



Photo by Kris Osborn

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide the small business community, Army, DoD and other government researchers and leadership additional insight into the Army SBIR program.

Army SBIR Vision

To be the Army's premier source of innovative technology solutions, providing direct access to America's high-tech small business research & development community, enabling our Soldiers deployed around the world.

Army SBIR Helpdesk

The Army SBIR Helpdesk answers program questions and provides assistance to small businesses and Government participants. Help Desk hours are Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm EST (except on Federal holidays). You may reach the help desk by email at army.sbir@us.army.mil or by calling (703) 399-2049.

A Message from the Army SBIR Program Manager

More than 250 small businesses were represented at the 2011 SBIR Beyond Phase II Conference & Technology Showcase, held 12-15 September in Atlanta, GA. Over 80 companies participated in the one-on-one sessions with Army representatives from Program Executive Offices, the Technical Assistance Advocates, and DoD Prime Contractors. The purpose of these sessions was to answer any program questions and give an opportunity for companies to present their technologies and explore how they may fit into Programs of Records technology requirements. Although the conference has ended, Army representatives will continue to follow up with some of the small businesses that were in attendance.

I met and talked with many companies and discussed various aspects of the Program as well as their technology ideas. I am convinced that transition planning and technology advocacy early-on with PEOs and DoD Primes is the key to success. My number one goal for the Army SBIR Program remains delivering innovative technology solutions to our Soldiers and I encourage you to continue to participate and help me realize this goal.

The Army SBIR Program actively supports a number of conferences and outreach events throughout the year and I urge you to attend these and take advantage of what they offer. At these conferences and events, the SBIR team is able to interact directly with small businesses and provide guidance and solutions on SBIR issues as well as gather feedback on processes and new initiatives. A list of up-coming conferences is included in this newsletter and on our web-site – www.armysbir.army.mil.

Program News

Starting with the 11.1 solicitation, the cost ceiling for Phase I proposals is \$100,000 and the Phase I Option is \$50,000 in response to topics contained in the Solicitation. Phase II proposals following a Phase I award resulting from the 11.1 and subsequent Solicitations will have a maximum dollar amount of \$1,000,000. Phase II efforts following a Phase I award prior to the 11.1 Solicitation will continue to have a maximum dollar amount of \$730,000. The Solicitation is posted at <http://www.acq.osd.mil/sadbu/sbir/solicitations/index.htm>.

Update on the SBIR Program Reauthorization

At the time this newsletter was written, Congress was still working on the SBIR reauthorization. However, Congress recognizes the value of SBIR and we remain confident the program will be reauthorized in the near future.



Photo by Sgt. Matthew C. Moeller

12.1 SOLICITATION

Solicitation Pre-Release	09 Nov — 11 Dec 2011
Solicitation Opens	12 Dec 2011

OUTREACH EVENT

<u>2011 Fall National SBIR Conference</u>	Nov 06-09 New Orleans, LA
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2012 Commercialization Brochure

We are currently in the process of drafting the next Brochure and are actively seeking new “success stories”. The Brochure is published annually and distributed within the Army and Department of Defense community and at conferences across the country. These brochures highlight program successes and provide visibility to small businesses that have successfully transitioned their SBIR developed technologies. If you are interested in submitting a story, please contact the SBIR Program Management Office at army.sbir@us.army.mil.

You can download and view Commercialization Brochures at this link: <https://www.armysbir.army.mil/Commercialization/Default.aspx>

Dr. Arthur Ballato and Suzanne Weeks are Retiring

The Army SBIR Program bids farewell to two outstanding retiring SBIR contributors.

Dr. Arthur Ballato, Chief Scientist of the Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center, has retired after 53 years of government service. From 1994, he functioned as a senior mentor and a critical component of the Army SBIR process. His service to the Program was integral to the integrity of the process and he provided tremendous contributions to the development of SBIR topics and the selection of proposals.

Suzanne Weeks, SBIR Program Coordinator for the U.S. Army’s Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center, is also retiring. Since 1991, Suzanne Weeks has been the focal point of all CERDEC SBIR efforts and she was responsible for guiding source selection participants, distributing the funding and facilitating the award of contracts, and assisting in transitioning SBIR technologies. Her dedication and commitment was exceptional and allowed small businesses the opportunity to provide innovative research and development solutions to critical Army needs.

Dr. Arthur Ballato and Suzanne Weeks contributions to the Program have been invaluable and both the Program Management Office and the small business community will sorely miss them. We wish them well in their new endeavors.

Featured Army SBIR Success Story—RE2, Inc.

RE2, a 2011 Tibbetts Award winner, was named the 10th fastest-growing engineering firm in the United States by Inc. Magazine. RE2 was recognized for its work in meeting the Department of Defense’s demand for improved modular manipulation technologies for robotic vehicles, particularly for explosive ordnance disposal operations. RE2’s robotic manipulator arm technologies have been integrated onto several leading robotic systems for both military and domestic bomb squad use.

Based in Pittsburg, PA, RE2 is a leading developer of Intelligent Modular Manipulation Systems. RE2’s mission is to advance the state of the art of mobile manipulation. RE2’s manipulation systems and components are scalable and modular. RE2’s development efforts are focused on creating plug-n-play manipulation systems and end-effectors that are interoperable with existing and next-generation robotic platforms. RE2’s systems include the RE2 AUTOMATIC tool change system, Small Robot Toolkit, Dexterous Manipulation System, End-Effector Retrofit Kit, and the ForeRunner UGV.

Click the link to read the full press release: <http://www.resquared.com/PDFs/RE2-INC5000-FINAL-082411.pdf>