

RAPID ACQUISITIONS OFFICES AND PROGRAMS

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Capture2's [previous articles on the rapid acquisitions trends](#) within Government contracting and the DoD have focused on the types of contracts and case studies of rapid acquisitions efforts. They have answered questions about how and what the efforts are, and how to access some of the work released through OTA consortia. But why have rapid acquisitions efforts become such a huge focus in recent years, and who are the main players in the Government that are supporting these efforts?

William LaPlante, a Senior Vice President at the MITRE Corporation and a former Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition has summarized the urgency behind these efforts nicely:

When we had unquestioned superiority, you could probably do the exquisite analysis for two or three years, development for five to 10 years, and then put up your GPS or your AEHF satellites. We don't have that superiority any more. The speed of technology change and potential adversaries just means we've got to do it differently.

- Speeding Up Space, [Air Force Magazine](#)

This sentiment has been repeated in other words and other sources at many times and places. Gone are the days where the U.S. led the world in military technology. Other countries have caught up. However, we still have the means to be a leader; it just requires a shift in focus and some new ideas on how to get things done (and maybe a [return to some old procurement techniques](#)).

The result is that rapid acquisition efforts have become the new trend. Rapid capabilities offices are being developed and receiving more prominent status in many agencies across the DOD and the larger Government contracting world. In fact, the Air Force is currently considering a new Cyber Rapid Capabilities Office (RCO) to join the Air Force and Space RCOs already in existence.

Capture2 has created a set of fact sheets highlighting some of the offices and programs in charge of finding and nurturing innovation and bringing new technologies and capabilities to our warfighters as quickly as possible.

FACT SHEETS:

- [Army Rapid Capabilities & Critical Technologies Office](#)
- [Air Force Rapid Capabilities Office](#)
- [Space Rapid Capabilities Office](#)
- [The "oldest" of the new innovation class - Defense Innovation Unit \(DIU/formerly DIUx\)](#)
- [The original defense innovation group – DARPA](#)
- [DHS's Office devoted to speed and innovation - the Procurement Innovation Lab \(PIL\)](#)
- [The DoD's Rapid Innovation Fund](#)



Opportunity-Centric Market Intelligence:

Identify Relevant, forecasted, active, and history procurement opportunities

Additional Resources

[How Government Agencies are Speeding Up the Procurement Process For Prototyping and Research & Development Efforts](#)

[Capture2 Market Intelligence Report: DoD Rapid Acquisition Trends In 2019](#)

- Parts I and II of this Capture2 series on Rapid Acquisitions

[Consortium Membership List](#)

- A list of consortia, their domains and their management firms to aid in decision-making while pursuing OTAs.

[Defense Innovation Marketplace](#)

- A resource for connecting industry and the DOD. Lists many innovative contracts across various DOD agencies.
- [Other Transactions Guide](#)
 - A great resource on Other Transaction Types including myths, rules, and case studies.

[Innovative Contracting Case Studies](#)

- While released in 2014, this document contains many details and case studies into a variety of innovative contracting models and efforts used by our Government.

[SBIR-STTR America's Seed Fund](#)

[Air Force SBIR/STTR](#)

[Army SBIR](#)

[DHS S&T SBIR](#)

[NASA SBIR/STTR](#)

[National Science Foundation SBIR/STTR](#)

[Navy SBIR/STTR](#)

[U.S. DoD SBIR/STTR](#)

- SBIR offices often have information on new innovations and rapid acquisitions efforts.

[AFWERX](#)

[SOFWERX](#)

[IQT | In-Q-Tel](#)

- "Matchmakers" who help create partnerships between innovative companies and the government programs needing their expertise.

[Digital Services Playbook](#)

- Contains checklists and questions that may help you design in a more effective and agile manner.





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Related Articles

[In new 'how-to' guide, Pentagon's innovation outpost urges rest of DoD to adopt rapid acquisition](#)

- The Defense Innovation Unit published a guide to help other government contracting units learn rapid acquisitions strategies.

[Can the US military still innovate quickly?](#)

- A new doctrine may be necessary to drive true innovation.

[OTA contracts are the new cool thing in DoD acquisition](#)

- A 2017 overview on why OTAs are gaining traction in DOD contracting.

[Air Force wants to apply success of Rapid Capabilities Office to other weapons programs](#)

[Air Force wants to slash acquisition red tape with new charter](#)

- How the Air Force intends to use the lessons from its RCO programs to improve acquisitions more broadly.

[Is a new Air Force cyber office in the works?](#)

- Quick read about why the Air Force would like to create a Cyber RCO.

[Revealed: The new structure for the Pentagon's tech and acquisition offices](#)

- Organizational charts and structure realignments to support the offices of the Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment and the Undersecretary of Defense for Research and Engineering that were implemented on Feb. 1, 2018.

