



AV to Deploy Golden Dome for America Limited Area Defense Inner Layer Framework at Grand Forks Air Force Base

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AV partnering on C-UAS system with GrandSKY

GRAND FORKS, N.D.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Oct. 14, 2025-- AeroVironment, Inc. ("AV") (NASDAQ: AVAV), a global leader in multi-layered counter-drone defense technology, today announced an expanded collaboration with GrandSKY, the nation's first commercial unmanned aerial system (UAS) business and aviation park, to establish the foundation of its Golden Dome for America limited area defense architecture at Grand Forks Air Force Base (AFB) in North Dakota.

This press release features multimedia. View the full release here: <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20251014672438/en/>



(left to right) Sen. John Hoeven joined Stephen Lloyd of AV and Tom Swoyer, Jr. of GrandSKY to celebrate the expansion of C-UAS capabilities at Grand Forks AFB on Monday, October 13, 2025, at the UAS Summit and Expo. [Credit: GrandSKY]

Working with GrandSKY, AV will deploy its inner layer distributed counter-UAS (C-UAS) capabilities, the backbone of a layered defense architecture—designed to counter the growing threat of malicious UAS and aerial threats targeting the nation's critical infrastructure at Grand Forks AFB.

Aligned with [AV's partnership with SNC](#) for the Golden Dome for America initiative, this

deployment will include the integration of AV's Titan and Titan-SV RF-based platforms for long-range detection and identification, unified through the AV_Halo™ COMMAND software platform that fuses diverse sensor and surveillance data into a single, mission-ready operating picture for C-UAS and Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) airspace awareness.

"We're deploying technologies that deliver unmatched situational awareness to Grand Forks AFB while providing a road map to expand these limited area defense capabilities at critical sites throughout the nation in support of Golden Dome for America," said Wahid Nawabi, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of AV. "By combining our surveillance and edge-intelligence technologies with the vision of GrandSKY and the support of leaders, like Senator Hoeven, we are accelerating solutions that will protect critical U.S. military installations and the service members who operate within them."

"North Dakota is the premier location for developing both applications for unmanned aircraft and protections against the misuse of drone technology, and bringing AV's counter-UAS system to GrandSKY accelerates the important work being done through initiatives like Project ULTRA," said Senator John Hoeven (R-N.D.). "Counter-drone is a critical priority for the future of our nation's defense. We've seen in Israel and Ukraine how drones are being used to wage war in new and dangerous ways. The capabilities and partnerships we've built in the Grand Forks region will enable our nation to tackle this emerging threat, and we appreciate AV for its growing commitment to GrandSKY and the important role its technology will play in these efforts."

This collaboration builds on the March 2025 [memorandum of understanding \(MOU\)](#) between AV and GrandSKY in support of Project ULTRA, Hoeven's \$110 million public-private initiative to establish Grand Forks as the nation's proving ground for advanced counter-UAS defense. Through this collaboration, AV has already integrated AV_Halo COMMAND Mission software, formerly VigilantHalo, into GrandSKY's BVLOS flight operations, enhancing airspace awareness and control while expanding counter-UAS capacity at the 217-acre flight center.

"We're excited to grow our relationship with AV. What started as a partnership to explore ground-based sense and avoid tools for UAS operations is now expanding to support multi-layered counter-UAS capabilities," said Tom Swoyer, Jr., President at GrandSKY. "Deploying these technologies will give us a path to support a variety of UAS and Counter-UAS tests, operations and demonstrations. One of the most significant advantages we gain is the ability to collaborate closely with our partners at Grand Forks Air Force Base. Through Project ULTRA, we will explore and understand the comprehensive requirements needed to effectively defend against UAS threats and be better equipped to address the full range of challenges and ensure our nation's domestic defenses capabilities are robust and adaptable."

About AV

AV (NASDAQ: AVAV) is a defense technology leader delivering integrated capabilities across air, land, sea, space, and cyber. The Company develops and deploys autonomous systems, loitering munitions, counter-UAS technologies, space-based platforms, directed energy systems, and cyber and electronic warfare capabilities—built to meet the mission needs of today's warfighter and tomorrow's conflicts. At the core of these technologies lies AV_Halo, a modular, mission-ready suite of AI-powered software tools that empowers warfighters and enables full-battlefield dominance: detect, decide, deliver. With a national manufacturing footprint and a deep innovation pipeline, AV delivers proven systems and future-defining capabilities at speed, scale, and operational relevance. For more information, visit www.avinc.com.

About GrandSKY

GrandSKY is a UAS-focused flight operations center on Grand Forks AFB in Grand Forks County, North Dakota. The 217-acre flight center provides Uncrewed Aerial Systems (UAS) tenants and partners with unmatched research, development, training, and testing amenities. GrandSKY leverages access to the Air Force runway and tower support with commercial amenities and investment through a unique public-private partnership supporting civilian and military UAS flight operations. GrandSKY has been offering industry-leading amenities such as over 11,000 square miles of BVLOS capability and 24/7 operations. For more information, visit grandskynd.com.

Safe Harbor Statement

Certain statements in this press release may constitute "forward-looking statements" as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based on current expectations, forecasts, and assumptions that involve risks and uncertainties, which could cause actual results to differ materially. Factors that may cause such differences include, but are not limited to, our ability to perform under existing contracts and obtain new ones; regulatory changes; competitor activities; market growth; product development challenges; and general economic conditions. For a more detailed discussion of these risks, please refer to AV's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We undertake no obligation to update forward-looking statements as a result of new information or future events.

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