

Northrop Grumman to Produce First Hypersonic Glide Phase Interceptor



Northrop Grumman will produce the Glide Phase Interceptor (GPI) program, the first-of-its-kind defensive countermeasure against hypersonic missile threats. (Northrop Grumman)

Program is first-of-its-kind countermeasure against hypersonic threats

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CHANDLER, Ariz. – Sept. 25, 2024 – The U.S. Missile Defense Agency (MDA) will proceed with Northrop Grumman Corporation (NYSE: NOC) for the Glide Phase Interceptor (GPI) program, the first-of-its-kind defensive countermeasure against hypersonic missile threats. Working in close partnership with MDA, the three-year developmental effort produced a purpose-built, innovative design capable of defeating existing and emerging hypersonic threats.

During this next phase of development, Northrop Grumman will:

- Continue to refine the preliminary design of the GPI, which will fire from the U.S. Navy's Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense destroyers and Aegis Ashore using the standard Vertical Launch System
- Demonstrate system performance in hypersonic environments prior to conducting its Preliminary Design Review
- Complete flight experiments ahead of schedule leveraging the company's own flight-proven systems
- Use digital engineering practices to connect the entire GPI program to accelerate design processes and develop interceptor capabilities faster and more efficiently

Expert:

Wendy Williams, vice president and general manager, launch and missile defense systems, Northrop Grumman: "GPI adds mission critical standoff to warfighters in scenarios where distance creates an advantage. Tailorable to a multitude of mission requirements, Northrop Grumman's revolutionary solution is designed to perform in the evolving threat landscape."

Details:

Northrop Grumman's design includes advanced technologies, such as a seeker for threat tracking and hit-to-kill accuracy, a re-ignitable upper stage engine used for threat containment and a dual engagement mode to engage threats across a wide range of altitudes.

Northrop Grumman [will work closely](#) with the United States in support of its role under the GPI Cooperative Development

program with the Japan Ministry of Defense to deliver interceptors to the MDA.