

DEFENSE INNOVATION UNIT (DIU)

*ACCELERATING COMMERCIAL INNOVATION
FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE*



Mission / Scope

Lead DoD's break with past paradigms of military-technical advantage to become fast adapters -- as opposed to sole developers -- of technology, integrating the advanced commercial capabilities necessary for strategic advantage. In this hyper-competitive environment, DoD needs to prioritize speed of delivery, rapid and modular upgrades, and quick operational adaptation on the battlefield. Success in this new era of military-technical competition no longer goes to those who seek the most exquisite systems, but rather to those who move fast and think creatively.

Quick Stats

- Open for use by all DoD entities
- Five Focus Areas:
 - Artificial Intelligence
 - Autonomy
 - Human Systems
 - Information Technology (Cyber)
 - Space
- Averages 20 submissions per solicitation
- 90 days from first contact to award
- Prototype projects typically last less than 2 years
- \$37M annual budget supplemented by DoD partner funding to get to \$281M project funding
- Over \$4B Venture Capital leveraged
- In 2017, DIU transitioned 2 prototype contracts into full production contracts under OT authority
- DIU dropped the word "experimental" from its name when it was made a permanent part of the DoD in 2018

Contacts

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Get on Board!

- Success Stories:
 - Tanium's work on endpoint security services started with a \$13M prototype contract awarded in 2016 and led to the first production contract in 2017 (supported by World Wide Technology).
 - "DIU's expertise in and knowledge of the nontraditional innovation ecosystem is unique in the Department and has been a critical enabler for USSOUTHCOM to remain the security partner of choice for nations in the Western Hemisphere." Admiral K.W. Tidd, U.S. Southern Command
- [Current Solicitations](#)
- [What to Submit](#)