



# SPACE CYBERSECURITY WEEKLY WATCH

Week 38

September 12 – 18, 2023

Articles, company's communications, whitepapers, academic works, podcast, and sources not to be missed on the topic of space cybersecurity over a specified timeframe.

Timeframe : Weekly  
# of articles identified : 25  
Est. time to read : 45 minutes

- **GEOPOLITIC**
- **MARKET & COMPETITION**
- **THREAT INTELLIGENCE**
- **TECHNOLOGY**
- **REGULATION**
- **TRAINING & EDUCATION**
- ★ **IMPORTANT NEWS**

## Overview

This week, the DoD released an unclassified strategy for protecting US military and intelligence-gathering satellites. At the same time, the USSF announced its intention to reorganize its command structure, with the creation of a specialized unit for each aspect of a mission. As part of this reorganization, two new divisions will be created: one for EW and the other for PNT. Also this week, Germany blocked China's complete takeover of a satellite start-up on national security grounds. A Microsoft report revealed that an Iranian cyber espionage group successfully compromised dozens of entities and exfiltrated data from a subset of them as part of a campaign targeting organizations in the satellite, defense and pharmaceutical sectors. On the market front, Northrop Grumman called on start-up GEOST to supply sensor payloads to protect missile-tracking satellites as part of its contract with the SDA. On the technological front, within AFRL, the US military wants to move beyond the GPS timing signal to compact "quantum clocks". Finally, a conference organized by ESA, in collaboration with ASI, will take place on September 28, 2023, on the subjects of users' cybersecurity needs and challenges for critical infrastructures, as well as current and future cybersecurity solutions.

## GEOPOLITIC

### US, allies struggle to find 'collaborative' space development projects

The US and its closest allies are still struggling to find space programs where they can work together to develop new technologies and capabilities, according to the US's senior space operations commander. **Web CyberInflight**

[Link: https://www.space.com/54111-us-ally-try-to-find-collaborative-space-development-projects](#)



### Space programs top priorities under CB, next-gen tanker also critical, Hunter says

As continuing resolution (CR) extends starting Oct. 1, the Department of the Air Force's space program would be top priority for congressionally sanctioned relief. Another tanker will be needed before **Web CyberInflight**

[Link: https://www.space.com/54112-space-programs-would-lead-with-2023-cb-as-next-gen-tanker-also-critical-hunter-says](#)



### New Pentagon cyber strategy: Building new capabilities, expanding allied info sharing

Learning from the Russia-Ukraine conflict and watching out for China, the Pentagon is working to develop new cyber capabilities and expanding information sharing with allies and partners in order to stay ahead of any threats posed by adversaries, according to an unclassified summary of a new department-wide cyber strategy announcement. **Web CyberInflight**

[Link: https://www.space.com/54113-new-pentagon-cyber-strategy-aiming-to-see-also-capabilities-expanding-allied-info-sharing](#)





### Space Force to create "integrated" units responsible for acquisition, maintenance and operations

U.S. chief space operations Gen. Chance Saltzman on Sept. 12 announced the Space Force will experiment with a new command structure where a unit is responsible for all aspects of a mission area, including training, procurement and operations. Two integrated units will be established, each run by a Space Force colonel — one for space electronic warfare; and the other for positioning, navigation, and timing (PNT) satellites. **#USSF #Deltas**

**Link:** <https://spacenews.com/space-force-to-create-integrated-units-responsible-for-acquisition-maintenance-and-operations/>



### Germany blocks full Chinese takeover of satellite startup

Germany has blocked a complete Chinese takeover of a satellite startup on national security grounds, sources close to the matter told AFP Thursday, as Berlin takes an increasingly hard line against Beijing. **#China #Germany**

**Link:** <https://techxplore.com/news/2023-09-germany-blocks-full-chinese-takeover.html>



### Senators want clarity from Pentagon on Ukraine Starlink access issues

A group of Democratic senators on the Armed Services Committee are asking the Department of Defense to look into conflicting reports that Starlink users from Ukraine blocked the military's operations by the Ukrainian military last year. **#Starlink #Ukraine**

**Link:** <https://www.washingtonpost.com/defense-policy/senators-want-clarity-from-pentagon-on-starlink-access-issues/>



### The PLA's New Base for Space Situational Awareness—Opportunities and Challenges for the U.S.

The People's Liberation Army (PLA) Strategic Support Force (SSF) has established a new base tailored for the military's space situational awareness (SSA) needs. **#SSA #China**

**Link:** <https://www.rand.org/pubs/notes/2023/09/09-pla-space-situational-awareness-base-for-ssn-ssai/>



## MARKET & COMPETITION



### GEOST sensors to detect interference will fly on SDA satellites

Northrop Grumman has tapped Tuscon-based startup GEOST to provide sensor payloads to protect the missile tracking satellites the defense behemoth is building for the Space Development Agency (SDA), GEOST announced Monday. **#SDA #GEOST**

**Link:** <https://breakingdefense.com/2023/09/geost-sensors-to-detect-interference-will-fly-on-sda-satellites/>



### Europe's supporting European startups expands rapidly

The rapid growth of European space startups is reflected in Young European Enterprises Institute for Space (YEENS), a nonprofit formed in 2021. In two years, YEENS has grown from 26 to 71 companies with combined employment of more than 1,000 people. **#Space #Europe**

**Link:** <https://www.euractiv.com/en/space/europe-supporting-european-startups-expands-rapidly/>



### Do the Bank considering more than \$1 billion in space industry financing

Speaking at the World Leaders Summit on Space Exploration, Health, Energy, Tech and Innovation and also chair of the board of directors of Do the Bank, said the bank is interested in helping the industry finance new projects while remaining agnostic about specific architectures or technologies. She said the bank had plans of capacity to consider additional deals of up to a funding cap of \$1.5 billion but only \$100 million in current exposure. **#Space #Banking**

**Link:** <https://www.spacenews.com/do-the-bank-considering-more-than-1-billion-in-space-industry-financing/>



## THREAT INTELLIGENCE



### SpaceX's Starlink hit by solar flare outage

SpaceX's satellite internet service Starlink experienced an outage in the early hours of Wednesday, September 13. **#SpaceX**

**Link:** <https://www.spacenews.com/spacex-starlink-hit-by-solar-flare-outage/>

### Peach Sandstorm password spray campaigns enable intelligence collection at high-value targets

An Iranian cyber espionage group successfully compromised dozens of entities and exfiltrated data from a subset of them as part of a campaign targeting organizations in the satellite, defense and pharmaceutical sectors, Microsoft said in a report published Thursday. **#PeachSandstorm**

**Link:** <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/security/blog/2023/09/14/peach-sandstorm-password-spray-campaigns-enable-intelligence-collection-at-high-value-targets/>





# TECHNOLOGY



## Quantum clocks could revolutionize precision warfare within a decade: experts

The US military wants to move beyond the GPS timing signal — which is accurate to less than 30 nanoseconds, and which enemies can jam — to compact “quantum clocks,” small enough to fit in a missile warhead or small drone and accurate to the picosecond (one thousandth of a nanosecond) or beyond. **#Quantum #AFRL**

**Link:** <https://breakingdefense.com/2023/09/quantum-clocks-could-revolutionize-precision-warfare-with-a-decade-experts/>



## What's New: Space Takes Quantum Leap with Secure IoT Satellite Amid Growing Space Cybersecurity Threats

They've launched an ultra-secure, low-orbit satellite aimed at the Quantum Readiness of Things (QRT) communications market. **#Quantum #What'sNew**

**Link:** <https://www.cyberinflight.com/news/whats-new/whats-new-secure-quantum-iot-satellite-launch>

## Lockheed Martin Opens Futuristic Satellite Operations Center Test Bed

The Lockheed Martin will launch a futuristic satellite operations center, located on the company's campus near Denver, Colo., where it plans to process "Complex" Mission Planning and Monitor "Complex and Control 2.0" software. The software has already been used by more than 50 spacecraft, performing government, research and commercial space missions. **#LockheedMartin**

**Link:** <https://www.lockheedmartin.com/en-us/news/2023/09/01/lockheed-martin-opens-futuristic-satellite-operations-center-test-bed>

## GPS anti-jamming tech for drone protection demonstrated at DOD 2023 by InPhonema

InPhonema will demonstrate technology designed to detect, identify and mitigate GPS jamming attacks at the Defense and Security Equipment Exposition (DSEI) exhibition this week, the company announced in a statement. **#InPhonema #GPS**

**Link:** <https://www.inphonema.com/press-releases/anti-jamming-tech-for-drone-protection-demonstrated-at-dod-2023-by-inphonema>

## Hexagon Partners with Agis to Develop Quantum Key Distribution Solution for Satellites

Hexagon is teaming up with Agis, a quantum networking and computing company, to bring better technology solutions for small satellites. The solution aims to allow operators to evaluate data rate and quantum key rates at a set location (GPS) and with more accuracy than currently possible, and to enable precise geolocation to satellite link communications so that the user can be repositioned if required. **#Hexagon #Agis #Quantum**

**Link:** <https://www.hexagon.com/press-releases/hexagon-partners-with-agis-to-develop-quantum-key-distribution-solution-for-satellites>

# REGULATION

## Germany Signs New Artemis Accords Signature

During a ceremony at the German Chancellery Residence in Washington on Thursday, Germany became the 20th country to sign the Artemis Accords. The Artemis Accords establish a set of principles to guide space exploration cooperation among nations, including those participating in NASA's Artemis program. **#Germany #Artemis**

**Link:** <https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-en/news/germany-signs-new-artemis-accords-signature>



## DoD space protection strategy: resilience, defense, and offense by another name

An unclassified Defense Department strategy for protecting US military and intelligence-gathering satellites, released today, prioritizes making them less vulnerable to attack — while emphasizing that the US will not only defend its space systems but will also target enemy space capabilities during wartime. **#SpaceStrategy #DoD**

**Link:** <https://breakingdefense.com/2023/09/dod-space-protection-strategy-resilience-defense-and-offense-by-another-name/>





# TRAINING & EDUCATION

## Cyber Threat Intel Sharing in Space | Eric Miller

Eric Miller, Executive Director of the Space IIC, to talk about Cyber Threat Intelligence Sharing on the 2023 Global Cyber Conference on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023. #Conference

[Link: https://www.rheagroup.com/fr/event/cyber-threat-intel-sharing-in-space-eric-miller](#)



## International conference on space security and safety to take place at Space Park Leicester

The international conference about "Space Security and Safety Dimensions" on Thursday September 28 and Friday 29 September will provide a platform for participants to explore the challenges, opportunities, and advancements in the field of space security and safety. #Conference #IS

[Link: https://www.isccspace.com/2023/09/28/space-security-conference](#)



## Securing the Cyber Galaxy: Electronic Cyber Defense in Space

Part of the Cyber Week 2023 dedicated session to the emerging global challenge of cybersecurity for space and the space experience. The session is co-hosted by Israel's National Cyber Directorate (NCD) with experts from industry, academia and government. #Conference #CyberWeek

[Link: https://www.pwlab.com/2023/09/28/securing-the-cyber-galaxy](#)



## Cybersécurité dans, pour et depuis l'espace (Trad.: Cybersecurity in, for and from space)

This event on September 28, 2023, organized by the European Space Agency, in collaboration with the Italian Space Agency, will examine users' cybersecurity needs and challenges for critical infrastructures, as well as current and future cybersecurity solutions. #Conference #ESA

[Link: https://www.rheagroup.com/fr/event/cybersecurite-dans-pour-et-depuis-lespace/?hss\\_channel=lcp-41230](https://www.rheagroup.com/fr/event/cybersecurite-dans-pour-et-depuis-lespace/?hss_channel=lcp-41230)



## Live Webinar On Aerospace Cybersecurity

Hosted by Timothy Hoffman, the talk will revolve around the topic of our latest online course - "Aerospace Cybersecurity Satellite Tracking" designed and instructed by Angelina Tuck. During the event, the discussion will touch the practical aspects of the fascinating field of aerospace cybersecurity. You will have a chance to learn about tools, techniques, and even real life case studies from the world of satellite anti-tracking. #Webinar #Cybersecurity

[Link: https://www.pwlab.com/2023/09/28/aerospace-cybersecurity-webinar](#)



## 2023 Space, Cyber, and Telecommunications Law Annual Fall Conference

Northeast Law's Annual Space Law Fall Conference about Current Developments in Military and Commercial Space Law is September 28, 2023 in Washington D.C. #Conference #Space Law

[Link: https://www.lawandjournal.com/conference](#)



CyberInflight is a Market Intelligence company dedicated to the topic of Space Cybersecurity. The company provides strategic market and research reports, bespoke consulting, market watch & OSINT researches and cybersecurity awareness training.

Contact us at: [research@cyberinflight.com](mailto:research@cyberinflight.com)