



SOFWERX

SPEED. INNOVATION. SOLUTIONS.



UNDER A TITLE 15 **PARTNERSHIP** **Intermediary Agreement (PIA):**



“BIG TENT” PHILOSOPHY

- USSOCOM
- Industry Partners
- Academics & Interns
- Interagency Partners
- FFRDC's & Labs
- Non-Traditionals

CHARTER

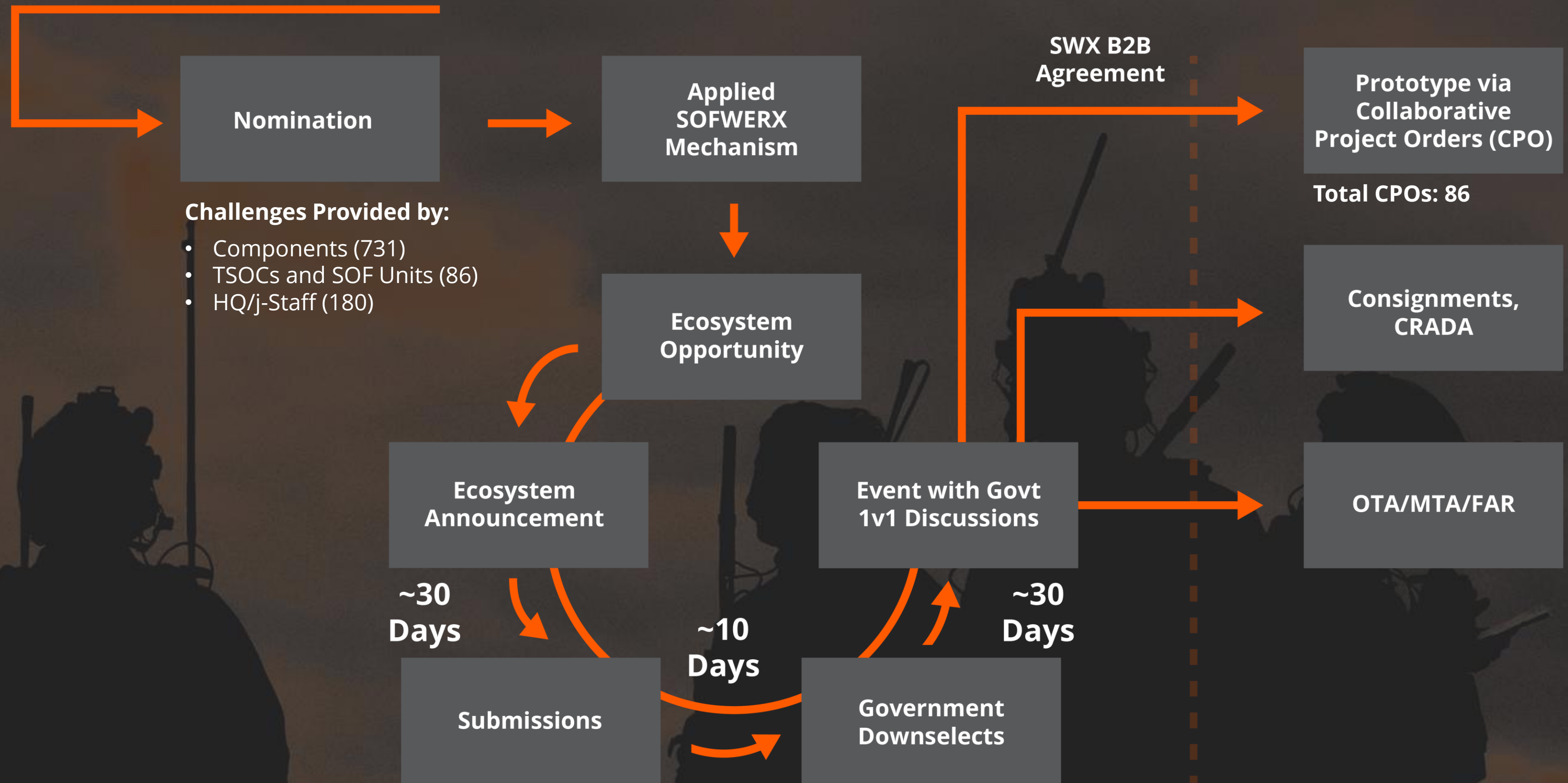
Proof of theory. Proof of concept. Rapid prototyping.

- I. Create and maintain a platform to accelerate delivery of innovative capabilities to USSOCOM.
- II. Facilitate capability refinement through exploration, experimentation and assessment of promising technology.

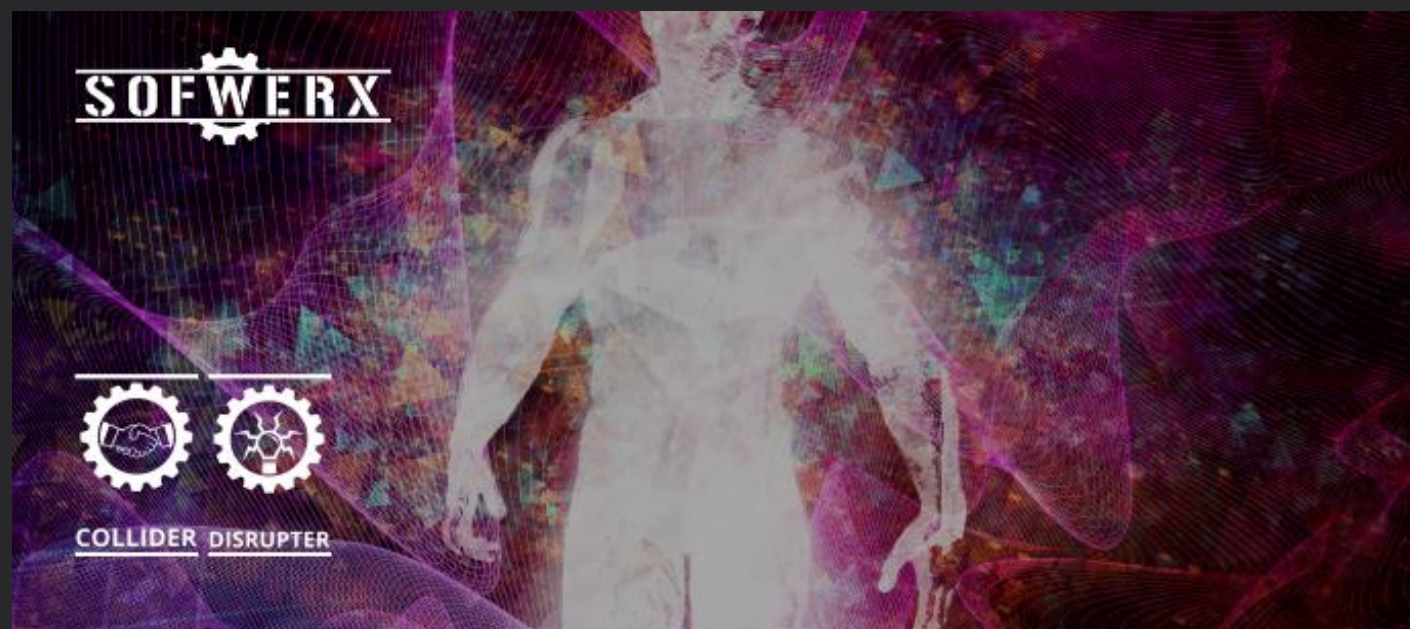


A PLATFORM DESIGNED
AND OPERATED TO HELP
**SOLVE CHALLENGING
WARFIGHTER PROBLEMS**
THROUGH INCREASED
COLLABORATION,
EXPLORATION AND
AGILE PROCESSES.

HOW IT WERX



COLLIDER / DISRUPTER 2024



USSOCOM Collider/Disrupter Event

12, 15-17 April 2024

SOFWERX, in collaboration with USSOCOM, used the Collider/Disrupter event with Government, Industry, Venture Capital/Startups, Academia, National Laboratory, and other non-traditional participants to identify and develop solutions for specified TFAs and to discover disruptive and transformational technologies/capabilities for consideration and potential adoption by Special Operations Forces (SOF) operational requirements.

Collider Technology Focus Areas:

TFA #1. Laser-Augmented Midwave Imager (LAMI)

Demonstrator

TFA #2. Acoustic Sensor

TFA #3. C5I / Sustainment and Protection / "Digital" Camouflage

Disrupter Categories:

Emplacement and Access, Scalable and Precision Effects, and Multiple Domain Communication and Computing

Event Outcomes

- 83 Industry participants from 31 organizations presented their technology to the Government team
- Out of 127 submissions, 30 capabilities were selected to present
- 4 teams of Government representatives had one-on-one conversations with Industry
- USSOCOM has decided to move forward into negotiations for Phase 4 - Path Forwards with 9 organizations



April 2024: Collider / Disrupter 2024 identified solutions for three (3) specific technology focus areas and explored transformational and disruptive technologies/capabilities for consideration and potential adoption

- Laser Augmented Midwave Imager (LAMI)
- Acoustic Sensor
- C5I Sustainment & Protection / Digital Camouflage

Primary USSOCOM Stakeholders:

- SOF AT&L Science & Technology Directorate
- Multiple Program Executive Offices

Outcomes:

- 127 Submissions
- 30 Selected to Present
- 6 Business-to-Business Agreements w/ SOFWERX Awarded
- 3 selected for OTA w/ USSOCOM

INNOVATION FOUNDRY 16 (IF 16)

August 2024: IF 16, “Contested Logistics in Future SOF Operations,” explored challenges of resourcing parts, components, and supplies at the point of need for the untethered SOF operator in various environments.

- Energy / Power
- Sourcing
- Manufacturing
- Storing
- Delivery

Primary USSOCOM Stakeholders:

- SOF AT&L Science & Technology Futures
- Program Executive Office – Special Operations Forces Sustainment Activity (PEO-SOFSA)
- USSOCOM J4 Logistics Directorate

Next Step: Rapid Capabilities Assessment (Date TBD)



USSOCOM Innovation Foundry (IF16) Event

20-22 August 2024

Event Outcomes

SOFWERX, in collaboration with USSOCOM's Directorate of Science and Technology (S&T), hosted the sixteenth Innovation Foundry Event (IF16), at SOFWERX in Tampa, FL, which intended to bring together Special Operations Forces (SOF), industry, academia, national labs, government, and futurists in an exploration, design thinking, facilitated event to assist USSOCOM in decomposing future scenarios and missions.

The theme of IF16, 'Contested Logistics in Future SOF Operations' explored the challenges of resourcing parts, components, and supplies at the point of need for the untethered SOF operator.

- Out of 316 submissions, 62 Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) were downselected to participate in the event
- 30 additional Government representatives observed the IF16 out brief onsite and virtually
- SMEs worked in teams of likeminded talent to participate in design thinking to formulate concepts and solutions
- Teams briefed their concepts to Government representatives on the third day
- Insight gained from the event will be used to shape future efforts for USSOCOM



IN MAY 2020, SOFWERX
LAUNCHED **TECH TUESDAY**,
A FORUM FOR
INNOVATORS TO PRESENT
TRANSFORMATIONAL
TECHNOLOGIES TO
USSOCOM AND OTHER
GOVERNMENT PARTNERS.

1027 GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL
IN ECOSYSTEM

1577 TECHNOLOGIES SUBMITTED

825 TECHNOLOGIES PRESENTED TO
USERS AND TECH STAKEHOLDERS

Stakeholders



Government
Professionals
USSOCOM

Participants



Innovators
Collaborators
STEM Professionals
Academia
Problem-Solvers

Event Specifics

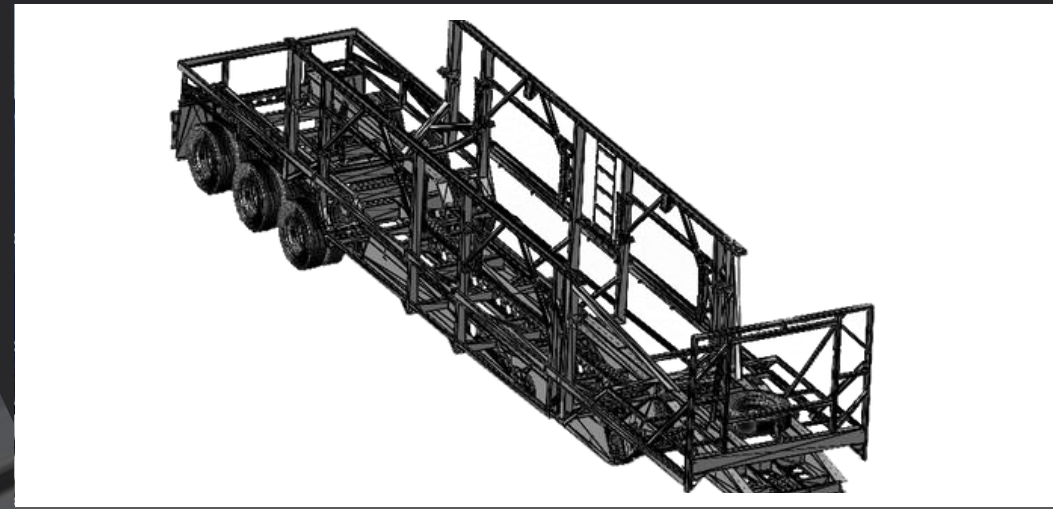


30 mins each attendant
15 min pitch, 10 min Q&A
Presenting to Government
Partners

PROJECT **EXAMPLES**



CPO 47
NAVY TRUCKS



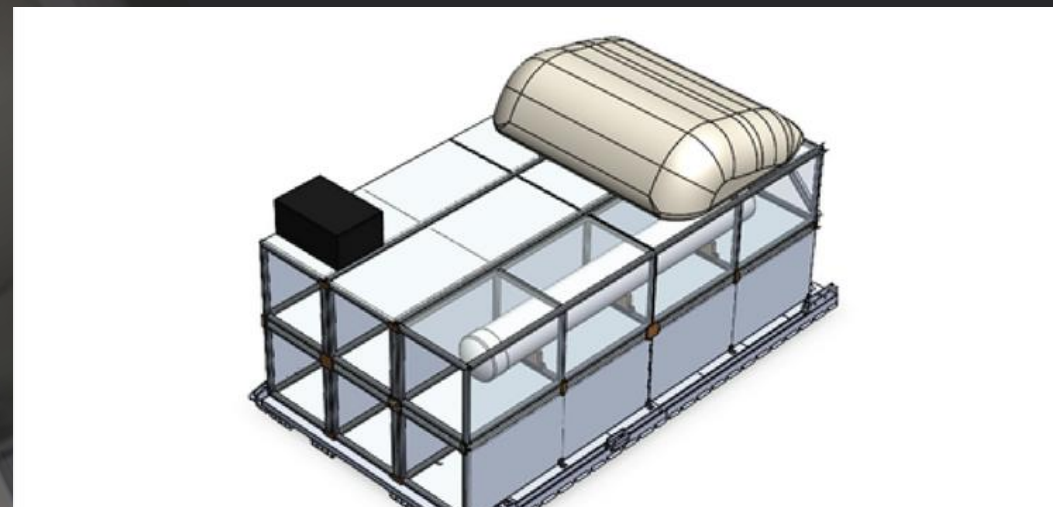
CPO 45
DCS TRANSPORTER



CPO 56
ITC ARTEMIS



CPO 69
LIGHT WEIGHT BODY ARMOR



CPO 73
ORETI



CPO 74
URBAN RF DETECTOR

SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH (SBIR)

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL APPROVED IN FY20 NDAA

Authorized \$2M (10%) SOCOM SBIR funds awarded through SOFWERX PIA

LEGISLATIVE PILOT PROGRAM EXTENDED/EXPANDED IN FY22 NDAA

\$2.7 - \$3M SOCOM SBIR funds /yr.

Up to \$20M non-SOCOM SBIR funds /yr.

\$91.8M+ CONTRACTED TO DATE (SBIR FUNDS AND S&T FUNDS)

59 SBIR Phase I Contracts (54 completed to date)

49 SBIR Phase II Contracts (34 completed to date)

46% Transition Rate for FY 2023 (Phase II to Phase III)

Awarded projects funded by DoD, DoN, Missile Defense Agency & Space Development Agency

Metrics	Historical SOCOM Actuals	FY20 Pilot Averages	FY21 Pilot Averages	FY22 Pilot Averages	FY23 Pilot Averages	FY23 Improvement	FY23 Impact	Overall Averages	Overall Improvement	Relevance
Proposals Received (per topic)	19	39	45	36	82	332%	4x Increase	50.5	168%	Increase in Proposals
Phase I Proposal to Award (days)	102	22	33.25	27.22	30	71%	3x faster	28.1	72%	Decrease in Award Time
Phase II Proposal to Award (days)	105	20	34	25.61	23	78%	4x faster	25.7	76%	Decrease in Award Time
Phase I to Prototype Delivery (months)	40.5	14.5	23.35	22.8	19	53%	2x faster	19.9	51%	PI to Prototype Savings

SMALL BUSINESS & INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

SOFWERX / OSBP SMALL BUSINESS BOOT CAMPS

- March 11-13 2025

TECH SCOUTING/OUTREACH

- 6-10 Jan: Consumer Electronics Show (Las Vegas, NV)
- 21 Jan: SOF AT&L Small Business Forum (SWX, Tampa, FL)
- 27-31 Jan: Cyber Communications and Defense Summit (SWX, Tampa, FL)
- 21 Feb: Security Summit ICW CENTCOM (Tampa, FL)
- 21-22 Feb: Creative Defense Foundation Conference (Indian Wells, CA)
- 26 Feb: GIST Roadshow (Tampa, FL)
- 7-10 Mar: Capital Factory House (Austin, TX)
- 27-28 Mar: eMerge Americas (Miami, FL)



Small Business Boot Camp 4

26-28 March 2024

Event Outcomes

SOFWERX, in coordination with the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP), provided a forum for Small Businesses with technologies that support National Security Interests and/or the USSOCOM technology interest areas to learn more about doing business with USSOCOM. Additionally, the event provided an opportunity for Small Business engagement with government stakeholders, prime contractors, and investors in the form of "Speed Dating."

- SOFWERX hosted 149 participants on Day 1, 133 participants on Day 2, and 59 participants on Day 3
- Of those in-person participants, 29 were Government Stakeholders, 112 were Industry, 9 were Investors, 23 were Speakers, and 10 were Prime Contractors
- 103 participants attended virtually on Day 1, 114 on Day 2, and 103 on Day 3
- One the first two days, Small Businesses were matched with Government Stakeholders, Investors, and Prime Contractors with similar interests, which resulted in 976 "Speed Dating" meetings



ADVANCED MANUFACTURING CAPABILITIES



PERSONNEL

- Foundry Manager/Mechanical Engineer
- Fabrication Specialist
- Interns

SOFTWARE

- **SolidWorks** - CAD
- **Fusion 360** - CAM
- **Ansys Fluent** - computational fluid dynamics & simulations
- **MATLAB** - mathematical computations

EQUIPMENT

- **Computer Numerical Control (CNC)** - mill, lathe, plasma & laser cutters
- **Manual** - mill, lathe, hydraulic press brake, hydraulic ironworker, sheet roller, sewing machines
- **Welding** - all facets, including but not limited to MIG, TIG, Stick, steel/aluminum
- **3D Printing** - resin based, plastic filament based, plastic filament with carbon fiber inlay

INTERNSHIP & STEM PROGRAMS AT SOFWERX



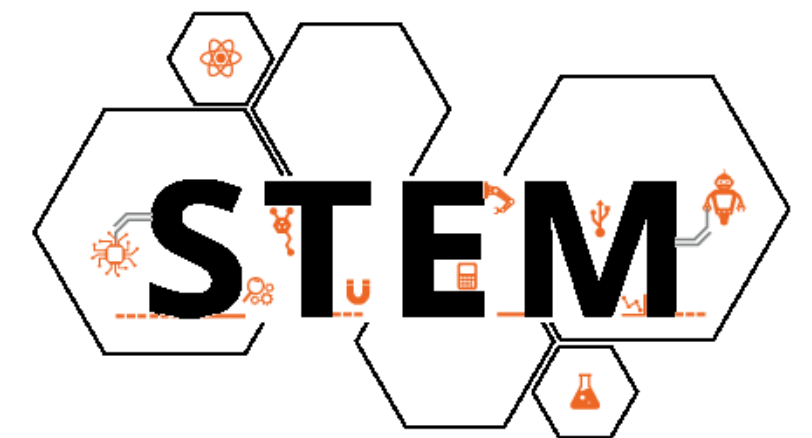
SOFWERX INTERNSHIP PROGRAM.

- Academic/Collegiate Intern support is provided through USF
- For FY22/23, 39 academic interns from 8 different schools supported SOFWERX efforts
- Each intern works up to 20 hrs/week during the fall/spring semester and up to 30 hrs/week during the summer semester on approved projects.



121 STEM ENGAGEMENTS SERVICING ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOLS.

- Support clubs or kickstart new STEM initiatives
- Provide education and mentorship to explore career pathways
- Create customized activities to demonstrate/showcase innovation processes.



SOFWERX STEM



MacDill Homeschool Community STEM Day

10 January 2025

Event Outcomes

SOFWERX, in collaboration with MacDill Air Force Base Homeschool Community, hosted a STEM event for homeschool students from military families. The event provided participants with hands-on opportunities to engage in critical thinking challenges, engineering design activities, and a robotics building and information session. These activities were designed to align with the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) & SOFWERX missions to inspire innovation, enhance educational outcomes, and promote equitable access to STEM opportunities. This event served as a model for how community-based partnerships can address educational equity and inspire the next generation of innovators, particularly among underserved populations such as military families.

- SOFWERX staff facilitated hands-on activities with approximately 80 participants, including robotics building and critical thinking challenges, enabling participants to develop skills in engineering, problem-solving, and innovation.
- At the event, SOFWERX introduced the homeschool community to the engineering design process through engaging and age-appropriate challenges, fostering a lifelong passion for STEM and promoting inclusion in structured STEM programs.



FIRST® Lego League Regional Championship 2025

18 January 2025

Event Outcomes

SOFWERX, in collaboration with FIRST® LEGO League (FLL), attended and judged the FIRST® LEGO League Regional Championship 2025 at Shorecrest Preparatory School. The event hosted 42 top-performing teams from the West Florida region and welcomed over 1,250 attendees, including students, coaches, mentors, and volunteers, to celebrate the SUBMERGED FIRST® LEGO League Season. SOFWERX evaluated the teams through one-on-one discussion sessions to determine the recipient of the prestigious "Director's Award, provided by FLL." These efforts aligned with the United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) & SOFWERX missions to inspire innovation, foster STEM education, and promote the development of future leaders in science and technology.

- During the event, SOFWERX staff evaluated all 42 teams through in-depth discussions, providing constructive feedback and selecting the overall winner of the "Director's Award," which celebrated excellence in innovation and teamwork.
- SOFWERX engaged with students, mentors, and attendees to promote the importance of STEM education and critical thinking, fostering enthusiasm for future technological advancements and aligning with USSOCOM & SOFWERX missions.



WHY SOFWERX?

**EASY TO ACCESS,
REDUCED BARRIERS
TO ENTRY**

**REFINE/INFORM
REQUIREMENTS**

**NEUTRAL
FACILITATION &
IDEATION**

**FAIL FAST &
COST OF RISK
AVOIDANCE**

**FLEXIBLE NON-
FAR BUSINESS
METHODOLOGIES
AND PROCESSES**

**82% OF OUR
SUBMISSIONS
COME FROM OUR
NON-TRADITIONAL
ECOSYSTEM**

**QUICK WINS
FOR THE
WARFIGHTER**

**FLEXIBILITY
THROUGH
ADDITIONAL
CONTRACTING
MECHANISMS**



GET INVOLVED WITH SOFWERX

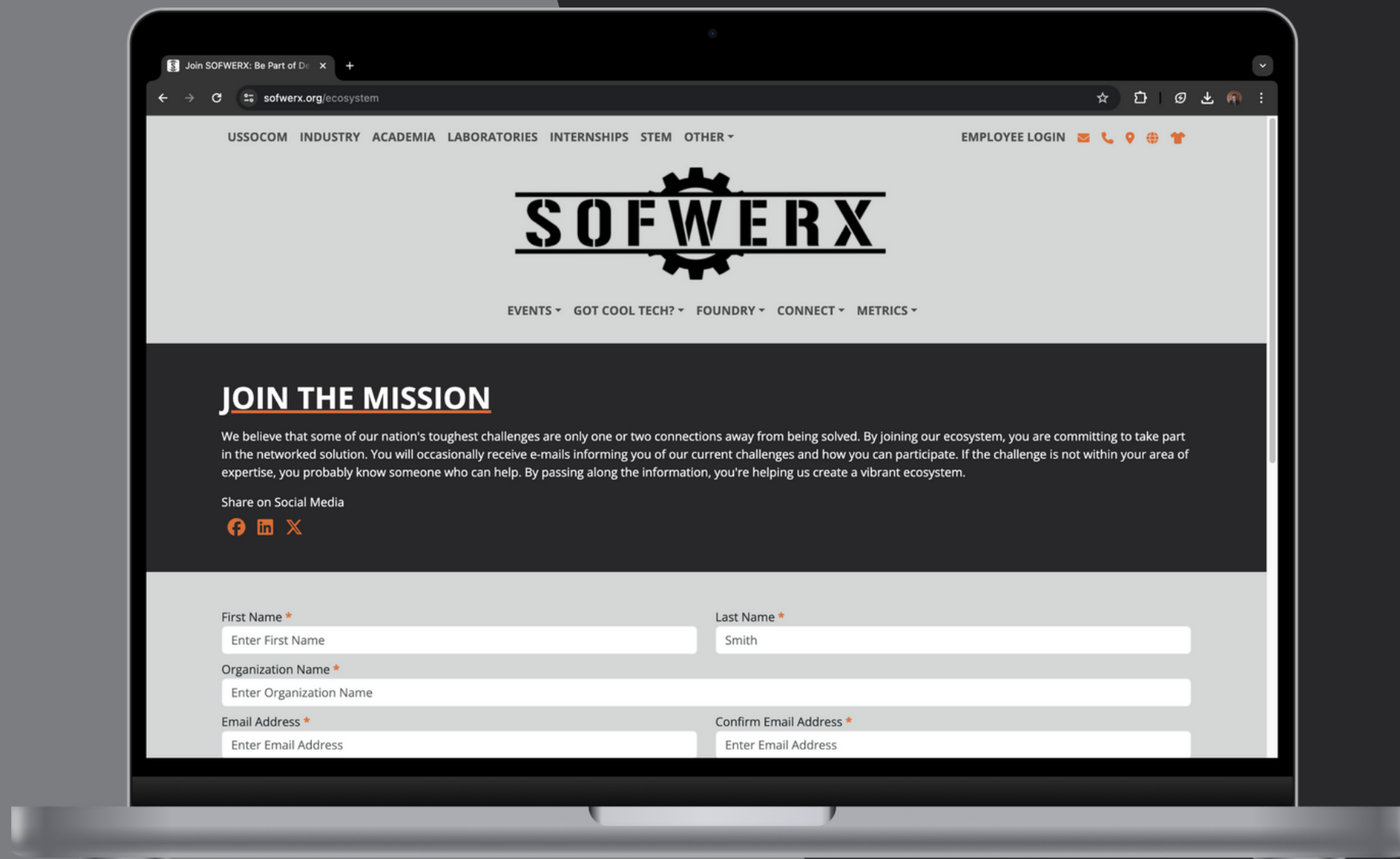
Join the SOFWERX ecosystem at sofwerx.org/ecosystem.

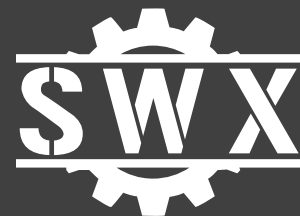
SMEs can participate in events at events.sofwerx.org.

Innovators are encouraged to submit technologies for events or Tech Tuesday at events.sofwerx.org and sofwerx.org/techtuesday.

USSOCOM can nominate technology focus areas and submit Foundry requests at sofwerx.org/techtuesday and sofwerx.org/foundry.

Bring Warfighter Challenges to sofwerx.org/request.





**ANY
QUESTIONS?**