

Macro Roundup Article

Headline: [Pentagon Plan to Buy Thousands of Drones Faces Looming Snags](#)

Article Link: <https://www.wsj.com/politics/national-security/pentagon-plan-to-buy-thousands-of-drones-faces-looming-snags-6b30a1bb>

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Tweet: The U.S. Department of Defense wants to buy thousands of drones in the next 18 months and as many as 2,000 larger uncrewed jets, but is running into supply constraints of both material and skilled labor.

Summary: The Pentagon's goal must contend with booming demand in the commercial aerospace market that has left a shortage of skilled labor, raw materials, and parts such as advanced electronics and fasteners. The Pentagon wants to buy thousands of cheap drones in as little as 18 months, and as many as 2,000 larger uncrewed jets. By contrast, one of its primary drone suppliers, Shield AI, produced 38 of the aircraft last year. The emerging air taxi makers present another challenge. Roughly a dozen companies are vying to develop propeller-driven vehicles that can take off and land like helicopters, potentially cutting journey times in New York City, Los Angeles, and other big urban areas. Flush with cash from venture capital, stock offerings, and military contracts, the sector is moving closer to large-scale production. Related: Pentagon Plans Vast AI Fleet to Counter China Threat and Rocket Motor Shortage Curbs Weapons for Ukraine and Military Briefing: Ukraine War Exposes 'Hard Reality' of West's Weapons Capacity

Primary Topic: Security

Topics: Investment, News article, Productivity, Security

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