 – Initial Warfighter Capability</th>
<th>Program / Demo Name</th>
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<th>FY 2024</th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tranche 2 – Full Warfighter Capability</th>
<th>Program / Demo Name</th>
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<th>FY 2026</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Launch</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Operations &amp; Integration</strong></td>
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**PWSA Futures Program (PFP)**

- TnDES: Operational feasibility demo of future PWSA capability
- NEkT: SDA Experimental Testbed: Evaluates suitability of new payloads & mission concepts, provided by mission partners.

**Advanced Fire Control (AFC)**

- FOO Fighter (F2): Fire control demonstration in operational constellation, on-orbit fusion
- AFCGI: Ground Infrastructure (AFCGI) and AFC Mission Integration (AFCMI) to support F2 and follow-on AFC efforts.

**Focus Areas**

Mesh network of optically-connected satellites to enable:
- Tracking and targeting for advanced missiles in flight
- Beyond-line-of-sight (BLOS) targeting for time-sensitive targets, or mobile targets

**Resilient Layered Architecture Approach**

- Threat-driven capabilities informed by warfighter needs
- Assures resilient, low-latency military data and connectivity worldwide to the full range of warfighter platforms
- Integrates with Space Warfighting Analysis Center force design and DOD-wide missile defense mission
- Serves as the Joint All-Domain Command and Control (JADC2) backbone in space
Acquiring Capabilities at Speed and Affordable Cost

SDA is on pace to deliver initial space transport capabilities on the agency’s originally advertised schedule at a per satellite price point once deemed unachievable.

- **$14M** - Approximate average cost of SDA Transport satellite
- **111** - Average days between solicitation and contract or award
- **63** - During FY2023, SDA made 63 awards totaling ~$2B
- **29** - Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) awards for ~$37 million in FY2023

Delivering Capabilities at Speed

*The First Five Years*

- **March 2019**: Agency stands up on March 12 with fewer than a handful of detailed employees and no office space.
- **March 2020**: Agency’s first request for proposals is published to build a new proliferated architecture in low Earth orbit (known then as the National Defense Space Architecture or NDSA).
- **August 2020**: Announced first contract awards for Tranche 0 data Transport Layer of the agency’s architecture (known initially as NDSA).
- **December 2020**: Delivered first two experimental satellites to launch provider just nine months after receiving the agency’s initial appropriated funds.
- **May 2022**: Awarded the agency’s 1st Ground Operations & Integration contract for Space Operations Centers at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., and Grand Forks Air Force Base, ND.
- **September 2022**: Selected a vendor to build and launch NExT, SDA’s experimental testbed.
- **April 2023**: Launched first 10 PWSA Tranche 0 satellites to low Earth orbit, approx. 30 months after contract award.
- **August 2023**: Awarded first Tranche 2 space vehicle agreements to build and operate Transport Layer Beta variant satellites, set to begin launching in 2026.
- **November 2023**: Successfully demonstrated the first-ever Link 16 network entry through space to ground connection from low Earth orbit (LEO).
- **February 2024**: Launched the final four Tranche 0 Tracking Layer satellites alongside Missile Defense Agency’s HBTSS to demonstrate full-scale missile defense sensing capabilities from low Earth orbit.
- **July 2019**: First SDA industry day event with over 350 industry, Hill, and media reps in attendance.
- **June 2020**: Released first public version of SDA’s industry-leading Optical Communication Terminal Standard (then known as OISL Standard).
- **October 2020**: Awarded first Tracking Layer contracts to build 8 Tranche 0 missile warning/missile tracking demonstration space vehicles.
- **Summer 2021**: SDA’s first launches included four experiments on six satellites.
- **February 2022**: Issued first awards for Tranche 1 Transport Layer space vehicles.
- **September 2022**: SDA successfully transfers to become a component of the U.S. Space Force.
- **January 2023**: The agency’s architecture is now known as the Proliferated Warfighter Space Architecture or PWSA.
- **June 2023**: Awarded BMC3 Application Factory – AppFac will be the first DoD DevSecOps Reference Design Software Factory.
- **September 2023**: SDA delivered 13 additional Tranche 0 satellites on-orbit ~33 months from order to launch.
- **January 2024**: Awards announced for the Tranche 2 Tracking Layer, including missile warning/missile tracking and missile defense space vehicles.

For more information about the agency, employment, and competitive opportunities, visit us at SDA.mil, on LinkedIn, or X @SemperCitiusSDA