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U.S. Army Launches Digital Marketplace for Drone Procurement

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The United States Army has introduced a new digital marketplace for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) aimed at accelerating the procurement of drones and expanding access to advanced unmanned technologies. This initiative is designed to modernize the traditional defence acquisition process, which is often slow and complex, by providing a faster and more efficient platform for purchasing drone systems.

Key Points

The platform acts as a one-stop digital marketplace for purchasing vetted drone systems.

It enables Army units, government agencies, and allied nations to compare, evaluate, and procure drones efficiently.

Developed in collaboration with Amazon Web Services (AWS) and the Army Enterprise Cloud Management Agency.

Includes features like:

Product comparison tools

Feedback mechanisms

Direct ordering system

Aims to reduce procurement delays and deliver technology faster to soldiers.

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Marks a shift from traditional, slow defence procurement systems to a more agile and transparent model.

Also intended to streamline foreign military sales (FMS) and strengthen defence partnerships.

Additional Facts:

UAS (Unmanned Aircraft Systems): Includes drones along with their control systems and communication links.

The marketplace is described as an “Amazon-like platform” for military drone procurement.

This initiative aligns with the U.S. military’s broader push toward rapid acquisition and deployment of emerging technologies, especially drones.

The U.S. Army is increasingly focusing on mass deployment of low-cost drones, influenced by modern warfare trends (e.g., Ukraine conflict).

The move helps expand the defence industrial base by allowing participation from more private and innovative firms.