

SBIR/STTR TRANSITIONS Newsletter

Inside

Design Mill's SBIR innovation finds new energy in the commercial sector 3

Navy SBIR Experimentation Cell helps SBIR innovators reach the fleet 6

DoN-SEC FY25 event highlights 9

SBIR data rights in subcontracts 10

Learn about emerging tech at Navy STP Showcase and Technical Information Exchange events 12

Upcoming events 14

From the director SBIR/STTR reauthorization

Reauthorization of the SBIR/STTR programs is still pending as of this writing. With the shutdown resolved, I hope legislators recognize the importance of these programs and will include reauthorization in upcoming legislation.

During this program lapse, we are operating under guidance from the Under Secretary of War (Research and Engineering), which mandates a pause on certain new activities while allowing the continuation of most ongoing operations. Specific details are as follows:

- The department will not collect or execute FY26 SBIR/STTR set-aside funds and new FY26 topics and solicitations will not be released until the programs are reauthorized.



Photo credit: Jennifer Reisch

Brian Shipley (right) talks with Steve Sullivan, Navy STTR and Navy STP Program Manager, at the Navy STP SYSCOM Technical Information Exchange in March 2025.

Visit

STP
NAVY SBIR TRANSITION PROGRAM

www.NAVYSTP.com



@NavySTP



@NavySTP



www.youtube.com/@NavySTP

From the director... continued

- Pre-release period for SBIR 25.4 Release 12 & STTR BAA 25.D Release 12 will be extended. Topics will open on the first Wednesday following program reauthorization. Closing dates will be extended accordingly to maintain a four-week open period for proposal submission.
- FY25 set-aside funds may be used for awards that result from solicitations issued prior to program expiration. This includes Phase II opportunities if proposed prior to and/or awarded under FY25 or prior authority.
- Phase III awards may continue to be issued, provided they derive from, extend, or logically complete work from FY25 or prior SBIR/STTR efforts.

The DON SBIR/STTR Programs are effectively executing FY25 funds as outlined in this guidance. While minor delays may occur in some areas, most actions are proceeding on schedule. Please watch our social media accounts for updates on reauthorization.

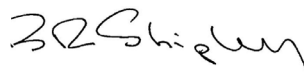
This issue of *Transitions* takes another look at the Department of the Navy SBIR Experimentation Cell (DoN-SEC), first introduced in our Fall 2020 issue as a newly launched pilot program. Five years later, DoN-SEC has become a valuable resource that helps program managers and small businesses connect innovative technologies from the DoN SBIR program with the defense experimentation community. In this feature, we revisit the program's accomplishments, explore its future plans, and share highlights from SBIR companies that participated in experimentation events this year.

Steve Sullivan, Navy STTR and Navy STP manager, provides information on SBIR data rights in subcontracting, an important topic for industry participants.

We spotlight a small business that has successfully transitioned its DoN SBIR technology. Design Mill, a recent Navy STP participant, developed modeling and simulation technology for the Marine Corps that is now being used in the energy industry.

Finally, we share details about upcoming Innovative Technology Showcase events for the 2025–26 Navy STP cohort. Scheduled for early 2026, these events will feature mature SBIR/STTR technologies emerging to meet critical warfighter needs.

Sincerely,



Brian Shipley
Director DoN SBIR/STTR

Design Mill's SBIR innovation finds new energy in the commercial sector

The tech industry's rapid adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) in recent years has sparked intense demand for the electricity these energy-intensive tools rely on. Utility companies are scrambling to stay ahead of demand by acquiring and building new electricity substations to meet the growing need. To help manage its expanding portfolio of substations, Dominion Energy, which supplies electricity to 3.6 million homes and businesses in Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, is relying on an innovative Navy SBIR-funded technology from Design Mill.

"It's a big win for us in the commercialization of this technology," said Nathan Greiner, CEO of Design Mill.

Originally developed for the U.S. Marine Corps, Design Mill's Shipboard Dimensional Analysis Tool (SDAT) helps assess whether new vehicle designs will fit aboard Navy ships before a prototype is built. Starting from a high-fidelity 3D scan of the ship's interior, SDAT integrates ship and vehicle data to create a 3D virtual environment, allowing users to place and visualize vehicles along their intended paths within ship stowage spaces and on ramps.

The Marine Corps' fleets of ground vehicles are transported around the world aboard the Navy's amphibious ships and prepositioning ships. Tyson Kackley, the modeling & simulation lead/prototype technical lead at the Marine Corps Wargaming Capability program management office, said SDAT addresses a longstanding need at the Marine Corps-Navy interface. Kackley authored the 2017 SBIR solicitation and served as technical point of contact for Design Mill's Phase I and first Phase II contracts.

"It's a very long list of equipment—vehicles of all different sizes, all different weights, some of them tracked, some wheeled, some with trailers—and you've got to get them on all these different Navy ships," he explained. "It's a very tight space and there are many factors—not just the physical



U.S. Navy photo credit: Cpl. Atticus Martinez

SDAT was designed to enable transportability assessments of vehicle designs aboard Naval ships prior to prototyping.

dimensions of where it has to fit but the turning radius, weight, and what happens when you start tipping the vehicle."

For anyone who's tried to maneuver a large SUV inside a parking garage or move a couch up a flight of stairs, the problem is readily understandable. Further complications arise when modifications take place, as any change to either the vehicle or the ship's interior space, even something as minor as adding a rigid antenna, can affect whether a vehicle will fit. Without a tool like SDAT to evaluate these issues during the vehicle design process, Kackley said, the Marine Corps must wait until a prototype vehicle is available, transport the vehicle to the ship and conduct a test drive. At that late stage, if a problem is discovered, it may be too costly to go back and change the design. In many cases, the Marine Corps must simply accept that it won't be able to fit that vehicle (or as many of them) into the space allotted for Marine Corps equipment on the transport ship.

With advances in LIDAR scanning technology in the early 2010s, Kackley envisioned a tool that would help both Marine Corps vehicle program officers and Navy ship program officers evaluate the spatial consequences of planned designs and changes before implementing them, saving both organizations time, money, and headaches. This

Design Mill's SBIR innovation finds new energy in the commercial sector...continued

foresight led to the 2017 SBIR topic that Design Mill successfully pursued. SDAT is a cloud-based system that allows users to take a virtual test drive through a ship, conducting a physical interference analysis along the selected path. SDAT integrates vehicle design data (typically a CAD model) with LIDAR scanned ship data, using novel surface rendering and computer processing methods to enable path selection, collision computation and analysis at increments as small as one inch. Users can specify the desired vehicle-to-ship clearance distance and can generate reports and products to support vehicle design decisions. The ability to perform this analysis virtually would allow the Marine Corps to make necessary changes in advance of milestone decisions, avoiding costly surprises after the physical prototype has been built.

Through a second Phase II contract concluding in 2025, Design Mill expanded SDAT to include an instructional module for classroom use. This allows instructors to insert themselves into a 3D digital twin of a ship's interior during military schoolhouse training. Sailors can familiarize themselves with their ship before deployment. Beyond design and training applications, the tool also can improve daily operations.

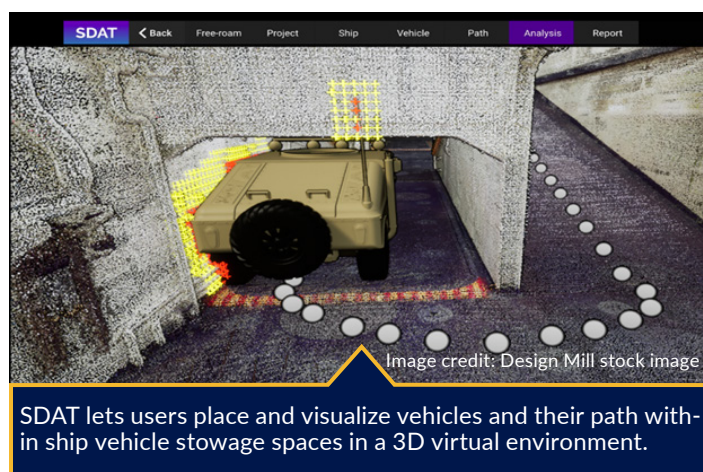
"If we're all having a meeting or getting a brief, we'll pull up this scan and can talk about that part of the ship without going down seven flights of stairs to talk about it in person. It's a major time saver," Greiner explained. SDAT can also be used on a mobile device, such as an iPad, to determine on the spot how to fit and load equipment efficiently.

Although Design Mill was new to the SBIR program

when awarded the Phase I contract for SDAT, the company had previously subcontracted with larger defense firms. The SBIR experience was positive, as the company built a strong relationship with their technical points of contact and worked with the Marine Corps to incorporate feedback and build a product that met the customer's needs. Like many small businesses, Design Mill struggled to navigate the gaps in funding between SBIR awards. Fortunately, while SDAT is not yet deployed by the Marine Corps and Navy, its capabilities have broad commercial potential, such as warehousing and factory design, port

and railroad operations, and commercial aviation logistics.

That commercial potential is now being realized through the Dominion Energy project, which began in the spring of 2025 and could last up to five years, allowing Design Mill to continue evolving the



technology.

"We're taking the kernel of what we developed under the SBIR contract and using it to capture all their substations," said Greiner. "They need this platform to make their jobs easier so they can keep pace with the AI boom. The thirst for power in the AI age is trickling down to us."

For Dominion Energy, as for the Marine Corps, detailed LIDAR scans of their assets housed in a cloud-based database is a key feature that makes Design Mill's platform such a valuable innovation. "That was not available when this started, so we had to develop it," Greiner noted. "We built an entirely cloud-based solution that allows users to have huge datasets available from any computer or cell phone, without using any of the power of your device. It's all in the cloud, versus other

Design Mill's SBIR innovation finds new energy in the commercial sector...continued

technologies that would download from the cloud.”

Currently, Design Mill has a 20-person team scanning Dominion Energy's substations along the East Coast. Each LIDAR scan takes only a few hours, after which the data is processed and added to Dominion Energy's cloud database.

As Dominion Energy expands, the company will be using its library of scanned substations to carry out analysis similar to the Marine Corps to determine whether new equipment can fit in the required space. The power company has other applications in mind that Greiner is excited to develop as well, such as overlaying geolocation and real-time sensor readings, and running security simulations to defend against potential physical sabotage. In the future, pending approval from the Federal Aviation Administration, the technology could be used to visualize the location of monitoring drones that will travel from one substation to another.

“There are a million concepts on the way but the core is that this authoritative data source needs to be in the cloud. We're talking about petabytes of data,” Greiner said. “We don't see other software out there at this level of size or complexity.”

As a small business that's relatively new to defense contracting, Design Mill took advantage of the commercialization assistance opportunities the Navy SBIR program offers. The company participated in the Navy SBIR Transition Program (Navy STP) during both of its Phase II contracts. “The Navy STP gives you access to other parts of the Navy. They're connectors to the right people and that's been very helpful,” Greiner said. Navy STP Connect, a virtual event for small businesses to schedule one-on-one meetings

with government and prime contractors to explore potential transition opportunities, helped introduce SDAT to multiple program offices. “They get it. We don't have to painstakingly dig up the program office and find the right person and try to get them excited about this technology that we know can help them while they are still wondering who we are. That was great. It got us exposure to NAVAIR, and other areas of interest.”

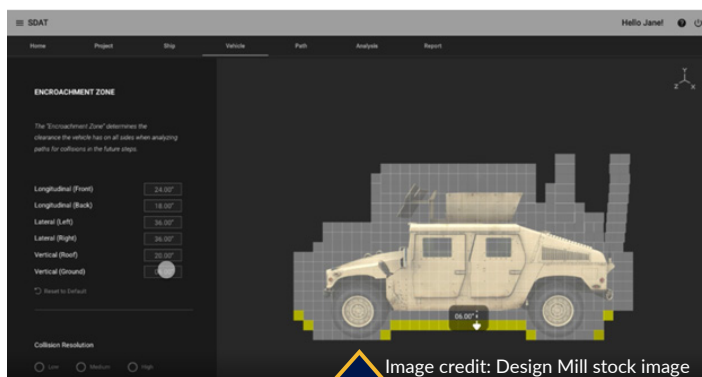
Additionally, DoN SBIR/STTR director Brian Shipley steered Design Mill to Navy Launch, which helps Navy SBIR Phase II awardees

develop and implement a commercialization strategy. “We're technology people,” Greiner said. “They've really helped us figure out how to talk to customers, adjust our message, and bridge the gap to the commercial side.”

Design Mill is a strategic systems integrator delivering pioneering

solutions for the military and industry leaders, focusing on the internet of things, laser scanning, virtual reality and augmented reality. A three-time recipient of the Intel Software Innovator of the Year award, the company continually works to transform the integration of cutting-edge interactive hardware and software through innovative design, development, and processes.

For more information, visit www.designmillinc.com.



SDAT integrates three-dimensional ship and vehicle data to enable collision detection, and assess physical fit and loading paths.



Navy SBIR Experimentation Cell helps SBIR innovators reach the fleet

The Department of the Navy (DoN) maintains the strongest SBIR/STTR transition rates across all the military branches, achieving over \$1.5 billion in fiscal year (FY) 2024 alone. To help sustain this success, the DoN provides a range of support programs that help small businesses transition their innovative SBIR-funded technologies to the warfighter.

One such program is the Navy SBIR Experimentation Cell (DoN-SEC), designed to connect small businesses performing on Navy and Marine Corps SBIR projects with the DoN experimentation ecosystem. Launched as a pilot in 2020, DoN-SEC is now a fully funded program within the Office of Naval Research (ONR).

The DoN-SEC team offers facilitation, mentoring and training in all aspects of experimentation, providing end-to-end support to help small businesses participate in large scale defense training and experimentation events.

“We want to help small businesses navigate the ‘valley of death’ that so many SBIRs come upon and we feel experimentation is the way to do that,” says Kelly Carruthers, DoN-SEC’s operations & outreach lead.

DoN-SEC emphasizes that experimentation can provide objective quality evidence to support transition. Beyond generating hard data, Carruthers notes that experimentation benefits both small businesses and the government: “The government learns what they’re doing, and it exposes the SBIR to other potential acquisition paths.”

Unlike testing & evaluation, which requires that technology meet specific criteria, experimentation is an opportunity for SBIR developers to see how their technology performs without judgment.

“We don’t see anything in experimentation as a failure,” says Carruthers. “If you go to an event with three objectives and you complete two, that’s OK. You can go back into the development cycle and mature that technology accordingly.”

Experimentation can also reveal unexpected applications. At a recent experimentation event, for instance, an SBIR technology inadvertently shut down a wide swath of the electronics at the event, attracting interest from electronic warfare



Photo credit: Morris DeSimone

MaXentric demonstrates their STRETCH technology at TOEE 25.1. Training on STRETCH was provided to the corpsmen to demonstrate functionality and ensure proper understanding of advanced capabilities utilized during the event.

programs.

“All of a sudden you’ve got a technology that’s expanding in scope,” says Carruthers. “The aperture for acquisition opens up.”

Since its inception five years ago, DoN-SEC has worked with small businesses representing more than 450 SBIR technology projects. After steady early growth, the program has expanded rapidly in the past two years.

FY25 has been a banner year: approximately 152 SBIR performers with 208 technologies actively pursued experimentation, with 44 selected to participate in events. DoN-SEC attended 20 events in FY25, including a whirlwind stretch of 12 events over just eight weeks during the summer.

Along with increased participation in 2025, DoN-SEC saw more serial events—small businesses bringing their technologies to multiple events to incorporate ideas and feedback from each event into further development.

“We are passionate about watching an SBIR commit to an event and then perhaps go through multiple events, embrace that ‘build-test-build’ approach to development, have warfighters work with their equipment, and then find a path to

Navy SBIR Experimentation Cell helps SBIR innovators reach the fleet...continued

acquisition,” says Carruthers. “We’ve been lucky enough to see an SBIR, in just 36 months, go from the first experimentation to being fielded in Ukraine and used in theater. It’s a really cool perspective, and not all SBIRs would have had the opportunity had they not connected with us.”

Virtual Reality Rehab (VRR), a small business working with DoN-SEC, has embraced this iterative approach to experimentation in developing its augmented reality (AR) technology, the Single Amphibious Integrated Precision Augmented-Reality Navigation (SAIPAN) family of systems (FoS) with HoloWarrior software.

Over two years, VRR participated in multiple events with DoN-SEC support, including:

- Technical Concept Experiment (TCE) 24.2 and 25.1
- Fourth Fleet (C4F) Hybrid Fleet Campaign (HFC) 2024
- Joint Interagency Field Experimentation (JIFX) 25.2 and
- Rio Robotico.

DoN-SEC connected VRR with Marine Corps warfighters to carry out experimentation on land and in the littoral zone.

At each event, VRR gained insight and feedback to improve the technology for a range of potential use cases.

Responding to user needs, VRR developed new mounting hardware that can attach securely to a range of tactical vehicles. After encountering difficulties using SAIPAN in armored or shielded vehicles, the small business also experimented successfully with new telemetry sources to correct the obstruction. VRR plans to bring SAIPAN to more experimentation events in FY26.

With a team of only 11 people, DoN-SEC provides

an extraordinary range of support services to its participants. Assistance begins months in advance, starting with selecting the right event (or events) to fit both the SBIR technology and the project’s development schedule.

Carruthers encourages small businesses to engage early, ideally soon after receiving a Navy SBIR Phase II award—or even while completing a Phase I that seems likely to go to Phase II.

The DoN-SEC team follows about 17 events on a rolling calendar, tracking submission deadlines, certifications, requirements and other key details. The team helps small businesses develop their experimentation objectives and plans and liaise with event coordinators to ensure necessary resources, access, and clearances are in place.

Finally, DoN-SEC staff travel to attend the events along with the small businesses, sometimes supporting 10 to 12 SBIR projects at a single event.

“From kickoff, we’re there making sure the performers are where they need to be, when they need to be,” says Carruthers. “When it’s showtime, we’re there making sure they’re ready to execute and capitalize on the time they’ve been given.”

Not all SBIR-funded technologies are suited for large scale experimentation events. For these cases, the DoN-SEC leverages its experimentation community connections to help create alternative opportunities to gather performance data. Examples include coatings and other materials for manufacturing and shipbuilding.

Some technologies in development may also lack the certifications required to connect with military weapons systems but can be demonstrated in similar operating conditions using non-military resources.

“It’s difficult, but it’s possible,” says Carruthers.



Photo credit: Kenny Fritsch
James Sisson, DoN-SEC focus area lead, facilitating deployment for Airborne Outfitters to conduct preliminary overwater testing and data collection for their BARFITE technology at Northern Strike 25.

Navy SBIR Experimentation Cell helps SBIR innovators reach the fleet...continued

“For the system command, the sponsor and the TPOC to see real-world performance of the technology outside the lab validates their investment.”

DoN-SEC supports all eight Navy and Marine Corps Systems Commands and has become recognized as a valuable resource for the government as well as small businesses. The team strives to reduce workload for program staff and event organizers and has established strong relationships across the community.

“We’re more widely known now, so TPOCs bring us the SBIRs they want in experimentation,” says Carruthers. “They depend on us. Because of the work we’ve done over the past five years, they know what to expect and what they’ll get out of it.”

He notes that no other U.S. military component has a comparable program dedicated to facilitating SBIR experimentation. “The Navy makes the Air Force and the Army jealous with this program. When people find out about us, it’s like Christmas came early. They’re just blown away that this sort of resource and team exist.”

DoN-SEC creates informational guides and other resources, available on its webpage, to help small businesses understand and prepare for

experimentation. They include:

- Guidebook to SBIR Experimentation
- Ship Rider Orientation Guide
- Engineering & Operations Guidebook with Process Guides, and
- Analysis and Reporting Guidebook.

DoN-SEC launched a new project in June, the SEC Investigative Continuum (SIC). This iterative series focuses on identifying Naval experimentation requirements, collaborating with process owners and other experts, and ultimately presenting the SBIR/STTR community with the valuable information needed to ensure their success in applying for and executing in events. Examples of topics the SIC will address are Part 107 UAS Waivers (expanding on the assistance DoN-SEC provided earlier this year to several small businesses who needed to obtain waivers to participate in Silent Swarm) and lithium battery safety. SIC end products will be delivered in many forms, including webinars, reports, roundtables and workshops.

DoN-SEC resources and program information can be found at www.navySBIR.us/sec/. To engage with the DoN-SEC team, reach out to Kelly Carruthers at kelly.b.carruthers@ausgar.com.



Photo credit: Morris DeSimone

Keith LaGanga, DoN-SEC focus area lead (left) supporting Virtual Reality Rehab during test flights at Rio Robotico 25.

*Navy SBIR Experimentation Cell helps SBIR innovators reach the fleet...continued***DoN-SEC FY25 event highlights**

Trident Spectre: a joint experimentation exercise focused on integrating operations, intelligence, and technology in support of Special Operations and Intelligence Community capability needs.

- Big win: GreenSight achieved its stretch goal of setting a dynamic fail-safe recovery point, allowing the drone to return to a moving vessel, to fly and gather data while the vessel is moving.
- **Technology Operational Experimentation Event (TOEE):** an experimentation campaign that begins with a limited objective exercise series and moves through more advanced exercises in later events.
 - Big win: As a serial event performer, MaXentric conducted build-test-build with U.S. Marine Corps field use. Ultimately, MaXentric made progress over months of planning. Attending multiple events was crucial to identifying capability gaps and clarifying future development. Challenges were met and addressed in real-time.
- **Silent Swarm:** a challenging and flexible experimentation environment to enable rapid development of emerging unmanned technology in an operationally relevant sandbox environment alongside subject matter experts from joint operational and technical communities.
 - Big win: DoN-SEC mentored several SBIRs through the Part 107 UAS Waiver process, which enabled them to participate in the event. Chromologic collaborated with the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), which shared historical data that expanded Chromologic's drone library and enhanced its SPiNNMo technology.
- **Northern Edge:** a biennial USINDOPACOM exercise providing high-end, realistic warfighter training to develop and improve joint interoperability, and enhance combat readiness.
 - Big win: DoN-SEC supported SBIR companies Hyperkelp and Forward Edge-AI at this event. The NE25 environment was extremely austere, with rough terrain, eroded roads, weather disruptions, and long distances between sites. Both companies adjusted their execution plans without changing objectives. They collected real world data that they will use to build upon successes in this event and improve the systems in future events.
- **Coastal Trident:** Part of the Naval Research and Development Establishment (NRDE) ANTX effort, CT25 provides access to scenario-based operationally relevant test environments and end users not typically available to experimenters. Engagement in these venues maximizes feedback by interagency partners on operational objectives, mission effectiveness, and operational suitability.
 - Big wins: GreenSight and Stottler Henke collected ship mapping and unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) approach data at sea while a ship was both stationary and in motion, building upon what they learned during Silent Swarm.
 - Surface Optics will be able to test spectral-imaging technology for the first time on an at sea platform, and Fantastic Data will test 5GFlyer technology in the field for the first time deploying up to three UAVs.
- **Joint Exercise SoCal (JES):** a USINDOPACOM exercise supporting large force employment training and multi-domain operations, tactical training across the conflict spectrum, execution and advancement of joint tactics, techniques and procedures, and USINDOPACOM joint test and experimentation initiatives.
 - Big win: NAWCAD Avionics Engineering Science & Technology (S&T) Domain Lead identified three developing technologies, including two SBIR projects. Both projects successfully collected passive data over eight days from various air, surface, and ground operational units.

SBIR data rights in subcontracts

By Steve Sullivan, Navy STTR and Navy STP Program Manager

In the January Winter 2025 issue of *Transitions*, I provided an overview of the SBIR data rights environment, including a quad chart providing basic information for determining data rights based on expense and defining certain data rights terms. An important nuance I want to cover in this issue is: “How can a prime contractor deliver SBIR data rights from an SBIR Phase III subcontract when the prime contractor has an obligation to deliver unlimited, unrestricted, or government purpose technical data rights under its prime contract?”

The following is a hypothetical example. The government awards a contract to a large prime contractor to develop a new satellite system. The contract is very specific that the prime contractor must deliver data, software and materials to the

government with unlimited data rights (for this article I will not further explain unlimited data rights) and the contract contains one or all of the following DFARS clauses:

- 252.227-7013 “Rights in Technical Data—Other Than Commercial Products and Commercial Services”
- 252.227-7014 “Rights in Other Than Commercial Computer Software and Other Than Commercial Computer Software Documentation”
- 252.227-7017 “Identification and Assertion of Use, Release, or Disclosure Restrictions”

The prime contractor decides to subcontract with an SBIR firm to use SBIR-developed technology, which will save money and help deliver a



Photo credit: Jennifer Reisch

Steve Sullivan (left) with Richard Weiss, DoN-SEC Lead Planner, at WEST 2025.

SBIR data rights in subcontracts...continued

technically superior system per the contract with the government. But wait...SBIR-developed technology provides the owner of that technology limited or restricted rights. So, the question may arise: Can the prime contractor deliver SBIR technology under an unlimited data requirement in the contract, or does the SBIR technology owner have to give up the restricted rights in order to receive a subcontract?

The answer is: The prime contractor can deliver more restricted data under the contract. To do so, the prime contractor provides notice to the government (contracting officer) that more restricted (SBIR) data are being delivered under the prime contract than unlimited, unrestricted, or government purpose rights by filling out the four-column chart(s) listed in DFARS clauses 252.227-

7013, 252.227-7014, or 252.227-7017. The charts in all of these clauses call for identifying the SBIR data to be delivered, asserting that the basis for the SBIR rights is the SBIR clause (DFARS 252.227-7018), asserting that SBIR data rights will be delivered, and a contact name for the prime contractor. This chart is contained in the clauses that normally required unlimited or unrestricted rights demonstrates that more restricted rights at some point were anticipated, and the charts show how to make the assertion. The chart(s) will look similar to the chart below.

Knowing is half the battle and next time you have an opportunity to subcontract your SBIR technology to a prime contractor with an existing government contract, you will know how to assert your data rights per the DFARS clauses.

Technical data to be furnished with restrictions	Basis for assertion	Asserted rights category	Name of person asserting restrictions
(List)	(List)	(List)	(List)

Follow Us!

U.S. Navy photo credit: MC3 Walter Estrada



The Navy SBIR Transition Program (Navy STP) has a media presence on three platforms. For information on our participating small businesses, transition opportunities and SBIR/STTR news connect with us here:



[@NavySTP](#)



www.youtube.com/@NavySTP



<https://x.com/NavySTP>

To submit an article idea, make comments or ask questions about this newsletter, e-mail: navystptransitions@atsicorp.com

Learn about emerging tech at Navy STP Showcase and Technical Information Exchange events

The Navy SBIR Transition Program (Navy STP) Showcase events will feature participating Navy STP Phase II companies' technologies at multiple events throughout early 2026. These events are designed to engage fleet representatives, prime contractors, and acquisition stakeholders by promoting mature technologies that are ready for transition, connecting small business innovators with Navy decision-makers and industry partners across the country, identifying transition possibilities, and facilitating transition.

The events promote mature SBIR/STTR technologies developed by small businesses participating in the Navy STP to address needs of the Navy and Marine Corps. These technologies may also have application across other military branches and in commercial markets. The events provide excellent opportunities for national security and defense stakeholders to review technology breakthroughs that may improve defense readiness and response capabilities. Navy STP Showcase events also connect these companies with government and industry personnel through on-demand Tech Talks and an enhanced online presence via the Navy STP Virtual Transition Marketplace (Navy STP VTM), found at <https://vtm.navyfst.com/>.

Three Navy STP Showcases are scheduled for 2026:

WEST 2026

The first Navy STP Showcase of the year will be held at WEST 2026 from February 10-12 in San Diego. Visit the Navy STP Showcase booth #1725 for live technology displays and opportunities for discussions with small businesses to learn more about their innovations. Tech Talk presentations will be available on-demand online before the event at <https://navystp.com/announcements/west-2026/>.

Over two days, the booth will feature Navy STP cohort members presenting cutting-edge technologies in:

- Advanced Electronics
- Battlespace Environments
- Command, Control, Communications, Computers, & Intelligence (C4I)
- Cyber
- Electromagnetic Warfare
- Engineered Resilient Systems



DoN-SEC's Operations & Outreach Lead, Kelly Carruthers, speaks at the 2025 Navy STP SYSCOM Technical Information Exchange

- Ground and Sea Platforms
- Materials & Manufacturing Processes
- Modeling and Simulation Technology
- Sensors
- Space
- Sustainment
- Weapons Technologies

WEST, the premier Naval conference and exposition on the West Coast, connects industry professionals who design and build platforms, equipment and weapons with designers of communications and technical systems. WEST brings the military and industry together to explore current and future Naval platforms and technologies. Register for WEST 2026 at <https://www.westconference.org>.

Navy STP SYSCOM Technical Information Exchange

The second Navy STP event of the year will be the Navy STP SYSCOM Technical Information Exchange on March 10-11 in Arlington, Virginia. Tech Talk presentations will be available on-demand prior to the event at <https://navystp.com/announcements/syscom-technical-information-exchange/>.

Learn about emerging tech at Navy STP Showcase and Technical Information Exchange events...continued

Email navystp@atsicorp.com with the subject:

“Technical Information Exchange” if you would like to be notified when registration opens.

Attendance is open to both government and industry personnel but is limited.

The Navy STP SYSCOM Technical Information Exchange will showcase innovative technologies from Navy STP cohort members in:

- Advanced Electronics
- Air Platforms
- Autonomy
- Biomedical (ASBREM)
- Command, Control, Communications, Computers, & Intelligence (C4I)
- Directed Energy
- Electromagnetic Warfare
- Energy & Power Technologies
- Ground and Sea Platforms
- Human Systems
- Kinetic Weapons
- Materials & Manufacturing Processes
- Modeling and Simulation Technology
- Sensors
- Sustainment
- Weapons Technologies

Sea-Air-Space 2026

The final Navy STP Showcase of the season will be held at Sea-Air-Space 2026, the Navy League’s global maritime exposition, from April 20-22 at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland. Visit booth #136 to learn more about Navy STP participants’ technologies designed to advance maritime systems and warfighting capabilities. Tech Talk presentations



Craig Owens, Small Business Innovation Research Program Manager at Lockheed Martin Aeronautics (right), talks with representatives of Navy STP small business Materials Sciences LLC at S-A-S 2025.

will be available on-demand prior to the event at <https://navystp.com/announcements/sea-air-space-2026/>.

Over two days, technologies featured at Sea-Air-Space 2026 will support advancements in:

- Advanced Electronics
- Air Platforms
- Autonomy
- Command, Control, Communications, Computers, & Intelligence (C4I)

- Electromagnetic Warfare
- Energy & Power Technologies
- Engineered Resilient Systems
- Ground and Sea Platforms
- Human Systems
- Materials & Manufacturing Processes
- Modeling and Simulation Technology
- Sensors
- Sustainment
- Weapons Technology

Sea-Air-Space, sponsored by the Navy League of the United States, brings together the U.S. defense industry and key military decision-makers. Register for Sea-Air-Space 2026 at <https://seairspace.org/>.

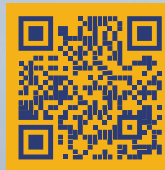
Navy STP Connect

From April 27 to May 8, Navy STP will offer virtual one-on-one meetings between industry or government representatives and current Navy STP participants, enabling in-depth discussions about each small business’s technology and potential transition opportunities.

For updates on showcased technologies, upcoming events, and additional Navy STP Showcase opportunities, visit www.NavySTP.com and click on “Events” at the top of the page.

Upcoming events

DATE	EVENT & LINK	LOCATION
March 7-11	Pittcon https://pittcon.org	San Antonio
March 7-14	International IEEE Aerospace Conference https://aeroconf.org/	Big Sky, Montana
March 9-12	2026 Pacific Operational Science & Technology (POST) Conference https://www.postconference.org/	Honolulu
March 10-12	TechConnect World Innovation Conference and Expo https://www.techconnectworld.com/World2026/	Raleigh, North Carolina
March 16-19	International Wireless Communications Expo (IWCE) https://www.iwceexpo.com/	Las Vegas
March 17-18	Operational Medicine Symposium & Technology Showcase https://www.asdevents.com/event.asp?id=25613	San Antonio
March 23-26	Satellite 2026 https://www.satshow.com/	Washington
March 24-26	Defense Cyber Workforce Summit https://www.afcea.org/calendar/eventdet.jsp?event_id=79071&w=	Washington
April 19-22	Sea-Air-Space Conference and Exposition https://seaairspace.org/	National Harbor, Maryland
April 21-23	2026 Anti-Tamper Conference https://at.dod.mil/AT-Events/2026-Anti-Tamper-Conference/	Laurel, Maryland
April 26-30	SPIE Defense + Security Exhibition https://spie.org/conferences-and-exhibitions/defense-and-security/exhibition	National Harbor, Maryland
April 28-30	Modern Day Marine https://marinemilitaryexpos.com/modern-day-marine/home/	Washington
May 5-7	Submarine Technology Symposium https://navalsubleague.org/event/submarine-technology-symposium/	Alexandria, Virginia
May 11-14	AUVSI XPONENTIAL https://www.auvsi.org/event/xponential-2026/	Detroit
May 11-14	Marine Corps Aviation Association (MCAA) Annual Symposium https://www.flymcaa.org/annualsymposium	Dallas
May 16-19	Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers Conference and Expo https://iise.org/Annual/	Arlington, Texas
June 2-4	SAE International AeroTech https://www.sae.org/events/aerotech	West Palm Beach, Florida
June 2-4	MegaRust https://www.navalengineers.org/Symposia/MegaRust2026	San Diego
June 2-4	TechNetCyber https://events.afcea.org/afceacyber26/Public/enter.aspx	Baltimore

STP
NAVY SBIR TRANSITION PROGRAM**COME OUT
AND SEE US
AT THESE EVENTS!****WEST**
2026

Booth 1725
February 10th - 12th, 2026
San Diego Convention Center
San Diego



March 10th - 11th, 2026
SYSCOM
Technical Information Exchange
Convene on Wilson Blvd., Arlington, Virginia

SeaAirSpace
2024

Booth 136
April 20th - 22nd, 2026
Gaylord National Resort &
Convention Center
National Harbor, Maryland

U.S. Navy photo credit: Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Nicholas Douglass