



# News Release

## Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **DARPA ADVANCES CYBER SECURITY TESTING INITIATIVE**

*Goal of National Cyber Range is Fast, Reliable, Cost-Effective Testing of Internet Security Systems*

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) announced today that it has advanced to the second phase of its National Cyber Range (NCR) program, a revolutionary approach to assessing the readiness of the nation's cyber security systems and networks. The Agency awarded two contracts to continue the program, which aims to help researchers evaluate the strength and resiliency of the security programs they are developing.

In Phase I of the NCR program, DARPA oversaw the creation of initial conceptual designs, concepts of operation, and detailed engineering and system demonstration plans. In Phase II, the Agency and its contractors will build and evaluate prototype ranges and their corresponding technology.

The following prime contractors were awarded contracts for Phase II:

- Johns Hopkins University - Applied Physics Laboratory, Laurel, Maryland - \$24,777,235
- Lockheed Martin – Simulations, Training, and Support, Orlando, Florida - \$30,803,319

The National Cyber Range is DARPA's contribution to the interagency "Comprehensive National Cybersecurity Initiative" that aims to safeguard Federal Government information systems from cyber threats and attacks. The goal of the NCR program is to revolutionize the state of the art of the Nation's cyber testing technology, and develop a computer systems test bed on which cyber scenarios can be evaluated simultaneously to provide a comprehensive, qualitative and quantitative assessment of the security of information and automated control systems that are under development.

"The National Cyber Range will revolutionize the Nation's ability to evaluate the security of our research programs," said DARPA Program Manager, Michael van Putte, Ph.D. "The NCR program is developing revolutionary capabilities for cyber experimentation including a fully automated, secure range to validate leap-ahead cyber research technologies and systems, as well as provide vision for iterative and new computer security research directions for the community."

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