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Mitsubishi Electric Awarded Contract for Next-generation Defense Satellite Communications System by Japan Ministry of Defense

Secure, stable defense satcom system will strengthen Japan's defense capabilities in space



Rendition of next-generation defense communications satellite

TOKYO, February 6, 2026 – [Mitsubishi Electric Corporation](#) (TOKYO: 6503) announced today that it was awarded a contract by the Japan Ministry of Defense on February 6 to construct a next-generation defense satellite communications system. Under this contract, Mitsubishi Electric will develop and manufacture the next-generation defense communications satellite, which will succeed the current Kirameki-2 satellite, as well as design the ground system necessary for communicating with the satellite. Through these efforts, the company will establish a defense-communication infrastructure to support operations of the Japan Ministry of Defense and the Japan Self-Defense Forces.

The Ministry of Defense's Outline of Space Domain Defense Guidelines, issued in July 2025, identifies ensuring SATCOM* as an operational foundation and key approach to strengthening defense capabilities in the space domain. In line with these guidelines, the new contract covers the development and manufacture of a next-generation defense communications satellite that will be newly deployed in geostationary orbit. The

* satellite communications

new satellite will replace the Kिरameki-2, an X-band defense communications satellite currently operated by the Japan Ministry of Defense and Self-Defense Forces. The contract also covers designing a ground system to support the new satellite.

To develop and manufacture a satellite with higher resistance to interference and a larger communication capacity than the existing X-band defense communications satellite, Mitsubishi Electric will leverage cutting-edge geostationary communications satellite technologies that it has cultivated in developing defense equipment for the Japan Ministry of Defense and Self-Defense Forces and satellites for domestic and international customers.

The satellite will feature a digital communications payload capable of flexibly altering its beam coverage areas and communications capacity during operation, enabling a flexible response to the Japan Ministry of Defense's and the Self-Defense Forces' growing communications needs. The ground system will be designed to ensure safe and stable communications.

Mitsubishi Electric is committed to strengthening Japan's national security and defense industry base by leveraging technology for more robust deterrence.

Contract Overview

Customer	Japan Ministry of Defense
Title	Construction of the Next-Generation Defense Satellite Communications System
Details	- Development and manufacture of a defense communications satellite (successor to Kिरameki-2) - Design of the ground equipment - Design of the defense satellite communications system
Contract Value	123.5 billion yen
Delivery	March 29, 2030

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About Mitsubishi Electric Corporation

With more than 100 years of experience in providing reliable, high-quality products, Mitsubishi Electric Corporation (TOKYO: 6503) is a recognized world leader in the manufacture, marketing and sales of electrical and electronic equipment used in information processing and communications, space development and satellite communications, consumer electronics, industrial technology, energy, transportation and building equipment. Mitsubishi Electric enriches society with technology in the spirit of its "Changes for the Better." The company recorded a revenue of 5,521.7 billion yen (U.S.\$ 36.8 billion*) in the fiscal year ended March 31, 2025. For more information, please visit www.MitsubishiElectric.com

*U.S. dollar amounts are translated from yen at the rate of ¥150=U.S.\$1, the approximate rate on the Tokyo Foreign Exchange Market on March 31, 2025