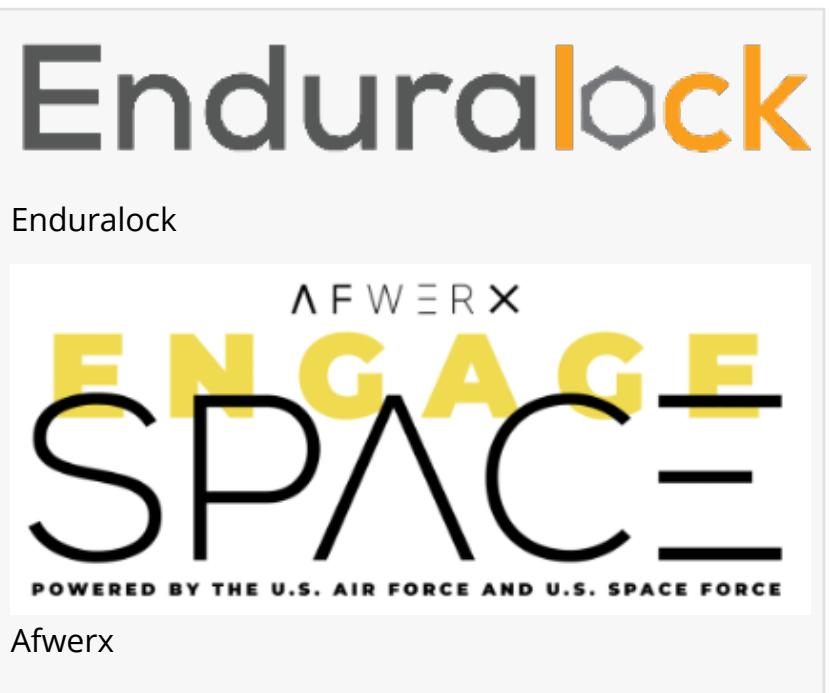


# AFWERX Announces Enduralock Among Top Teams Selected to Revolutionize the Space Ecosystem

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LENEXA, KANSAS, UNITED STATES, October 14, 2020 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [AFWERX](#), the catalyst for fostering innovation within the U.S. Air Force, announced [Enduralock](#) as one of the top 26 participating teams out of 809 total teams selected from across the globe competing in the [EngageSpace](#) challenge, working to revolutionize how the space ecosystem works, dismantle the walls between sectors and close the "believability gap" for what's possible in space.



The EngageSpace Challenge is centered around four key topics – Department of Defense Commercial Space Partnerships, Global Space Transport and Delivery, Persistent ISR and Space Asset Resiliency.

Located in Lenexa, Enduralock competed in the Department of Defense Commercial Space Partnership Challenge alongside a diverse group of teams – originating from the U.S., Canada, Europe, Australia, Brazil and other allied countries – that represent entrepreneurial startups, small businesses, large enterprises, academic institutions and research labs all vying to enable government buyers to pursue the most promising solutions to the most pressing challenges in the space domain.

"The AFWERX EngageSpace Challenge is critical to the future of industrial development in space," stated Mark Rowland of AFWERX. "On behalf of AFWERX and the Department of Defense, we congratulate the teams advancing to the next phase. Their contributions are invaluable and have the potential to create game-changing results across the Air Force enterprise."

The Department of Defense Commercial Space Partnership Challenge focuses on magnifying the capabilities of the Department of Defense (DoD) by expanding and strengthening its commercial portfolio. Teams competed to identify cutting-edge commercial satellite technology and uncover new payload ideas, designs, and prototypes to expand the DoD's capabilities.

Enduralock's Nut Plate is axially self-aligning, which enables bolt engagement of the nut plate, even when the bolt axis is not aligned to the nut element axis. Enduralock's nut plate is also axially spring-loaded, which can significantly reduce maintenance time involving disassembly of large panels with retained bolts. Enduralock offers mechanically locking, high vibration fasteners, that for maintenance are reversible and reusable. These products are ideal for robotic assembly, maintenance and upgradability of satellites and other space structures in-orbit.

"Although Enduralock's products can be used in many industries, we have dedicated tremendous time and effort to develop unique fastener solutions aimed to address the harsh environments experienced in space," said Dr. Harold Hess, CEO and co-founder, Enduralock. "Enduralock's mission is to create custom solutions for critical applications across numerous industries. The reliability and safety provided by our fasteners always remains our top priority."

The AFWERX EngageSpace Challenges attracted 809 solutions and featured over 50 space subject matter experts from the U.S. government to review the submissions. Throughout the event teams showcased virtual booth's complete with video links, their challenge submission, digital brochures. The top 171 teams were invited to pitch their solutions to a panel of subject matter experts, followed by a Q&A from the evaluation team. The top 31 solutions from a total of 26 teams were then identified and invited to further engage with the Air Force with the hope of obtaining contracts. For a complete list of participating teams visit [Engage.Space/exhibitors](https://engage.space/exhibitors).

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#### ABOUT ENDURALOCK

Enduralock is the premier leader and manufacturer of vibration resistant technology in the fastener industry. Headquartered in Lenexa, KS, we ensure commitment to innovation and high-quality products. Enduralock is AS9100D and ISO 9001:2015 certified. Committed to continuous improvement, we strive to meet the ever-changing needs of our customers with our reliable custom engineering capabilities. For more information, please visit <http://www.enduralock.com>.

#### ABOUT AFWERX

Established in 2017, AFWERX is a product of the U.S. Air Force, directly envisioned by former Secretary of the Air Force Heather Wilson. Her vision of AFWERX — to solve some of the toughest challenges that the Air Force faces through innovation and collaboration amongst our nation's top subject matter experts. AFWERX serves as a catalyst to unleash new approaches for the warfighter through a growing ecosystem of innovators. AFWERX and the U.S. Air Force are

committed to exploring viable solutions and partnerships to further strengthen the Air Force, which could lead to additional prototyping, R&D, and follow-on production contracts.

Media Contacts:

Diana Greenberg

dgreenberg@enduralock.com

AFWERX:

AFWERX@kirvindoak.com

Marketing@afwerx.af.mil

Diana Greenberg

ENDURALOCK

+1 913-214-9911

[email us here](#)

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