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Ariel Partners Wins Spot on SHIELD IDIQ Contract Proud to Support the Missile Defense Agency's \$151B Golden Dome Homeland Defense Program

New York, NY | December 11, 2025 – Ariel Partners is proud to announce that we have been awarded a position on the U.S. Missile Defense Agency's Scalable Homeland Innovative Enterprise Layered Defense (SHIELD) multiple-award, indefinite-delivery/indefinite-quantity (MA-IDIQ) contract. The SHIELD vehicle—valued at up to \$151 billion over ten years—serves as a primary contracting backbone for the Pentagon's Golden Dome missile defense architecture, enabling rapid acquisition and deployment of innovative capabilities to protect the U.S. homeland and allies from ballistic, hypersonic, and cruise missile threats.

As an SHIELD awardee, Ariel Partners is now eligible to compete for task orders supporting key elements of the Golden Dome for America system, a multi-layer, space- and ground-based missile defense network modeled conceptually on Israel's Iron Dome but operating at a far larger, global scale.

“Golden Dome is one of the most consequential national security programs of our time,” said Craig Strong, CTO of Ariel Partners. **“Being selected onto SHIELD positions Ariel Partners to bring our strengths in agile delivery, digital engineering, and AI-enabled decision support to a mission that literally safeguards millions of lives. We're honored to contribute to this historic effort.”**

The SHIELD IDIQ is explicitly designed to deliver innovative capabilities with speed and agility, leveraging digital engineering, model-based systems engineering (MBSE), open systems architectures, artificial intelligence, and machine learning where appropriate.

Under the SHIELD contract, Ariel Partners plans to focus on several of the 19 technical work areas identified by MDA, including:

- Research & Development and Prototyping: Rapid experimentation, proof-of-concept builds, and prototype integration to de-risk emerging technologies for Golden Dome deployment.
- Systems Engineering & Integration: Model-based systems engineering, interface definition, and integration of complex, multi-domain systems spanning space, air, land, sea, and cyber.
- Software, Data, and Analytics: DevSecOps pipelines, microservices, data fusion, and AI/ML analytics to enhance sensor-to-shooter timelines and decision advantage.
- Cybersecurity & Zero-Trust Architectures: Designing and hardening systems to operate securely in contested and cyber-degraded environments.
- Modeling, Simulation, and Analysis: Scenario modeling, wargaming, and performance analysis to validate Golden Dome architectures against advanced threat profiles.

For more information about Ariel Partners, please visit arielpartners.com.