DEFENSE SBIR/STTR PROGRAM QUARTERLY REVIEW

Q1 Volume 2 Issue 1

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Defense SBIR/STTR Program Office
Office of the Under Secretary of
Defense for Research and Engineering

Message from the Defense SBIR/STTR Program Office

We are pleased to share DoD SBIR/STTR program updates.

As we forge ahead into the new year, we remain committed to charting a course for success. We will continue to participate in virtual and in-person events to educate small businesses on how to work with DoD, and continue to keep the lines of communication open on process changes as a result of new mandated requirements.

The innovation and support made possible by the SBIR and STTR programs continues to address the mission-critical needs of the Department of Defense and the Nation. Thank you for your contributions to the Department's SBIR/STTR programs.

Sincerely,

Susan Celis and Matthew Williams

Matthew Williams
Technology Portfolio Manager
Defense SBIR/STTR Program Office
Office of the Under Secretary of
Defense for Research and Engineering

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The Hill

Since passage of the SBIR/STTR Extension Act of 2022, our focus has been on interpreting and implementing the new mandated requirements. Since Congress has given us an end-of-June deadline, our first major reauthorization task is to implement the Foreign Risk Management requirements for disclosure and due diligence.

We established a tiger team with representation from across the Services and Defense Agencies that is focused on the following four lines of effort (LOEs):

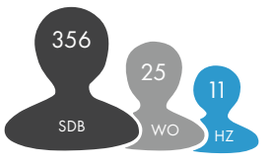
1) Developing Overall Due Diligence Framework;
2) Developing Due Diligence Review Process;
3) Solicitation/Contract Modifications; and
4) Foreign Influence Education and Outreach.

The approach is to implement a Department-wide program that applies a common, and scalable risk-based framework that ensures consistent outcomes for the Department and small businesses. To that end, we remain committed to support our small business partners in the midst of these programmatic changes and will communicate how these new requirements will impact the Department's SBIR/STTR programs and the small business community through our newsletter, our website and focused announcements from our listserv.

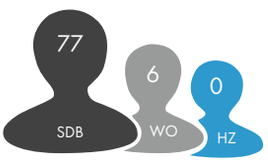
More information on the importance of protecting against foreign influence and protecting small business intellectual property can be found in the FBI's video "Made in Beijing: The Plan for Global Market Dominiation.
Watch the video here: https://www.fbi.gov/video-repository/made-in-beijing-030722.mp4/view.

DoD SBIR/STTR Program Statistics — First Quarter

SBIR Phase I proposal submissions by socioeconomic category



SBIR Phase II proposal submissions by socioeconomic category



STTR Phase I proposal submissions by socioeconomic category

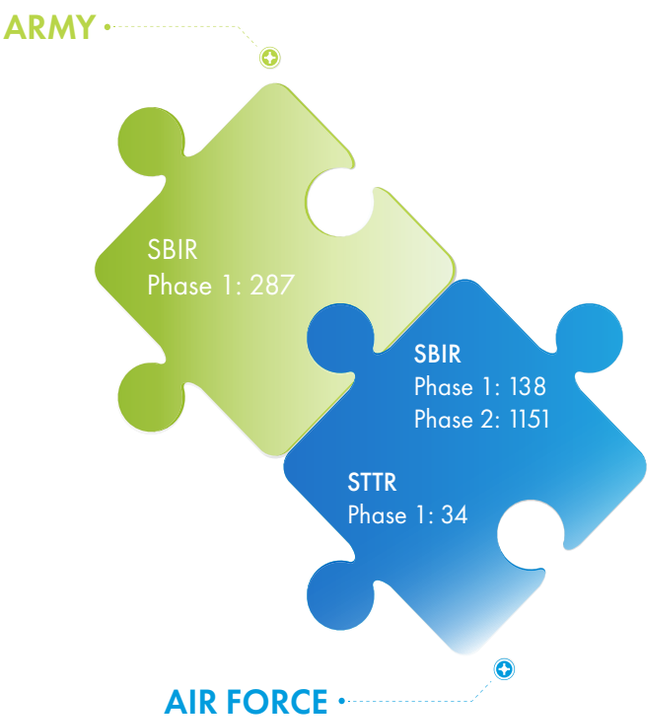
TERMINOLOGY KEY:

SDB = Small Disadvantaged Business

HZ = HUBZONE Historically Underutilized Business Zone

WO = Woman-owned Small Business

SBIR/STTR Proposal Submissions by Component



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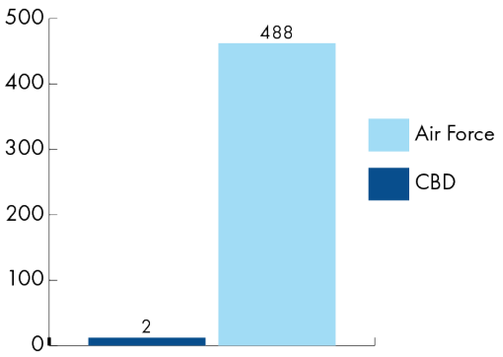
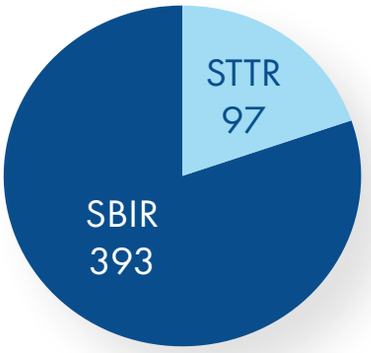
Awards by Component



Q1 SBIR/STTR Awards



Funding Opportunities

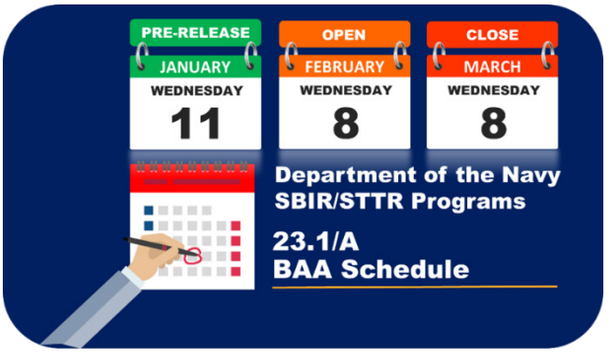
In the first quarter, the Defense SBIR/STTR Program Office released the FY23 DoD-wide Annual SBIR and STTR Broad Agency Announcements (BAAs). The Annual BAAs allow participating DoD Components the flexibility to advertise SBIR or STTR topics throughout the course of the fiscal year, outside of the three pre-scheduled DoD BAA cycles. Each topic release has its own corresponding pre-release, open and close dates as outlined in each release. Seven topics were released under the Annual SBIR BAA in the first quarter.

For a full list of current funding opportunities, please visit https://www.defensesbirsttr.mil/SBIR-STTR/Opportunities/ & https://www.dodsbirsttr.mil/submissions/login.

To be notified of new funding opportunities and to receive e-mail updates on the DoD SBIR and STTR Programs, subscribe to our listserv by visiting https://www.dodsbirsttr.mil/submissions/login and clicking "DSIP Listserv" located under Quick Links. In addition, follow us on social media—Twitter, @dodsbir, Facebook, dodsbir and our website, www.defensesbirsttr.mil.

Components Connection

Department of the Navy
Near-Term DON SBIR/STTR Funding Opportunities



The DON SBIR 23.1/STTR 23.A topics are now open for proposal submissions. This funding opportunity includes 78 standard Department of the Navy (DON) SBIR Phase I topics, six SBIR Direct to Phase II topics, and 29 STTR topics from five of the Navy's Systems Commands. The pre-release period allows direct public communication between small businesses and Technical Points of Contact (TPOCs) who will answer technical questions about the topics.

DON SBIR 23.1/STTR 23.A topics will close for proposal submissions on March 8 at 12:00 PM ET. To access the topics included in these BAAs, please visit the links below:

https://www.navysbir.com/topics23_1.htm https://www.navysbir.com/topics23_a.htm

More information, including specific areas of DON needs and complete instructions on developing and submitting proposals, is available at https://navysbir.com.

DON SBIR/STTR Program

Phase III Success & Spotlight Stories

Success in SBIR/STTR is measured in several ways including impact to the Federal Government and the Nation, cost savings to the Federal Government, and benefit to small business; but it is best measured by the value of "Phase III" or "commercialization". Phase III is work that derives from, extends, or completes an effort made under prior SBIR/STTR funding agreements, but is funded by sources other than the SBIR/STTR program. Phase III includes products, services, Research/Research and Development (R/R&D) or any combination thereof, including testing and evaluation of products, services, or technologies. No Federal Government SBIR/STTR set-aside funds are involved in Phase III; Phase III funding can come from the private sector and/or the Government in the form of mission dollars. To date, the DON has funded over $10.6 billion to commercialize SBIR/STTR technologies.

The DON SBIR/STTR Success & Spotlight Stories webpage includes samples of Navy Phase III projects and their impact to the DON and the associated small businesses. Some examples highlight Phase III Success while others detail outstanding Transition/Commercialization successes via the Navy's popular SBIR/STTR Transitions Program (STP). The webpage is formatted so users can easily locate success stories by year, firm name, state, Navy Systems Command (SYSCOM), and keywords. For more information, please visit https://www.navysbir.com/success/.

Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) Blue Cyber Education Series for Small Businesses

The CISO's Blue Cyber Education Series for Small Business provides cyber security training and awareness to small businesses. The Education Series includes Ask Me Anything sessions every Tuesday, monthly boot camps, plus videos, reference guides, and office hours hosted by Navy CISO's Blue Cyber Director Kelley Kiernan, Chief Technology Officer. Don't miss the February 21 Ask Me Anything session! To register click HERE.

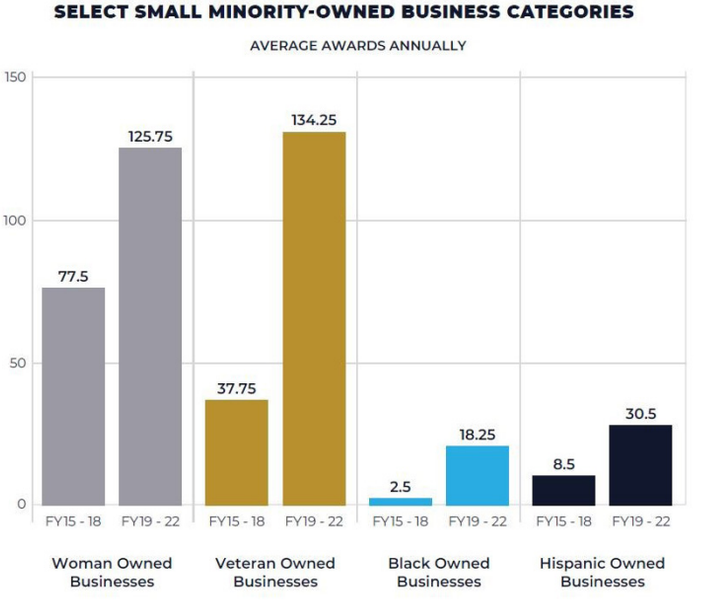
Department of the Air Force

AFVentures Driving Growth and Increasing Diversity

AFVentures, one of the five Department of the Air Force innovation organizations, has successfully expanded the number of small businesses working with the Department of the Air Force, enabling the DAF to onboard cutting-edge technology from small businesses that may otherwise never have considered working in the defense sector. By attracting more and more businesses, AFVentures creates a flywheel of success, creating more competition for SBIR/STTR awards and continually improving the quality of small business offerings.

Since the launch of the Open Topic in 2018, AFVentures has grown the size of the DAF's small business portfolio by over 2,200 companies - and the size of the portfolio is growing at a 2.7x faster rate than before. This is accomplished by providing pathways for the most promising businesses to win large government awards via the STRATFI program, by reducing barriers to entry, and by conducting extensive outreach.

AFVentures invites small business founders from all backgrounds to consider participating in the SBIR/STTR program. From fiscal years 2018 through 2021, AFVentures supported increasing growth for businesses owned by women, veterans, and minorities (as self-reported in the federal awards database SAM.gov). In FY15-18, 78 woman-owned businesses received SBIR/STTR awards each year; this grew to 126 per year in FY19-22.



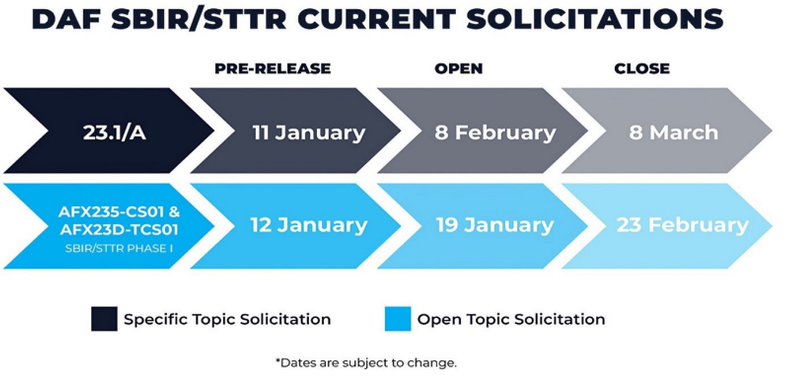
The number of veteran-owned businesses experienced even more growth, increasing 256 percent from an average of 38 companies awarded per year in FY15-18 to 134 per year in FY19-22. The number of minority-owned businesses awarded per year grew from 71 to 154 companies, including an increase from 3 to 18 for Black American-owned businesses and an increase of 9 to 31 for Hispanic American-owned businesses.

As it grows, AFVentures expects the diversity of small businesses to continue to grow organically and incrementally as the organization explores programs to attract talent from all communities.

BLUESTAQ

February 2021, Bluestaq received $280 million in Phase III funding to roll out its unified data library (UDL) to Space Force users and to expand the technology to allow data sharing across multiple classification levels. The UDL is designated as the Space Force single source for managing data from operational space systems, making it the central location to find and access data, enable superior data analytics, and strengthen data security. With the UDL platform, Air Force and Space Force users, other Federal Government users, commercial companies, academic institutions, and allied governments have the ability to purchase space situational awareness (SSA) products, redefining how the enterprise space community buys and sells commercial SSA data.

Bluestaq was the enabling technology for the Afghanistan Airlift, providing the ability for the U.S. Northern Command and Air Mobility Command to track flights in and out of Kabul in real time. According to Dr. Rebecca "Becca" Bluestaq Chief Operating Officer, "Bluestaq was awarded a Direct to Phase II SBIR contract to rapidly develop an e-commerce platform for space data, the SDA Marketplace. The AFWERX investment provided Bluestaq with the seed funding to accelerate the architecture design and launch the global data market in 12 months. Two years later, over 30 data providers worldwide have adopted the SDA Marketplace as a channel to sell space data to government, commercial and academic consumers across the globe."



Missile Defense Agency (MDA)

Save the Date for MDA's Technology Maturation Innovation Summit! Registration is OPEN.

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Success Stories

The small business industry is the foundation of the DoD SBIR/STTR Program. This industry is the backbone of the nation's economy and imperative to the advancement and success of the nation's warfighters. Since the inception of the SBIR/STTR Program, hundreds of small businesses have made valuable contributions to our military through research and development and as a result, have developed technology and innovations that have significantly enhanced our capabilities in critical technology areas.

This publication highlights several success stories in each issue (as seen below). We are pleased to share that Success Stories are available on our website! Visit https://www.defensesbirsttr.mil/resources/stories/.

Be informed, be inspired—see how other small businesses have navigated the process, engaged with DoD SBIR/STTR program and have been successful!

SPEED TRIALS

The SBIR Program Empowers Testing of Hypersonic Assets to the Benefit of America's Warfighters

Hypersonic flight, near or greater than Mach5 and below altitudes of around 90 km, has been the subject of decades of military research. Critical to national defense, the technology presents any number of challenging hurdles and complications. At a fixed altitude within the stratosphere, the faster a vehicle travels the more air resistance it faces. More thrust and fuel is required and, as the air compresses, aerodynamic drag and vehicle skin temperature increase.

In recent years, hypersonic missiles and other hypersonic weapons have started to come into play. In May 2022, the Russians became responsible for the first combat use of a hypersonic maneuvering missile—a weapon of speed, unpredictability, and altitude—when they launched three missiles at the Ukraine port city of Odesa, leveling hotels and a shopping mall. This event, while not surprising, has only solidified the urgency for the United States to have both offensive and defensive hypersonic programs.

As hypersonic technology has developed, one of the problems has been how to accurately test and evaluate it, with ground infrastructure, in order to reduce failures and shortfalls even while saving time and resources during the development process. In recent years, CFD Research Corporation has been working with the Department of Defense through the Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) program to upgrade ground test infrastructure capable of measuring hypersonic vehicle system/component performance and durability under a multitude of different flow parameters and conditions, even while accounting for test article size and run duration.

Based in Huntsville, Alabama, CFD Research executes both fundamental and applied hypersonic technology research and development through the SBIR program. Their signature simulation software has evolved over decades, and has incorporated a multitude of fundamental physics and chemistry-based modeling techniques capable of simulating and addressing complex hypersonic flow phenomena within a hypersonic flight environment.

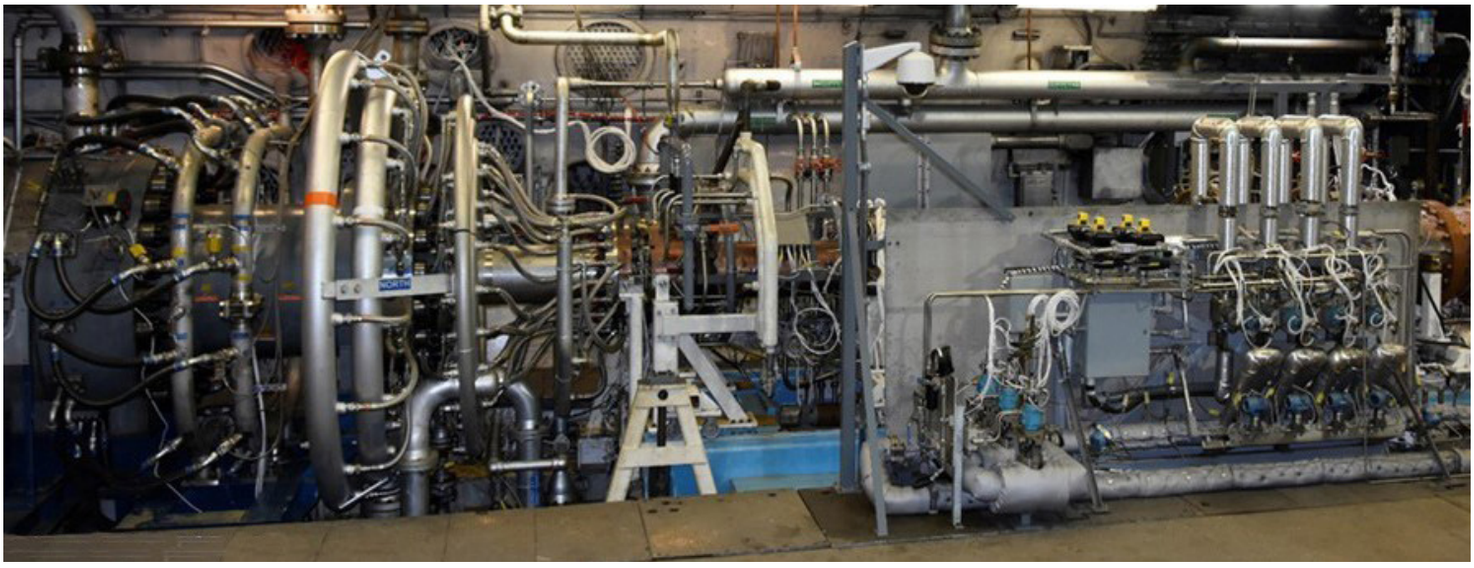
Still, there remains no single ground test infrastructure that can duplicate all the conditions and parameters within a hypersonic flight environment. Arnold Engineering Development Complex (AEDC)—an Air Force Material Command facility located in Tullahoma, Tennessee—operates aerodynamic and propulsion wind tunnels to ground test and evaluate aircraft, missile, and space systems. At Arnold Air Force Base, Tunnel B can achieve air flow speeds approaching Mach 8. Tunnel C can generate Mach numbers between 8 and 10, depending upon nozzle configuration. AEDC's hypervelocity wind tunnel in White Oak, Maryland, features nozzles that provide Mach numbers of 6.7, 8, 10, 14, and 18. These different nozzles offer investigators the opportunity to investigate vehicle behaviors and performance across a broad range of Mach numbers and associated mission trajectories. CFD Research continues to work with AEDC to upgrade a variety of ground test infrastructures focused on mimicking specific hypersonic flight environments.

"A single injector was optimized in a customized test infrastructure...within a 37-injector arrangement tailored for installation within the APTU combustion air heater system assembly at the CFD Research Joel Everett Engineering Test Center."

One wind tunnel, in particular, is an example of how an SBIR contract can make a big difference in hypersonic infrastructure test operations. AEDC's Aerodynamic and Propulsion Test Unit (APTU), is a blow-down wind tunnel that serves as the largest available ground-based hypersonic system flight test environment in America today. It was built in 1981 and was upgraded in several phases between 2002 and 2008. Despite several upgrades multiple unstable combustion air heating behavior issues remained. CFD Research responded to SBIR Phase I Topic AF141-230 that targeted the need for a laser ignition system focused on mitigating the APTU combustion air heater startup instability behavior.

Upon selection and award of this SBIR contract, CFD Research identified that a more fundamental problem existed within the APTU combustion air heater that a laser-based ignition system could not resolve. Matt Thomas, the Principal Investigator of the SBIR Phase I effort, communicated to the Air Force that a laser ignition system was not going to resolve the unique flame propagation and stabilization issues. The tech company needed to convince the Air Force that a completely different approach to enhancing APTU combustion air heater operation necessitated a complete pivot from the original SBIR Phase I objectives.

"This was initially controversial," Thomas said. "But we convinced the Air Force to support our recommendations and change the scope and direction of the SBIR Phase II project. Ultimately, we were able to fully resolve the propagation and stabili zation problems and optimize APTU combustion air heater operation throughout its required performance envelope that included important startup and shutdown protocols.



AEDC's Aerodynamic and Propulsion Test Unit (APTU)

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During Phase II a single injector was optimized in a customized test infrastructure and subsequently configured within a 37-injector arrangement tailored for installation within the APTU combustion air heater system assembly at the CFD Research Joel Everett Engineering Test Center.

The Air Force installed and utilized this injection system to complete multiple direct-connect scramjet (scramjets are supersonic combustion ramjets—a variant of ramjet jet engines) test programs as well as executed multiple test events within an APTU free jet test environment.

This APTU combustion air heater upgrade has already contributed significantly to the United States' ability to ground test hypersonic vehicles and engines at realistic operating conditions.

A successful hypersonic test was documented in an August 2019 article posted as a news item on the Wright Patterson AFB website: "AFRL achieves record-setting hypersonic ground test milestone. The article mentions that "the AEDC team also successfully leveraged technology developed by CFD Research Corporation under the Small Business Innovative Research program. This technology proved crucial in achieving most of the required test conditions."

During a follow-on project sponsored through the USAF SBIR Commercialization Readiness Program CRP), CFD Research developed, manufactured, and delivered to the USAF several sets of fuel injectors optimized for installation and operation at APTU test section, numbers ranging from Mach 3 to Mach 8. This SBIR CRP program was completed in August 2022. All of these SBIR contracts have provided a major return on investment while revitalizing an aging American hypersonic infrastructure test asset that would have required hundreds of millions to replace, even while permitting immediate test and evaluation of hypersonic technologies and concepts.

"And now CFD Research is scheduled to receive additional sponsorship focused on extending APTU run time from three minutes to fifteen minutes thereby enabling ground test and evaluation over an entire mis sion," Thomas said.
APTU infrastructure supersonic and hypersonic system test customers include Army, Navy, and Air Force organizations; MDA, NASA, private industry, allied foreign governments and educational institutions. "We've encountered numerous challenges along the way that we've been able to overcome thanks to the dedication and creativity of the team," Smith said. "We've learned quite a bit, and I'm proud of what we've accomplished. These groundbreaking tests will lead the way for future hypersonic vehicles for a range of missions."

PURE TRANSITION

Warfighters benefit from a groundbreaking water purification solution

Warfighters laboring in harsh climates are often faced with limited access to clean water, a limitation that poses a serious threat not only to the success of a given operation but to the very survival of the Warfighters.
In a conflict zone, when treating local water isn't an option, standard procedure has been to airdrop wa ter bottle packages from planes or helicopters. But in locations such as Iraq and Afghanistan, wherein a few minutes of exposure to hostile fire might be lethal, that bottled water might come at a huge cost. And at other times, soldiers might be wading through what seems to be clean water, wondering why they can't just bend down and take a drink. But endemic contamination, invisible and often tasteless, poses its own risks.

In order for Warfighters to drink from indigenous water sourc es, the Army needed an affordable, fast, single-pass solution that would address viruses, be resistant to freezing and thawing, and be simple to use by anyone, anywhere, anytime.

In 2008, the U.S. Army issued a Request for Information to the domestic water purification market. The Army was interested in commercially available, off-the- shelf, water treatment devices that troops in the field could use easily and efficiently. Finding nothing suitable for the harsh conditions faced by the Warfighter, a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) solicitation was issued to encourage small businesses to compete for the research and development of an innovative water purification device robust enough to meet Warfighters' needs.

"The SBIR program allows us to reach out and build partnerships that may not otherwise exist," said Jeffrey Pacuska, team leader for the soldier clothing and configuration management team at the Natick Soldier Research Development and Engineering Center (NSR- DEC or Natick Labs). "We utilize the SBIR program to facilitate the incorporation of novel technologies that come out of small businesses and parts of the American industrial base that we don't always have the opportunity to work with. We take those technologies and put them into soldier platforms where we can have a defined impact on soldier survivability and lethality."

Mountain Safety Research (MSR) and its parent company, Cascade Designs, addressed the Army's needs. Responding to the SBIR solicitation topic, MSR worked with the Army team at the Natick Labs in Massachusetts to develop and propose an "ultra-filtration" individual water treatment device (IWTD).

Utilizing best-in-class hollow fiber technology, their IWTD came to be part of an integrated drinking system. Water taken directly from local sources is placed in a bladder with an attached drinking tube. The IWTD is then spliced into the tube so the user can drink directly from the bladder, pulling water through the purifier.

A military focus group was established so user feed-back could be incorporated into the development process. Pacuska said, "We were able to make sure that all of the requirements, those needs that soldiers have, were captured within that program, so that the final product has a high level of survivability and soldier acceptability."

Pacuska added that "we can test things in the mountains, we can test things in airplanes. We can go wherever we need to ensure that the item is going to meet those soldier-capability needs."

Field testing for the MSR IWTD was extensive, and lasted for several iterations over many years. Full scale evaluations were ultimately performed at the Army's Jungle Operations Training program in Hawaii, resulting in high-profile field trials. The relationship enabled Natick Labs to push MSR to achieve mil-spec requirements for ultra-filtration. This had never been accomplished before.

In the end, two different products were designed—one for the military and another for the outdoor market. As of 2018, all U.S. Army foot soldiers (forward deployed infantry) have been outfitted with the IWTD. The device provides soldiers with the safety and security of knowing that they can meet their own water requirements, greatly increasing their chances of success and survival in challenging and worst-case scenarios.

According to Army Captain Kristopher Hartwell, the new IWTD also offers new flexibility for mission commanders. Now, Hartwell said, mission commanders "can consider using indigenous water supplies of unknown qualities, to filter and drink water where they weren't capable of doing that before. The IWTD creates much-needed flexibility in a com- mander's logistical support planning."

The Individual Water Treatment Device has been declared a unilateral success. As a result, a Warfighter overseas and a hiker on the Pacific Crest Trail can now both quickly and easily access safe, clean, potable water.

BEST BEHAVIORS

Cultural training through role-playing provides a new tool for warfighters

A U.S. Airman newly arrived on foreign soil sits on the ground beside his interpreter. Around them, a group of villagers talk about the concerns of their community. As the conversation becomes more animated, a local man reaches over and takes the Airman's hand. Instead of feeling uncomfortable with the gesture and pulling away, the Airman smiles and accepts it. Thanks to his cultural training, he knows hand holding to be an expression of friendship.

Personal relationships can be extremely important in conflict zones, but there is often a huge gap in understanding between one culture and another. That gap has now started to close, thanks to training software developed by the Alelo company, with support from the Air Force Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program.

Los Angeles-based Alelo already had a language training program called Tactical Iraqi, in which "players" traveled through a virtual, 3-D Iraq, conducting simulated missions like "meeting with the local sheik and discussing reconstruction in the neighborhood."

Tactical Iraqi was effective for learning language, but in the face of ongoing tensions following the height of the Iraq war, U.S. military officials realized that American warfighters also needed more realistic cultural training. In 2007, Alelo received SBIR funding to shift the focus of its technology from what Alelo CEO and chief scientist W. Lewis Johnson called "big L/little C" simulations, focused primarily on language with a smattering of cultural learning baked in, to "little L/big C" training, which emphasizes navigating sensitive situations found in different cultures.

"The Department of Defense wanted to be able to provide a compressed amount of training to a large number of people, instead of in-depth language training to a smaller number of people. If you only have a short time to train, you had better put an emphasis on cultural awareness. You'll learn a few basic phrases along the way, but your understanding and awareness of the local culture is what's going to help you succeed."

-W. Lewis Johnson

With the help of the SBIR funding, Alelo was able to migrate its technology to a web-based platform that can be used anywhere, including on mobile devices. The result is a suite of web-based tools collectively called VCAT—Virtual Cultural Awareness Training. Much as with Tactical Iraqi, players work their way through different scenarios specific to the region where they'll be spending time. What does an Afghani man mean when he takes your hand? How should one handle endless rounds of toasts at a dinner in Taiwan without overindulging or appearing ungracious? How should one collaborate with local specialists on humanitarian assistance or narcotics interdiction in various parts of the world? VCAT has the answers, and focusing on specific roles and tasks for the avatars in the cloud-based AI (artificial intelligence) simulations makes the training both useful and real to participants.

"We make it very concrete," Johnson said. "The role-playing interactions with virtual characters allow you to develop interpersonal skills in an environment where you can practice all you want. There's no risk in making mistakes—you try different alternatives and see the outcomes, and what you learn transfers readily to the real world."

Working with DoD's Unified Combatant Commands to identify areas of need, Alelo de- veloped VCAT courses for more than 90 different countries. To date, over 450,000 military personnel have received the training, including allies such as the Royal Australian Air Force. In several U.S. commands, the training has been designated as required for overseas deployment.
"That's the biggest mark of acceptance of the tech," Johnson said. "We're pretty proud of that designation." "VCAT modules have become the standard for advanced, distributed cultural awareness learning for the Department of Defense," he added. Alelo has created additional courses for NATO, which uses VCAT to train troops deploying to Afghanistan, and it has also developed programs for such agencies as the Voice of America. The company also provides language training solutions to colleges in a number of countries.

To meet a completely different set of cultural challenges, Alelo has now adapted VCAT courses for navigating the corporate world. Trainees can role-play their way through client meetings, customer interactions, and even step into the shoes of a boomer manager trying to determine the best way to keep newly hired millennials on-task. While in-person workplace training often asks participants to act out scenarios, "people tend not to like it because it's in front of an audience and they find it embarrassing," Johnson said. "It's ironic that we're using virtual technology to teach human skills, but there are a lot of good reasons to do that—virtual coaches can be replicated in ways human coaches cannot."
This type of training has become even more critical for the pandemic and post-pandemic economy, and Johnson sees the commercial sector as a growth market. The company saw enrollments quadruple in early 2020. "We're grateful to the SBIR program for providing us with the resources to develop the VCAT technology. It was extremely valuable and has helped make all this all possible."

The content in these articles does not constitute or imply endorsement by the Department of Defense or the Military Service(s) of the provider or producer of the technology, product, process, or services mentioned.

Outreach Events

Defense Manufacturing Conference 2022

In coordination with the DoD Components, including the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) and Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), DoD SBIR/STTR Programs contractor support, Anne Neumann and Ian Roth, provided booth support as part of an overall DoD SBIR/STTR outreach effort at the Defense Manufacturing Conference (DMC), December 5-8, 2022 in Tampa, Florida. DMC is the nation's annual forum for enhancing and leveraging the efforts of engineers, managers, technology leaders, scientists, and policy makers across the defense manufacturing industrial base. Leaders and manufacturing subject matter experts from government, industry, and academia exchange information and perspectives on defense manufacturing policies, strategic direction, best practices, funding opportunities, and the latest manufacturing innovations that will benefit our warfighters.

Attendees range from CEO- and Flag Officer/SES-level to working-level manufacturing-oriented engineers, scientists, and business practice/policy makers and include technology implementers, system designers and representatives of the warfighters. Typical attendance is over 1000, primarily government and industry participants with a smaller complement from academia.

Illinois Federal and State Technology (FAST) Center SBIR/STTR Webinar

FAST Center
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

On December 13, 2022, Ms. Susan Celis presented at the Illinois State FAST Center SBIR/STTR Webinar on reauthorization, pertinent changes, the role of the DoD SBIR/STTR programs, how to engage as a small business, and ways the DoD supports small businesses that are interested in participating in SBIR/STTR programs. The reauthorization, which includes programmatic modifications and reforms, extends these vital funding programs through September 2025. After the briefing, Ms. Celis participated in a question-and-answer (Q&A) session with attendees.

FAST Partnership Center at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign is led by EnterpriseWorks and provides free resources, support, and expertise necessary to submit a highly competitive proposal to help Illinois-based startups and companies bridge the gap between research and commercialization. The FAST Center has helped companies acquire millions of dollars in federal SBIR/STTR funding – at no cost whatsoever to them.

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUTM 2023
February 19 – 22
Austin, TX
https://autm.net/2023-annual-meeting/general-info

SXSW
March 10 – 19
Austin, TX
https://www.sxsw.com

VentureWELL OPEN
March 21 – 23
Alexandria, VA
https://venturewell.org/open

AUSA Global Force Symposium & Exposition
March 28 – March 30
Huntsville, AL
https://meetings.ausa.org/globalforce/2023

Mentor Protégé Summit 2023
March 27 - 30
Orlando, FL
https:www.eventdex.com/DoD-MPP-Summit-2023

RES 2023
April 3 – 6
Las Vegas, NV
https://res.ncaied.org

APTAC Spring Training
April 2 – 6
San Diego, CA
https://www.aptac-us.org/aptac-conferences

SOF Week
May 8 - 11
Tampa, FL
https://www.sofweek.org

Let's Connect

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https://www.defensesbirsttr.mil

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