

# Air-to-Air Refueling Market to reach USD 1323.85 Mn by 2030, transforming aerial operations with advanced technologies

Air-to-Air Refueling Market is growing due to increased demand for tanker aircraft, crucial for extending the range and endurance of fighter jets globally.

AUSTIN, TEXAS, UNITED STATES, March 13, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Air-to-Air Refueling Market Overview:

AIR-TO-AIR REFUELING MARKET SIZE AND SHARE 2023-2030

Market Revenue

\$ 630.31 Million 2022

\$ 1323.85 Million 2030

Key Players

CAGR 9.72%

Air-to-Air-Refueling-Market

globally. Air-to-Air Refueling plays a crucial role in extending the range and endurance of fighter aircraft, enabling them to conduct longer missions without the need to return to base. This capability is particularly vital in scenarios where aircraft need to reach remote or hostile locations, providing flexibility and operational effectiveness to air forces worldwide. The goal of achieving autonomous refueling capabilities is a significant growth factor. Autonomous Air-to-Air Refueling (A3R) aims to automate the refueling process, providing increased efficiency and reducing the need for human intervention. As autonomous technologies progress, they are expected to enhance the safety and precision of aerial refueling operations.

One of the key trends in the Air-to-Air Refueling Market is the development of advanced technologies to enhance the efficiency and safety of refueling operations. Modern tanker aircraft are equipped with advanced systems such as the boom and drogue refueling systems, which allow for faster and more precise refueling of receiver aircraft. Additionally, the integration of automated systems and digital technologies has improved the overall reliability and effectiveness of Air-to-Air Refueling, reducing the workload on aircrew and enhancing operational capabilities in challenging environments. These advancements are driving the growth of the Air-to-Air Refueling Market, as militaries seek to enhance their aerial refueling capabilities to meet evolving mission requirements.

The SNS Insider report reveals that the Air-to-Air Refueling Market, valued at USD 630.31 million in 2022, is poised to reach USD 1323.85 million by 2030. With a projected compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 9.72% from 2023 to 2030, the market is set to witness substantial expansion.

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#### Market Report Scope

Air-to-Air Refueling is a crucial technology primarily utilized by defense forces to transfer fuel from one aircraft to another mid-flight. This process significantly enhances the endurance of the recipient aircraft, eliminating the need for landing during long-range missions. The growing instances of overseas deployment of military aircraft are a key driver for the rising demand for Air-to-Air Refueling technologies. This trend has prompted the adoption of aircraft equipped with Air-to-Air Refueling capabilities, both from the donor and recipient perspectives.

# Major Key Players Included are:

- Jeppesen
- PARKER HANNIFIN CORP
- Cobham Limited
- Eaton
- Marshall Aerospace and Defence Group
- Draken International
- BAE Systems
- **GE**
- Safran
- Airbus S.A.S. and Other Players

#### Market Analysis

Autonomous Air-to-Air Refueling (A3R): The goal of autonomous refueling is to seamlessly integrate manned and unmanned operations. A3R, designed to utilize standardized voice command and control messages, is envisioned to automate the refueling process. Although still in the conceptual stage, developments are underway to introduce sophisticated control systems, including relative positioning systems, data link systems, and remote aerial vehicle operators.

# Segment Analysis

• In terms of components, the fuel tank segment dominates the market share. The growth of this segment is attributed to increased investment in the procurement of tanker aircraft designed to

supply fuel to receiver aircraft platforms globally. Leading nations like the US, UK, and France are actively contributing to the expansion of the fuel tank segment.

• The boom refueling segment is projected to witness the fastest growth by 2027. Current-generation tanker aircraft predominantly use boom refueling systems for higher transfer rates compared to probe and drogue systems. The rigidity of the boom favors its integration into leading tanker aircraft models.

Market Segmentation & Sub-segmentation included are:

# By Aircraft Type

- Fixed Wing
- Rotary Wing

#### By Type

- Manned
- Unmanned

#### By Component

- Pumps
- Nozzles
- Valves
- Booms
- Pods
- Fuel Tanks
- Others

#### By System

- Probe
- Drogue
- Boom Refuelling
- Autonomous

# By End-User

- OEM
- Aftermarket

#### **Growth Factors**

- The continuous upgrade and modernization of military aircraft contribute to the demand for compatible AAR systems. As nations invest in advanced aircraft platforms, the need for efficient and advanced AAR capabilities becomes crucial for ensuring the versatility and effectiveness of the air fleet.
- Air-to-Air Refueling plays a pivotal role in defense operations, offering flexibility and agility to

military forces. It enables the rapid deployment of aircraft to strategic locations, facilitates longer mission durations, and supports various mission profiles, including reconnaissance, air superiority, and air support.

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## Key Regional Development

North America stands out as a leading market for Air-to-Air Refueling systems, driven by robust research and development, extensive deployment, and the presence of key market players. The region's steady growth in the military aviation sector has generated significant demand for Air-to-Air Refueling systems. Major players, original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), and component manufacturers contribute to the dominance of North America in the Air-to-Air Refueling industry. Ongoing military aircraft upgrade programs, advanced military aircraft R&D, and a strong presence of systems and components manufacturers are expected to fuel further demand in the region.

# **Key Takeaways**

- The fuel tank segment leads in market share due to increased investment in tanker aircraft procurement globally.
- The boom refueling segment is poised for rapid growth by 2027, driven by its higher transfer rates compared to alternative systems.
- North America emerges as a dominant market, benefiting from a growing military aviation sector and the presence of key industry players.

# **Recent Developments**

In February 2021: Eaton Corporation signed an agreement to acquire Cobham Mission Systems for USD 2.83 billion. This acquisition is poised to shape the landscape of Air-to-Air Refueling technologies.

In December 2020: The Boeing Company and the US Navy achieved a significant milestone by flying the MQ-25 T1 test asset with an aerial refueling store (ARS) for the first time, marking a pivotal moment in the development of unmanned aerial refueling tankers.

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