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## Missile Defense Agency And Pacific Explorer II

Earlier this month, another hurdle was successfully passed on the road to the missile defense Initial Defensive Capability (IDC) being put on alert. U.S. Pacific Fleet ships, in concert with the Ground-based Midcourse and C2BMC elements of MDA's Ballistic Missile Defense System (BMDS) conducted a series of interoperability events continuing to build confidence in the Missile Defense Agency's efforts to develop a long-range surveillance and tracking capability in Aegis Destroyers and communicate that data to other elements of the BMDS to support engagement of ICBM-class threats.

Entitled Pacific Explorer II (PACEX II), the exercise teamed various elements of the BMDS, including Aegis BMD, C2BMC, GMD, U.S. Navy ships, satellites and shore stations across the globe in multiple tests. Extensive communications and interoperability capabilities, essential to the Ballistic Missile Defense System, were successfully demonstrated.