

Target Designation Radar Market Report: Trends, Forecast and Competitive Analysis to 2031

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Abstracts

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Target Designation Radar Trends and Forecast

The future of the global target designation radar market looks promising with opportunities in the Air Force, navy, and army markets. The global target designation radar market is expected to grow with a CAGR of 7.3% from 2025 to 2031. The major drivers for this market are the growing demand for advanced defense systems & technologies and rising geopolitical tensions & military expenditures.

Lucintel forecasts that, within the type category, two-coordinate radar is expected to witness higher growth over the forecast period.

Within the application category, the air force is expected to witness the highest growth.

In terms of regions, APAC is expected to witness the highest growth over the forecast period.

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Emerging Trends in the Target Designation Radar Market

The emerging trends in the target designation radar market are shaping future

applications and dynamics within this industry. These trends reflect technological advancements, growing operational needs, and changing defense strategies. The target designation radar market is experiencing several emerging trends that highlight advancements in technology and shifting defense priorities. As military operations become more complex and dynamic, the demand for more sophisticated radar systems is increasing. One significant trend is the integration of artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) into radar technologies, which enhances target identification, tracking, and situational awareness. Additionally, the focus on unmanned systems and automation is shaping the market, with radar systems being designed to support drone and robotic operations, providing real-time data for effective decision-making.

Combined Integration of AI and Machine Learning: The integration of AI and machine learning with radar systems is a prominent trend. AI algorithms can accelerate target recognition, classification, and tracking by processing large amounts of real-time radar data. Machine learning models are regularly updated to keep up with new threats. This development enhances the efficiency of targeting systems, making them more accurate and effective in complex operational conditions.

Radar Systems with Multi-Function Capabilities: Many countries now advocate for multi-function radar systems, which combine different types of radars, such as synthetic aperture radar (SAR) and ground moving target indicators (GMTI). These systems offer comprehensive surveillance, targeting, and reconnaissance from a single platform. Moreover, multi-function radars improve an organization's operational flexibility by reducing the need for multiple specialized systems, providing cost-effective solutions that meet modern defense needs.

Miniaturization and Mobility: Miniaturization is one of the key trends leading to the rise of portable and deployable radars. Advances in technology have led to the creation of smaller radars that can be mounted on UAVs, small vehicles, or portable ground stations, among others. These compact versions exhibit greater mobility than their larger counterparts, making them more versatile when deployed in various tactical situations.

Integration into Autonomous Systems: Radar systems are increasingly being integrated with autonomous systems, such as drones and unmanned ground vehicles (UGVs). By integrating radar into these machines, real-time target

designation can be achieved without human intervention. These radar systems help optimize task accomplishment by ensuring constant monitoring in dangerous environments.

Advancement of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning: One of the most significant trends in the target designation radar market is the integration of AI and machine learning technologies. These advancements allow radar systems to process vast amounts of data quickly and efficiently, improving target identification and tracking capabilities. AI algorithms can analyze patterns and predict potential threats, enhancing situational awareness for military personnel.

The target designation radar market is entering a dynamic phase marked by significant advancements and emerging trends that will shape its future. The integration of AI and machine learning enhances target identification and tracking capabilities, while multi-function radars streamline operations and improve efficiency. The growing reliance on unmanned systems underscores the need for advanced radar technologies that support these platforms, further enhancing operational effectiveness.

Recent Developments in the Target Designation Radar Market

The target designation radar market is experiencing a wave of recent developments that reflect advancements in military technology and changing defense requirements. As nations seek to enhance their surveillance and targeting capabilities, innovations in radar systems are becoming essential for effective military operations. One significant development is the integration of advanced signal processing techniques and artificial intelligence, which improve target identification and tracking accuracy. These technologies enable radar systems to analyze complex environments and differentiate between various targets in real time, thereby enhancing situational awareness. Moreover, there is a growing trend toward the miniaturization of radar systems, allowing for portable and versatile applications in diverse operational scenarios. This adaptability is particularly valuable for special operations forces and rapid response units.

Advanced Signal Processing Technologies: The performance of target designation radars has been significantly improved with the advent of new radar signal processing technologies. For example, adaptive filtering, digital beamforming, and novel algorithmic processing have allowed for better detection and tracking of targets in cluttered or challenging environments. These improvements enhance the precision of targeting information used by defense

applications, increasing the accuracy and reliability of radars.

Phased-Array Radar Systems: The use of phased-array radar systems is an important development in the market. These systems employ electronically steerable antennas capable of moving the direction of a beam quickly without any mechanical movement. This enables quick target acquisition and tracking, making these radars suitable for highly dynamic combat settings such as fast-paced operations. The integration of these radars on different platforms is improving their overall performance.

Improved Counter-Jamming Ability: Advances in radar technology have increased resistance to electronic jamming and countermeasures. Features like frequency hopping and spread-spectrum techniques ensure that radar systems remain viable despite electronic warfare threats. These changes ensure that target designation radars continue functioning under contested conditions where opponents use various forms of electronic countermeasures that could affect their performance or even reliability.

Increased Integration with Multi-Domain Systems: There is a growing trend of merging target designation radars with multi-domain systems, which combine sensors from air, land, sea, and space-based sources. This integration gives rise to a comprehensive situational awareness framework that allows for better coordination and response to threats. It also makes sensing, communication, and decision-making much easier.

Recent developments in the target designation radar market include advancements in signal processing technologies, phased-array radar systems, improved jamming resistance, and greater integration with multi-domain systems. Consequently, the market is making strides toward better radar performance and increased operational effectiveness in modern defense operations.

Strategic Growth Opportunities for Target Designation Radar Market

The target designation radar market presents a wealth of strategic growth opportunities, driven by advancements in technology and evolving defense needs. As military operations become increasingly sophisticated, the demand for enhanced targeting and surveillance capabilities is rising, creating avenues for innovation and investment. One significant opportunity lies in the integration of artificial intelligence and machine

learning into radar systems. These technologies can improve target identification, tracking, and situational awareness, enabling military forces to respond more effectively to dynamic threats. Additionally, the trend toward multi-function radar systems—capable of performing various roles—offers potential for companies to develop versatile solutions that reduce costs and streamline operations for defense agencies.

Integration with Emerging Technologies: There is room for integrating AI and machine learning into target designation radars, along with advanced sensor fusion technologies. This integration can improve the accuracy of target tracking by adding AI and machine learning capabilities to existing radars, enhancing their target recognition abilities. This enables better decision-making and more effective targeting by providing comprehensive situational awareness through integration with other advanced sensors.

Development of Multi-Function Radar Systems: Multi-function radar systems are capable of performing multiple roles, such as SAR/GMTI. These systems provide flexible solutions that can be used for surveillance, reconnaissance, or targeting from a single platform. This reduces the cost compared to purchasing several specialized radars and increases operational flexibility.

Expansion into Emerging Markets: Expanding into emerging markets, where there is an increasing need for enhanced defense capabilities, is a strategic opportunity for radar manufacturers. Countries investing in modernizing their defense capabilities are potential customers for advanced target designation radars. Companies should target these markets by offering tailored solutions with competitive pricing to boost sales.

Enhancement of Portable and Mobile Radar Systems: There is a growing demand for portable or mobile radar systems that can be used in various tactical situations. This can be addressed by creating smaller, lightweight radars deployed on UAVs, vehicles, or other portable devices. These products offer increased mobility and versatility, making them suitable for modern military operations and improving the market outlook.

The strategic growth prospects in target designation radar include integration with emerging technologies, development of multi-function radar systems, expansion into emerging markets, and enhancement of portable radar solutions. These opportunities will foster market growth, innovation, and competitiveness in the ever-changing defense

environment.

Target Designation Radar Market Driver and Challenges

The target designation radar market is influenced by a range of major drivers and challenges that shape its growth and development. As military operations become more complex and the demand for precision targeting increases, understanding these dynamics is essential for stakeholders. Key drivers include the integration of advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence and machine learning, which significantly enhance target identification and tracking capabilities. The ongoing modernization of military forces worldwide further fuels the demand for sophisticated radar systems, enabling more effective and efficient operations. However, the market also faces significant challenges, including stringent regulatory requirements and the need for interoperability among various defense systems. Additionally, concerns regarding cybersecurity and the potential for adversarial exploitation of radar systems present ongoing risks.

Drivers of Market Growth:

Advancements in Radar Technology: Advances in technology, such as signal processing enhancements and phased-array radars, have improved the accuracy, range, and versatility of these radars. Modern defense operations require state-of-the-art radar systems, which are made possible due to the continuing evolution of this technology.

Increase in the Defense Budget: Growth in global defense budgets is influencing the expansion of the target designation radar market. Increased investments in military modernization and advanced weaponry are driving the demand for sophisticated radar systems. Governments are allocating additional funding to improve defense capabilities, including upgrading radars for better targeting precision and situational awareness.

Modern Warfare Integration: Integration of target designation radars with modern warfare systems, such as drones and autonomous vehicles, is a key driver. Combining radar capabilities with other advanced systems enhances operational effectiveness and provides comprehensive situational awareness, supporting precision targeting and improving military efficiency.

Increasing Geopolitical Tensions: Demand for advanced radar systems is driven

by increasing geopolitical tensions and regional conflicts. Countries facing security threats and conflicts invest in upgrading their defense technologies, including target designation radars. The need to improve surveillance and targeting capacity in volatile regions pushes market growth and drives innovation in radar design.

Challenges in the Market:

High Development and Maintenance Costs: The cost of developing and maintaining target designation radar systems is high, which poses a challenge. Researching advanced radar technologies requires significant investment, along with regular maintenance and upgrades. These costs can affect affordability and limit accessibility for some defense contractors.

Technological Complexity: The technological complexity of target designation radar systems is another challenge. Developing advanced radar technologies requires specialized skills and resources. This complexity can cause longer development periods, technical problems, and delays in project timelines and costs.

Vulnerability to Electronic Warfare: Target designation radars are vulnerable to electronic warfare tactics, such as jamming or spoofing. The ability of adversaries to use electronic countermeasures to disrupt radar functioning reduces its effectiveness. However, developing radar systems with increased resilience to electronic warfare is difficult and requires continuous innovation.

The target designation radar market is influenced by technological advancements, increasing defense budgets, integration with modern systems, and rising geopolitical tensions. However, the market also faces significant challenges, such as high development costs, technological complexity, vulnerability to electronic warfare, and regulatory restrictions.

List of Target Designation Radar Companies

Companies in the market compete on the basis of product quality offered. Major players in this market focus on expanding their manufacturing facilities, R&D investments, infrastructural development, and leverage integration opportunities across the value

chain. Through these strategies target designation radar companies cater increasing demand, ensure competitive effectiveness, develop innovative products & technologies, reduce production costs, and expand their customer base. Some of the target designation radar companies profiled in this report include-

Raytheon

Northrop Grumman

MEADS

Rockwell Collins

Lockheed Martin

BAE Systems

Thales Group

Aerospace Nanhu Electronic Information Technology

Glarun Technology

Leike Defense Technology

Target Designation Radar by Segment

The study includes a forecast for the global target designation radar market by type, application, and region.

Target Designation Radar Market by Type [Analysis by Value from 2019 to 2031]:

Two-Coordinate Radar

Three-Coordinate Radar

Target Designation Radar Market by Application [Analysis by Value from 2019 to 2031]:

Air Force

Navy

Army

Target Designation Radar Market by Region [Analysis by Value from 2019 to 2031]:

North America

Europe

Asia Pacific

The Rest of the World

Country Wise Outlook for the Target Designation Radar Market

The target designation radar market is witnessing significant developments across various countries, reflecting advancements in military technology and evolving defense strategies. As nations prioritize enhancing their surveillance and targeting capabilities, investments in advanced radar systems are rising.

United States: Recent developments in the U.S. target designation radar market include advancements in radar signal processing and integration with autonomous systems. Radar system improvement is a priority for the U.S. military, with AI-based target tracking and identification being key areas of focus. The development of phased-array radars, which offer better precision and flexibility, is also a significant advancement. A comprehensive situational awareness framework has been a priority, achieved by integrating radar technology with other sensors, such as satellites and drones.

China: China has made significant strides in establishing modernized target designation radar systems. These include multi-mode radars that integrate synthetic aperture radars (SAR) for tracking targets. China is also investing heavily in technologies that enable targeted ordnance deployment and long-range detection through radar systems. Additionally, miniaturized radars for

UAVs have attracted substantial investment to enhance surveillance capabilities.

Germany: Germany has seen advances in radar technologies related to reliability and range. German defense firms are working on incorporating electronic warfare capabilities into their radar systems to address new threats. Improvements in jamming resistance and resolution, including enhanced resolution features, have been made. Germany is also focused on improving interoperability with NATO radar systems to ensure the effectiveness of joint missions.

India: India is investing in upgrading indigenous radar systems to strengthen defense capabilities. These radar systems are designed to perform optimally under various environmental conditions, producing high-resolution imagery. India's military is focusing on integrating its radar network with ground-based and airborne platforms to enhance targeting precision and response time.

Japan: Japan has made significant advancements in target designation radars, focusing on high-resolution and multi-functional capabilities. These include new radar concepts for detecting and tracking targets in challenging environments. Japan is also developing radars compatible with its Aegis ballistic missile defense system to enhance defensive capabilities.

Features of the Global Target Designation Radar Market

Market Size Estimates: Target designation radar market size estimation in terms of value (\$B).

Trend and Forecast Analysis: Market trends (2019 to 2024) and forecast (2025 to 2031) by various segments and regions.

Segmentation Analysis: Target designation radar market size by type, application, and region in terms of value (\$B).

Regional Analysis: Target designation radar market breakdown by North America, Europe, Asia Pacific, and Rest of the World.

Growth Opportunities: Analysis of growth opportunities in different types, applications, and regions for the target designation radar market.

Strategic Analysis: This includes M&A, new product development, and competitive landscape of the target designation radar market.

Analysis of competitive intensity of the industry based on Porter's Five Forces model.

If you are looking to expand your business in this or adjacent markets, then contact us. We have done hundreds of strategic consulting projects in market entry, opportunity screening, due diligence, supply chain analysis, M & A, and more.

This report answers following 11 key questions:

Q.1. What are some of the most promising, high-growth opportunities for the target designation radar market by type (two-coordinate radar and three-coordinate radar), application (air force, navy, and army), and region (North America, Europe, Asia Pacific, and the Rest of the World)?

Q.2. Which segments will grow at a faster pace and why?

Q.3. Which region will grow at a faster pace and why?

Q.4. What are the key factors affecting market dynamics? What are the key challenges and business risks in this market?

Q.5. What are the business risks and competitive threats in this market?

Q.6. What are the emerging trends in this market and the reasons behind them?

Q.7. What are some of the changing demands of customers in the market?

Q.8. What are the new developments in the market? Which companies are leading these developments?

Q.9. Who are the major players in this market? What strategic initiatives are key players pursuing for business growth?

Q.10. What are some of the competing products in this market and how big of a threat do they pose for loss of market share by material or product substitution?

Q.11. What M&A activity has occurred in the last 5 years and what has its impact been on the industry?

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