Increased DoD budget good news for COTS suppliers
JOHN MCHALE, EDITORIAL DIRECTOR

The latest Department of Defense (DoD) fiscal year (FY) 2019 budget request is $686.1 billion, an increase of about five percent over the FY 2018 request. This is outstanding news for the warfighters, as they will get more support from a technology standpoint than during recent years where budget cuts and sequestration were the rule. Embedded commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) electronics suppliers will find it pleasing too, as the budget request provides funding for avionics; intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR); electronic warfare (EW); and radar applications.

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VPX: Is it the optimum form factor for electronic warfare and sensor processing systems?
MARK LITTLEFIELD, KONTRON

The VPX form factor is used today for a wide range of applications and deployed environments. Applications vary from rail management systems to active electronically scanned array (AESA) radars on high-performance fighter aircraft, and environments vary from lab-benign (or near-lab conditions like wide-body jets) to tracked vehicles and unpressurized bays in high-altitude unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).

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DARPA DREaM program on track to develop new GaN transistors for use in radar, radio communications
LISA DAIGLE, ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR
Research and development laboratory HRL Laboratories is working with DARPA to develop the next generation of gallium nitride (GaN) transistors with dramatically improved linearity and reduced power consumption for use in electronic devices in such applications as radio communications and radar.
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Miniaturizing electronic warfare microelectronics for next-gen military applications
JERRY CHANG, MERCURY SYSTEMS
Electronic warfare (EW) technologies, normally deployed in ground, naval and airborne platforms, provide a strategic and tactical advantage in the modern battlefield. At the same time, modern military forces continue to transition from conventional weapons to precision-guided weapons (PGW), with enhanced strike capabilities.
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Air and missile defense sensor solution from Raytheon passes U.S. Army program review
LISA DAIGLE, ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR
Raytheon has completed a program and technical review for its Lower Tier Air and Missile Defense Sensor (LTAMDS) with the U.S. Army; LTAMDS is intended to eventually replace the AN/MPQ-65A Patriot radar.
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Foundation for U.S. ballistic-missile defense system upgraded, modernized

LISA DAIGLE, ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR

Lockheed Martin reports that the group of systems that enables the disparate elements of the Ballistic Missile Defense System (BMDS) to function as a complete global defense network has completed an overhaul and modernization project.

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Higher-density RF is on your radar with VITA 67.3 standard

MICHAEL WALMSLEY, TE CONNECTIVITY

These days, multifunction radars handle functions from surveillance to jamming to fire control, and can track multiple targets in both short- and long-range threats. That means one thing for your active electronically scanned array (AESA) radar design—you need a lot more signal processing power. As digital processing speeds increase, data converters are implemented closer to the antenna, driving size and weight reductions.

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$161 million in electronic jamming equipment for F/A-18s in U.S., Australia

LISA DAIGLE, ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR

Harris Corp. has won a contract modification worth $161 million to supply the next production lot of electronic jammers to protect U.S. Navy and Australian F/A-18 Hornet and Super Hornet aircraft against electronic threats.

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U.S. Army moves to field-test MAPS tank-protection sensors, system
LISA DAIGLE, ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR
Lockheed Martin has moved onto a next-phase contract with the U.S. Army’s Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC) to continue maturing the Modular Active Protection Systems (MAPS) controller base kit hardware and software...

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Poland enters agreement to purchase Patriot, PAC-3 missiles
MARIANA IRIARTE, TECHNOLOGY EDITOR
U.S. and Polish officials formalized agreements for Poland to purchase Lockheed Martin’s Patriot Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) Missile Segment Enhancement (MSE) missiles and related support equipment and Raytheon’s Patriot from the U.S. Army.

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Thales selects Interface Concept’s ComEth4510a for radar application
MARIANA IRIARTE, TECHNOLOGY EDITOR
Thales engineers have integrated Interface Concept’s ComEth4510a, a 6U OpenVPX Gigabit and 10/40 Gigabit L3+ Ethernet switch and IP Router in a radar application.

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DARPA to hold first annual ERI summit 2018
MARIANA IRIARTE, TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) is holding the first annual Electronics Resurgence Initiative (ERI) Summit from July 23-25, 2018 in San Francisco, California. The three-day event will bring together those most impacted by the coming inflection in Moore's Law, including senior representatives from the commercial sector, defense industrial base, academia, and government.

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