# Shyam Sankar praises Tesla and SpaceX for revitalising American manufacturing



During a recent appearance on The Ben Shapiro Show, Shyam Sankar, Chief Technology Officer of Palantir Technologies Inc., offered insights on the state of American manufacturing, specifically praising the methodologies employed by Tesla Inc. and SpaceX. He indicated that these companies have set a benchmark for revitalising the industrial capabilities of the United States. “It’s not true that we’re bad at making things in this country. The ability to do that in a modern way is asymmetrically distributed,” he stated.

Sankar elaborated on the manufacturing practices at SpaceX and Tesla, asserting that SpaceX incorporates a significantly vertically integrated production model, while Tesla operates as a "software-defined production line." Sankar's comments come on the heels of a remarkable surge in Palantir’s stock, which has risen over 312% in the past year, bringing the company’s market capitalisation to a level that now surpasses that of traditional defence contractor Lockheed Martin Corp.

As Palantir pivots from its longstanding government-focused roots, the firm's commercial revenue has become a vital component of its business model, accounting for 50% of its overall revenue. This shift has been accompanied by an increasing emphasis on artificial intelligence, particularly in military applications. The company recently announced a partnership with Amazon Web Services to provide Anthropic’s Claude AI models to U.S. intelligence agencies.

Sankar was critical of conventional manufacturing methods, specifically pointing out deficiencies in supply chain management. “When I interact with these companies, their understanding of their supply chain is very shallow. They treat it as a black box,” he remarked, drawing a contrast with Elon Musk's comprehensive understanding and approach at his companies.

Addressing concerns surrounding U.S. military readiness, Sankar highlighted significant gaps, noting, “If you look at the amount of weapons we have on hand to fight China, war games put it at 8 days. It should be closer to 800 days.” He cited the ongoing conflict in Ukraine as a stark example of production shortfalls facing the defence sector.

The strategic direction outlined by Sankar aligns with the company’s broader goals, as CEO Alex Karp has voiced aspirations for Palantir to establish itself as a leader in the AI space. Analyst Dan Ives from Wedbush Securities has earmarked 2025 as a pivotal year for Palantir’s AI platform, predicting that the company will continue to integrate advanced manufacturing techniques along with AI capabilities across both government agencies and the commercial landscape.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

* <https://www.mountbonnell.info/boca-chica-blastoff/spacexs-approach-to-vertical-integration-in-manufacturing> - Corroborates SpaceX's vertical integration strategy in manufacturing, including producing most components in-house and its impact on cost control, quality, and innovation.
* <https://www.mountbonnell.info/boca-chica-blastoff/spacexs-approach-to-vertical-integration-in-manufacturing> - Details how SpaceX's vertical integration allows for rapid iteration on designs and maintains tight quality control, setting new standards for spacecraft production.
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BrHzT5os_5Y> - Explains how SpaceX's manufacturing techniques, such as friction-stir welding and advanced materials, have benefited Tesla's production processes.
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BrHzT5os_5Y> - Describes the shared engineering talent and material innovations between SpaceX and Tesla, including the use of specialized alloys.
* <https://www.mountbonnell.info/boca-chica-blastoff/spacexs-approach-to-vertical-integration-in-manufacturing> - Highlights SpaceX's use of advanced manufacturing techniques like 3D printing and automation in its production lines.
* <https://www.noahwire.com> - Source of the original article discussing Shyam Sankar's comments on American manufacturing, Tesla, and SpaceX.
* <https://www.mountbonnell.info/boca-chica-blastoff/spacexs-approach-to-vertical-integration-in-manufacturing> - Provides insight into Elon Musk's role in championing vertical integration across his companies, including SpaceX.
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=27PHT9K8izo> - Details the assembly and production process of SpaceX's Starship, highlighting the vertical integration and advanced manufacturing techniques used.
* <https://www.mountbonnell.info/boca-chica-blastoff/spacexs-approach-to-vertical-integration-in-manufacturing> - Discusses the industry and market effects of SpaceX's manufacturing strategy, including its influence on other space companies and global policies.
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BrHzT5os_5Y> - Explains how Tesla has benefited from SpaceX's expertise in high-tech manufacturing techniques, such as solving quality problems using ultrasound sensors.
* <https://www.noahwire.com> - Mentions Palantir's shift towards commercial revenue and its emphasis on artificial intelligence, particularly in military applications, aligning with the company's broader goals.
* <https://www.benzinga.com/markets/equities/25/01/43021419/palantirs-shyam-sankar-says-spacex-and-tesla-are-models-for-reviving-american-manufacturing-amid> - Please view link - unable to able to access data