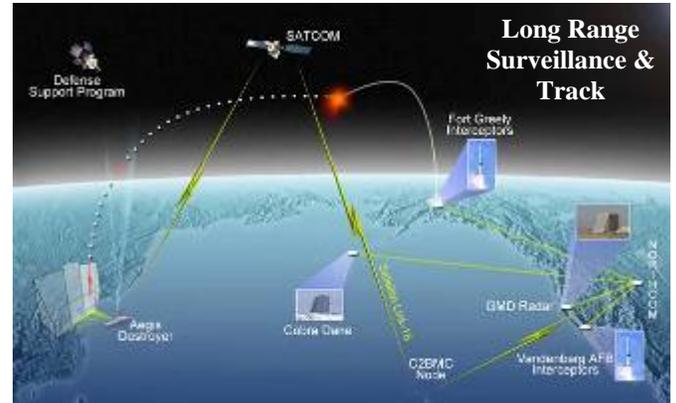




## Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense

Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense is the sea-based element of the Missile Defense Agency's Ballistic Missile Defense System that has been certified, deployed and contributes to the ongoing BMD System under development. Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense leverages and builds upon capabilities inherent in the Aegis Weapon System, Standard Missile, and Navy Ballistic Missile Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Intelligence systems. Aegis is at sea, on patrol, and on alert, performing a strategic role in Homeland Defense. It is a core mission of the U.S. Navy, and a keystone in its "Cooperative Strategy for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Seapower."



### Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense System

#### Long Range Surveillance and Track (LRS&T)

- Aegis Destroyers, on Ballistic Missile Defense patrol, detect and track Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles and report track data to the missile defense system. This capability shares tracking data to cue other missile defense sensors and provides fire control data to Ground-based Midcourse Defense interceptors located at Fort Greely, Alaska and Vandenberg Air Force Base, California.
- At-sea tracking events and flight tests have verified the capability to track Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles and demonstrated the connectivity and reliability of long-haul transmission of track data (across nine time zones) necessary to support missile defense situational awareness, target cueing, and engagements.

#### Engagement Capability

- By the end of 2008, three Aegis Cruisers and 15 Destroyers will be equipped with LRS&T and the capability to intercept short – intermediate range, unitary and separating, midcourse phase, ballistic missile threats, with the Standard Missile 3 (SM-3). Later this year, they will begin being equipped with a near term capability to intercept terminal phase threats with a modified Standard Missile-2 (SM-2). More ships will be equipped in 2010
- Flight tests are conducted using operational warships, operated by fleet Sailors and Officers. Each test progressively increases the operational realism and complexity of targets and scenarios and is witnessed by Navy and Defense Department testing evaluators.
- The capability is also present on several Japanese ships and other nations are interested.

### Testing

- To date, there have been 14 successful intercepts, in 17 attempts, with the SM-3 and two successful intercepts, in two attempts with the SM-2, making the Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense capability, within the Aegis Weapon System, 16 of 19. The system was modified to successfully engage and destroy an errant satellite in February 2008. The next flight mission is scheduled for late 2008, in cooperation with Japan.

### Future Capabilities

- Increased precision track data via radar signal processing upgrades, improving both LRS&T and engagement capabilities and the successful transition of the capability to the Fleet in 2009.
- Defense against intermediate and intercontinental ballistic missiles and increased international participation.