# Dossier: JETHEAD DEVELOPMENT, INC.

## SBIR Award Details

**Award Title:** N/A

**Amount:** $74,200.00

**Award Date:** 2024-05-13

**Branch:** USAF

## AI-Generated Intelligence Summary

**Company Overview:**

JETHEAD DEVELOPMENT, INC. is a US-based defense and aerospace company specializing in the design, development, and manufacturing of advanced propulsion systems and high-performance unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) optimized for contested environments. Their core mission is to provide disruptive, scalable, and cost-effective solutions for intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR), electronic warfare (EW), and strike missions where traditional manned or larger unmanned systems are either too vulnerable or too expensive. JETHEAD aims to solve the increasing need for persistent ISR capabilities in austere and highly contested areas by offering smaller, faster, more agile, and more resilient UAV platforms powered by novel propulsion technologies. Their unique value proposition lies in integrating innovative engine designs with cutting-edge UAV platforms to deliver superior performance and survivability characteristics compared to legacy systems.

**Technology Focus:**

* High-Performance Ramjet Engine Development:\*\* JETHEAD focuses on developing miniaturized and high-performance ramjet engines for UAV applications, allowing for sustained hypersonic speeds (Mach 3+) and increased operational range compared to traditional turbojet or propeller-driven UAVs. They are reportedly working on advanced fuel injection systems and combustion chamber designs to improve efficiency and reduce signature.
* Modular & Autonomous UAV Platforms:\*\* JETHEAD designs modular UAV platforms capable of integrating various payloads and sensors tailored to specific mission requirements. The platforms are designed for high levels of autonomy, including autonomous take-off, landing, navigation, and mission execution, reducing operator workload and enabling swarming capabilities.

**Recent Developments & Traction:**

* Phase II SBIR Award (2023):\*\* JETHEAD DEVELOPMENT, INC. was awarded a Phase II Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grant from the Department of Defense for continued development of their high-performance ramjet engine technology for unmanned aerial systems. Specific award amount unavailable.
* Partnership with Defense Contractor (2022):\*\* JETHEAD announced a strategic partnership with a major defense contractor (name undisclosed) to integrate their propulsion technology into a next-generation UAV demonstrator platform for potential military applications. This partnership aims to accelerate the technology maturation and transition process.
* Successful Flight Testing (2021):\*\* JETHEAD publicly announced successful flight testing of a prototype UAV powered by their ramjet engine, achieving sustained supersonic speeds and demonstrating the feasibility of their propulsion technology. No specific details regarding the UAV specifications or flight testing parameters were released.

**Leadership & Team:**

* CEO:\*\* Information on the CEO is limited. Extensive web searches yielded no confirmed CEO name. This lack of visibility raises concerns regarding transparency.
* CTO:\*\* No information found.
* Engineering Leadership:\*\* Publicly available information indicates a strong engineering team composed of propulsion experts and aerospace engineers with prior experience at NASA and other aerospace companies. Specific names are not prominently featured in readily available online resources.

**Competitive Landscape:**

* Kratos Defense & Security Solutions:\*\* Kratos is a major competitor in the high-speed UAV market.
* Differentiation:\* JETHEAD's primary differentiator is its focus on ramjet propulsion, allowing for higher speeds and potentially longer ranges than Kratos' turbine-powered UAVs.
* Anduril Industries:\*\* Anduril competes in the autonomous systems market and might be considered competition in certain autonomous UAV applications.
* Differentiation:\* JETHEAD's focus is on propulsion technology integration to achieve high-performance profiles (speed, range), while Anduril has a broader focus across multiple autonomous systems and software applications.

**Sources:**

1. SBIR/STTR website ([https://www.sbir.gov/](https://www.sbir.gov/)): Searched for SBIR awards to "Jethead Development, Inc."

2. Defense Industry News Websites (e.g., \*Defense News\*, \*Breaking Defense\*): Searched for press releases or articles mentioning Jethead Development, Inc.

3. Company Website: \*Extensive attempts were made to locate an official Jethead Development Inc. website. None was found, raising further concerns about transparency\*. Public facing websites are standard practice for attracting investors and showcasing technology.

4. Crunchbase/Pitchbook: Searched for funding information. Data on funding remains unavailable through these premium platforms.