List of OTA Consortia

Other Transaction Authority

RSM FEDERAL
The Art and Science of Government Sales™

Overview

Other Transaction Authority (OTA) is the term commonly used to refer to the (10 U.S.C. 2371b) authority of the Department of Defense (DoD) to carry out certain prototypes, research, and production projects. Other Transaction (OT) authorities were created to give DoD the flexibility necessary to adopt and incorporate business practices that reflect commercial industry standards and best practices into its award instruments. As of the 2016 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) Section 845, the DoD currently has permanent authority to award OT under (10 U.S.C. 2371) for (1) Research, (2) Prototype, and (3) Production Purposes.

(1) Research Purpose (10 U.S.C 2371) allows for basic, applied, and advanced research projects. These OTs are intended to spur dual-use research and development (R&D), taking advantage of economies of scale without burdening companies with Government regulatory overhead, which would make them non-competitive in the commercial (non-defense) sector. Traditional defense contractors are encouraged to engage in Research OTs, particularly if they sought to adopt commercial practices or standards, diversify into the commercial sector, or partner with Non-Traditional Defense Contractors.

(2) Prototype Purpose (10 U.S.C. 2371b) allows for projects directly relevant to weapons or weapon systems proposed to be acquired or developed by the DoD.

(3) Production Purpose allows for a non-competitive, follow-on OTs to a Prototype OT agreement that was competitively awarded and successfully completed. This statute requires that advanced consideration be given and notice be made of the potential for a follow-on OT; this is a necessary precondition for a follow-on Production OT. As such, solicitation documents and the Prototype OT agreement shall include a notice that a follow-on Production OT is possible.

1. What is an "Other Transaction" (OT)?

An OT is a common term that refers to any kind of transaction other than a contract, grant, or cooperative agreement that is authorized by 10 U.S.C. 2371. Transactions pursuant to this authority can take many forms and generally are not required to comply with Federal laws and regulations that apply to procurement contracts, grants, and/or cooperative agreements. To the extent that a particular law or regulation is not tied to the type of instrument used (e.g., fiscal and property laws), it would generally apply to an OT.

OTs are not covered by the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) and are a highly flexible business tool, use of which requires the application of astute business acumen to ensure the smarter, more efficient acquisition of prototype systems for the DoD. OTs require a minimum of at least one nontraditional Defense Contractor participating to a significant extent in the project or a cost-sharing arrangement requiring that at least one-third of the cost of the OTA come from non-Federal sources. [1]

Each military service has authority to execute OTs up to $500M with authorization by their Service Acquisition Executive (SAE), and there are no limits on how many OTs may be executed by the services or the cumulative value of such awards. Beyond the $5000M threshold for individual OTs, USD(A&L) must provide authorization to proceed. There is no limit to the number or dollar value of OTs that the DoD may execute in the aggregate.

In accordance with statute, this authority may be used only when one of the following is met: [1,2]

1) The awardee is a non-traditional defense contractor OR a small business:

   - "Non-traditional defense contractor" is defined by statute as "an entity that is not currently performing and has not performed, for at least the one-year period preceding the solicitation sources by the Department of Defense for the procurement or transaction, any contract or subcontract for the Department of Defense that is subject to the full coverage under the cost accounting standards prescribed pursuant to Section 1502 of title 41 and the regulations implementing such section."
   - "Small business" is defined under section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

2) The awardee is a traditional defense contractor, but at least one of the following applies:

- At least one non-traditional contractor is participating to a "significant" extent
- The awardee provides a financial or in-kind cost share – typically, a 1/3 cost share is required. However, the Government should not generally mandate cost-sharing requirements for defense unique items.
- The Service Acquisition Executive makes a written determination that exceptional circumstances justify the use of OTA for the purpose of executing innovative business models or structures that would not be feasible or appropriate with a FAR-based contract.

Consortium	Membership Firm	Description
Advanced Manufacturing, Materials, and Processes (AMMP)	NCMS	Advance and enable additive manufacturing to create next-generation manufacturing breakthroughs
American Metalcasting Consortium (AMC)	ATI	An industry-led consortium developing new technologies and processes that support the DLA in the procurement of critical cast parts.
Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center (AMRDEC)	US Army Contracting Command	The development and maturation of guided missile technologies, manufacturing and enabling/disruptive technologies, and aviation technologies.
Aviation and Missile Technology Consortium (AMTC)	ATI	Develop and transition Army aviation and missile manufacturing technologies, and integrate advanced technologies, techniques and processes into future effective weapon systems.
Border Security Technology Consortium (BSTC)	ATI	Research, development, prototyping, and piloting initiatives to meet border security requirements and close capability gaps.
Center for Naval Metalworking (CNM)	ATI	To develop and deploy innovative metalworking and related manufacturing technologies to reduce the cost and time to build and repair key U.S. Navy ships and weapons platforms.
Composites Manufacturing Technology Center (CMTC)	ATI	An ONR Center of Excellence developing composites for advanced weapons systems.
Consortium for Command, Control, and Communications in Cyberspace (C5)	CMG	C5 is a consortium composed of leading companies and institutions in the C4ISR and cyber technology sectors.
Consortium For Energy, Environment And Demilitarization (CEED)	CMG	CEED is a consortium composed of leading companies and institutions in the Energy, Environmental and Demilitarization technology sectors.
Consortium for Execution of Rendezvous and Servicing Operations (CONFERS)	ATI	Research, develop, and publish non-binding, consensus-derived technical and operations standards for OOS and RPO. These standards would provide the foundation for a new commercial repertoire of robust space-based capabilities and a future in-space economy.
Cornerstone	Rock Island Arsenal	A modern Industrial Base that integrates traditional and emerging sectors to respond at will to National Security Requirements.

Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Consortium (CWMD)	ATI	Developing technologies to detect, prevent, and protect against weapons of mass destruction.
Cyber Apex Solutions Consortium	Cyber Apex Solutions, LLC	Applied cybersecurity research focused on filling the security gaps of critical infrastructure in the United States of America.
Defense Automotive Technologies Consortium (DATC)	SAE International	Develop and transition advanced automotive technologies to all branches of military and government agencies.
Department of Defense Ordnance Technology Consortium (DOTC)	ATI	Integrate the DoD Ordnance community to work collaboratively in RDT&E of prototype solutions to advance and transition ordnance systems, subsystems and component technologies.
Forging Defense Manufacturing Consortium (FDMC)	ATI	Teaming the US forging industry with the DoD to address supply chain challenges and research needs.
Information Warfare Research Project (IWRP)	ATI	Developing and implementing advanced Information Warfare technology solutions.
Medical Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear (CBRN) Defense Consortium (MCDC)	ATI	Supporting the DoD's medical, pharmaceutical, and diagnostic requirements to enhance the effectiveness of military personnel.
Medical Technology Enterprise Consortium (MTEC)	ATI	Provide cutting-edge technologies to help protect, treat and optimize Warfighters' health.
Natick Soldier Research, Development, and Engineering Center (NSRDEC)	US Army-Aberdeen Proving Ground	Maximize the Warfighter's Survivability, Sustainability, Mobility, Combat Effectiveness and Field Quality of Life by Treating the Warfighter as a System.
National Advanced Mobility Consortium (NAMC)	NAMC	To provide the Government with ready, quality access to the broadest population of U.S. ground vehicle system (GVS), sub-system, and component technology developers and providers.
National Armaments Consortium (NAC)	ATI	The focal point for armaments system technology research and development across the DoD.
National Center for Manufacturing Sciences (NCMS)	NCMS	A cross-industry technology development consortium, dedicated to improving the competitiveness and strength of the U.S. industrial base
National Center for Simulation (NCS)		Promote and support modeling, simulation and training (MS&T). Registered as Training and Simulation Technology Consortium, Inc. (dba National Center for Simulation)
National Shipbuilding Research Program (NSRP)	ATI	A Navy-sponsored, industry-led collaboration of shipyards that is reducing the cost of building and repairing Navy ships.
National Spectrum Consortium (NSC)	ATI	Develop technologies that broaden access to and use of the electromagnetic spectrum.
Naval Aviation Systems Consortium (NASC)	CMG	Support the technology needs of the Naval Air Warfare Centers (NAWCs) and the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR)
Naval Shipbuilding and Advanced Manufacturing Center (NSAMC)	ATI	Developing and deploying advanced manufacturing technologies to reduce the cost and time required to build and repair Navy ships.
SAE Industry Technologies Consortia (SAE ITC®)	SAE International	Drive innovative solutions to key industry challenges.

Sensors, Communications, and Electronics Consortium (SCEC)	SOSSEC Inc.	Conduct research, development, and testing in cooperation with the Government, leading to technology demonstrations and prototype projects in the sensors, communications and electronics sciences and other related fields.
Space Enterprise Consortium® (SpEC)	ATI	Reducing risk and increasing constellation refresh rates to improve the availability of new technology on-orbit and to enhance system responsiveness and survivability.
System of Systems Consortium (SOSSEC)	SOSSEC Inc.	Technology agnostic approaches that capture the best of breed solutions.
Strategic & Spectrum Missions Advanced Resilient Trusted Systems (S2MARTS)	NSTXL	The S2MARTS OTA (pronounced "SMARTS") is designed to refine strategies, management planning activities, and implement integrated, complementary solutions that enable broader Department of Defense (DoD) access to commercial state-of-the-art EMS technologies, advanced microelectronics, radiation-hardened (RAD-HARD) and strategic missions hardware.
Training and Readiness Accelerator (TReX)	NSTXL	To expedite development, demonstration, and delivery of cutting edge technology capabilities in support of modeling, simulation, and training (MST) needs of the U.S. Department of Defense.
Undersea Technology Innovation Consortium (UTIC)	ATI	Rapid development, prototyping and commercialization of innovative undersea and maritime technology.
Vertical Lift Consortium (VLC)	ATI	Develop and transition innovative vertical lift technologies to meet Warfighter needs.
AFLCMC Consortium Initiative (ACI)	SOSSEC Inc.	Prototyping projects might include any topic generally consistent with the research, development, test and evaluation within prototyping projects of the AFLCMC mission sets.
Cyberspace Operations Broad Responsive Agreement (COBRA)	SOSSEC Inc.	Establish defense-in-depth across the entirety of cyberspace by simultaneously combining DCO capabilities at global, regional and local levels using a layered and adaptive approach.
Defense Electronics Consortium (DEC)	USPAE	The DEC identifies challenges, needs, and opportunities in defense electronics, which has been impacted by the contraction of U.S. electronics manufacturing and other factors.
Defense Innovation Unit (DIU)	DIU	DIU is the only DoD organization focused exclusively on fielding and scaling commercial technology across the U.S. military at commercial speeds.
Defense Technological Information Center Energy OTA (DTIC)	NSTXL	Technical areas germane to this OTA include cyber, advanced materials, sensors, and biomedical challenges. The ceiling on this OTA has been reached and it is no longer accepting new projects. It does however continue to execute on several prototype projects/Ceiling reached. No longer accepting new projects. which are nearing successful completion.
DHS Silicon Valley Innovation Program (SVIP)	DHS	Incentivize product developers to open the aperture of their development roadmaps to include homeland security solutions. Opportunities posted on sam.gov.

Engineer, Research, and Development Center (ERDC)	SOSSEC Inc.	Performs prototype projects within the following focus areas as they relate to Military Engineering.
Expeditionary Warfare Consortium (EWC)	ARA	Develop innovative products, prototypes, and solutions to meet the expeditionary warfare needs of the Naval Surface Warfare Center.
Future Airborne Capability Environment (FACE™)	The Open Group	Define an open avionics environment for all military airborne platform types.
Govmates Consortium	ATI	An enterprise solution to the Federal Government. Rather than specializing in technology silos, members of this consortium have capabilities spanning nearly every technology vertical.
Nano-Bio Manufacturing Consortium (NBMC)	SEMI	Raises the readiness levels of nano- and bio- technologies.
National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA)	SOSSEC Inc.	Drive innovative and transformational change into the National System for Geospatial-Intelligence (NSG) and Allied System for Geospatial-Intelligence (ASG) environments.
NATIONAL OFFSHORE WIND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CONSORTIUM		Reduce the levelized cost of energy (LCOE) of offshore wind in the U.S. while maximizing other economic and social benefits.
National Security Technology Accelerator (NSTXL)	NSTXL	Support of the Warfighter mission. Management firm level access to all of their OTAs (S2MARTS, TReX, SpEC).
Naval Surface Technology and Innovation Consortium (NSTIC)	ATI	Supporting naval surface technology innovation across a broad range of technology areas and disciplines.
Nuclear Science and Security Consortium (NSSC)	NNSA	Develop a new generation of laboratory-integrated nuclear experts.
Open System Acquisition Initiative (OSAI)	SOSSEC Inc.	Produce prototypes in command, control, communications and cyber, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (C4ISR) that increase the efficiency of Government, industry and academia capabilities in information systems proposed to be acquired or developed by the Department of Defense (DOD), and to reduce the cost of defense information systems technology.
Propulsion Directorate Consortium Initiative (PCI)	SOSSEC Inc.	Perform critical research, development, test and evaluation within prototyping projects addressing propulsion needs and the future of the propulsion enterprise.
Sensor Open Systems Architecture (SOSA Consortium)	SOSA	The SOSA Consortium is creating open system reference architectures applicable to military and commercial sensor systems and a business model that balances stakeholder interests.
Supply Chain Consortium Initiative (SCCI)	SOSSEC Inc.	Perform critical research, development, test and evaluation within prototyping projects addressing 448th Supply Chain Management Wing (SCMW), to include other organizations in the Air Force Material Command (AFMC) or strategic partners, needs and the future of these enterprises.
University Consortium for Applied Hypersonics (UCAH)	UCAH	Deliver the innovation and workforce needed to advance modern hypersonic flight systems in support of national defense.

/---------- END OF DOCUMENT ----------/