



אגף דוברות והסברה
Media & Public
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מדינת ישראל
משרד הביטחון

Israel Missile Defense Organization (IMDO) hosting US President Joe Biden

The Israel Missile Defense Organization is a division within the Ministry of Defense's Directorate of Defense Research and Development (DDR&D) at the Israeli Ministry of Defense. The IMDO works in close cooperation with the American Missile Defense Agency (MDA) and with the defense industries. The IMDO is also responsible for the development and production of Israel's active defense systems including interceptors, launchers, radars, command and control systems, and more.

Israel's multi-tiered air defense array is based on four operational defense layers:

1. "Arrow 3" – Intercepts long-range, exo-atmospheric threats (upper layer)
2. "Arrow 2" – Intercepts medium to long-range threats
3. "David's Sling" – Intercepts short to medium-range threats
4. "Iron Dome" – Intercepts short-range threats (bottom layer)

About the systems (according to order of display to President Biden):

"Arrow 3": An exo-atmospheric ballistic missile interceptor system. The "Arrow 3" is a joint Israeli-American project led by the DDR&D together with the MDA and is considered the best interceptor of its kind in the world. Its intercepting capabilities are high and long-range, reaching far beyond the atmosphere. In July 2019, the IMDO and the U.S. MDA completed a series of tests of the Arrow 3 weapon system in Alaska, and successfully demonstrated hit-to-kill interceptions of high altitude, exo-atmospheric targets.

IAI is the primary contractor for the development of the "Arrow" weapon system, the "Arrow" interceptors, and the radar detection system. Elbit Systems developed the BMC system. Boeing, Tomer, and Rafael Advanced Defense Systems are the main subcontractors for the development and integration of the interceptor.

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“Arrow 4”: A new interceptor that will replace Arrow 2. The dynamic, modern interceptor will operate both within and beyond the atmosphere in the face of existing and future threats in the arena. The development process is in cooperation with the U.S. MDA.

“David’s Sling”: An innovative defensive solution for intercepting ballistic and cruise missiles that was jointly developed by the IMDO and the US MDA. “David’s Sling” constitutes the middle layer of Israel’s multi-tiered air defense array, complementing the capabilities of the “Iron Dome” and “Arrow” systems. It tackles advanced threats and adds additional interception capabilities. The system is based on a two-stage interceptor missile with exceptionally high maneuverability and speed capabilities. The primary contractor for the system is Rafael Advanced Defense Systems. IAI developed the MMR radar system and Elbit Systems developed the BMC.

“Iron Dome”: A central component of Israel’s multi-tiered air defense array, having successfully completed over 4,000 operational interceptions. The “Iron Dome” system is equipped to intercept multi-range rockets, cruise missiles, and UAVs. The system became operational in 2011, has successfully completed many operational tests, and has led to a transformation in the battlefield in many aspects. “Iron Dome” is an Israeli development, with US assistance in equipping some of the system’s batteries. Today, various components of the “Tamir” interceptors are manufactured in the US. The President of the United States, Mr. Joe Biden, recently approved about \$1 billion dedicated to the acquirement of additional interceptors. In 2019, the US military purchased two Iron Dome batteries.

Rafael Advanced Defense Systems is the main developer of the “Iron Dome” system. IAI developed the MMR radar system and mPrest developed the Command and Control center.



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The High-Power Laser System, “Iron Beam”: The laser system is effective, precise, easy to operate, and substantially more cost-effective than any other existing defense system. Israel is one of the first countries in the world that succeeded in developing high-power laser technology at an operational standard as well as the successful demonstration of mortar, rocket, and UAV interceptions. The set of ground-breaking tests completed in April 2022 was the first step in the DDR&D's multi-year program together with Israeli defense industries Rafael and Elbit Systems. The program aims to develop a high-power ground and aerial laser system equipped to deal with multi-range, high-intensity threats. The laser will complement the capabilities of the "Iron Dome" system and will be an effective and efficient addition to Israel's multi-tiered air defense array.

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