

DARPA SBIR Transition Support Pilot Program

Fact Sheet

Mission

DARPA's mission is to maintain the technological superiority of the U.S. military and prevent technological surprise from harming our national security by sponsoring revolutionary, high-payoff research that bridges the gap between fundamental discoveries and their military use.

Objective

The objective of the DARPA Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Transition Support Pilot Program is to increase transition success for DARPA SBIR Phase II funded companies through the identification of viable Phase III funding sources, and potential government and commercial partners interested in collaborating with the companies to further mature the technology to ***Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 7: System prototype demonstration in an operational environment***. Achievement of this milestone takes the technology beyond the initial demonstration phase, which is typically the maximum achieved in Phase II, and is a key step in a transition roadmap for the testing and fielding of new capabilities to the U.S. military and other federal agencies with similar requirements.

Approach

The Foundation for Enterprise Development (The Foundation), a U.S. owned non-profit organization, is assisting the DARPA Small Business Program Director in implementing the Pilot.

- **Transition Assistance:** The Foundation will provide DARPA SBIR Phase II funded companies identified to participate in the Pilot with guidance and assistance in identifying potential Phase III funding sources, and potential government and commercial partners, with requirements for the technology under development. The Foundation will also provide guidance in the development of project materials and facilitate introductions to the potential funding sources and partners. This assistance is to occur within a 90 day period with an estimated start in mid July.
- **Success Reports:** The Foundation will document company transition successes in a brochure or other printed material for distribution at outreach events. Success Reports will continue to be posted on the DARPA SBIR Web site. The 2007 DARPA SBIR Success Reports can be viewed at this link: http://www.darpa.mil/sbir/Success_Story_Main_Page.htm
- **Outreach/Process Improvement:** The Foundation will capture lessons learned, best practices and help develop and implement process improvements to increase transition success for DARPA SBIR funded companies. We welcome feedback from the participating companies and the DARPA Program managers during the Pilot.

Candidate Company Identification Process

Candidates for participation in the Pilot program were identified as having an active or a recently completed DARPA SBIR Phase II project. The companies are currently reviewing a Technology Transition Support Agreement (TTA) that specifies what activities will be performed by the Foundation and the SBIR Company's obligations and other provisions. Once the agreement is signed, the transition support will begin.

Contact Information

The point of contact for the DARPA SBIR Transition Support Pilot Project is Ms. Susan Nichols, DARPA Small Business Program Director (571-218-4922), Susan.Nichols@darpa.mil