

STELLAR TEAM

NOBLE MISSION



# MDA Technology Maturation Overview

To: MDA University Innovation Summit (UIS)

By: Dr. Yazmin Carroll  
Director, Technology Maturation  
Missile Defense Agency  
March 3, 2021



# MDA Technology Maturation (DVR)

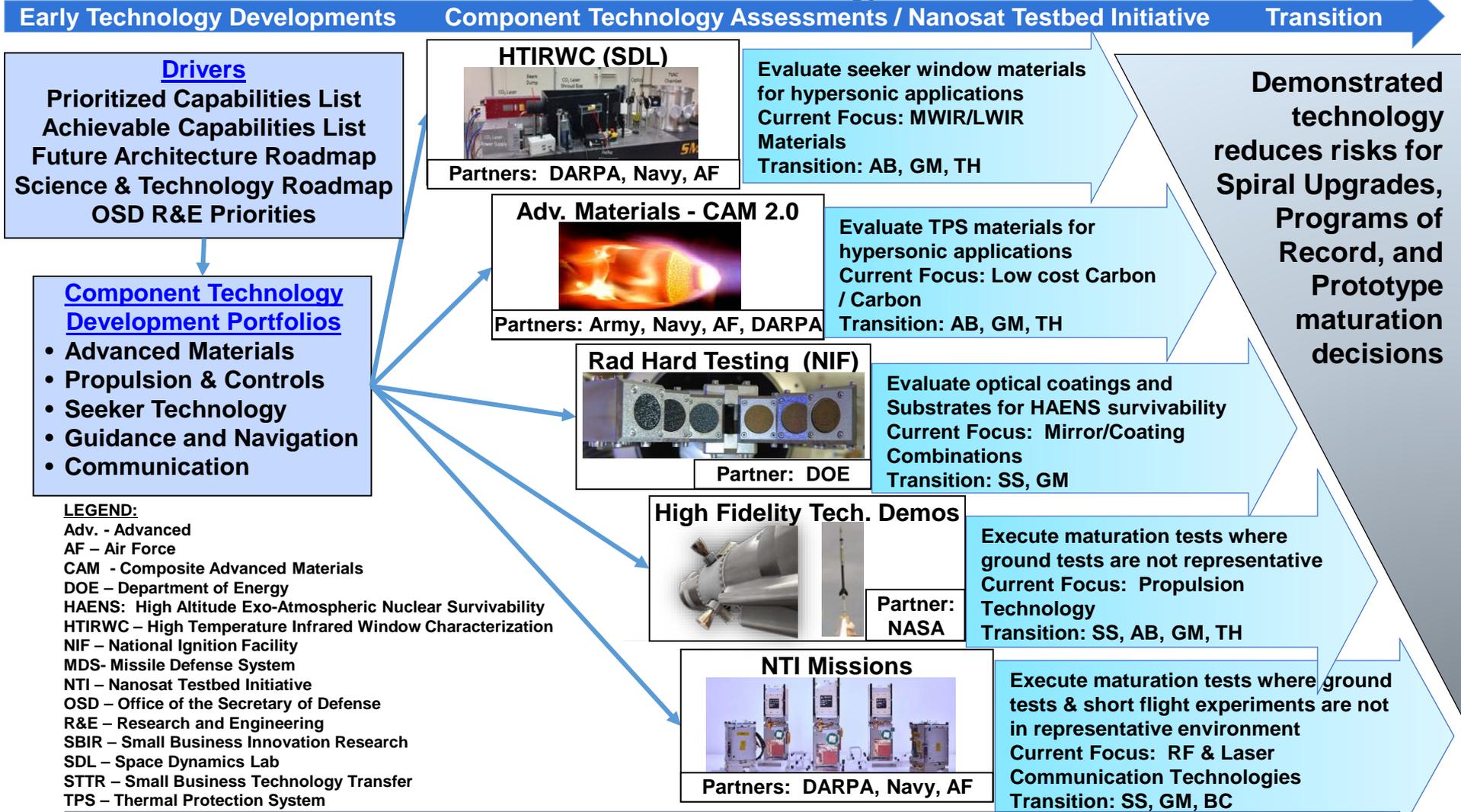
- Pursue a broad range of high-risk technologies
  - Capitalize on the innovation and creativity of the Nation's small businesses and universities
  - Develop and transform cutting edge technologies into actual applications for insertion into the MDS (Missile Defense System)
- Technology Maturations' Technical Objectives
  - Fund relevant, advanced Research and Development at domestic universities and small businesses
  - Exploit breakthroughs in science to offer robust technical improvements to MDS
  - Build portfolio of revolutionary technology to support and enhance MDS
  - Develop holistic partnerships
  - Educate future scientists and engineers





# MDA/DVR – Technology Maturation Program

## Investments Increase Technology Readiness Level



- LEGEND:**
- Adv. - Advanced
  - AF – Air Force
  - CAM - Composite Advanced Materials
  - DOE – Department of Energy
  - HAENS: High Altitude Exo-Atmospheric Nuclear Survivability
  - HTIRWC – High Temperature Infrared Window Characterization
  - NIF – National Ignition Facility
  - MDS- Missile Defense System
  - NTI – Nanosat Testbed Initiative
  - OSD – Office of the Secretary of Defense
  - R&E – Research and Engineering
  - SBIR – Small Business Innovation Research
  - SDL – Space Dynamics Lab
  - STTR – Small Business Technology Transfer
  - TPS – Thermal Protection System

**Develop and transform cutting edge technologies into applications for insertion into the MDS**



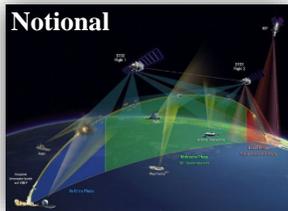
# MDA Technology Maturation

- **MDA/DVR Technology Maturation utilizes the following research vehicles:**
  - **Small Business Innovation Research / Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) program**
    - 4<sup>th</sup> largest SBIR/STTR program in the Department of Defense
  - **Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) Rapid Innovation Fund (RIF) program**
  - **Broad Agency Announcements (BAA)**



# SBIR /STTR Solicitation Process

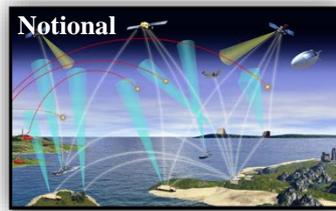
- SBIR / STTR program is a four step process
  - Phase I: feasibility and concept development
  - Phase II: technology and prototype development
    - Technology may receive one sequential Phase II
  - Phase II Enhancement: Prototype testing and technology demonstrations and validation
  - Phase III: Commercialization and Transition



(SBIR/STTR Funded)

**Phase I**

Feasibility Study



(SBIR/STTR Funded)

**Phase II**

Technology Development & Prototype Demonstration

(SBIR/STTR Funded)

**Phase II Enhancement**

Prototype Testing & Evolution Technology Demo & Validation



(Program Funded)

**Phase III**

Commercialization Transition



# Broad Agency Announcement (BAA)

- **A competitive research and development contracting approach in the form of a general agency announcement:**
  - **Identifies areas of research interest**
  - **Includes criteria for selecting proposals and period of acceptance**
  - **Solicits participation from all offerors capable of satisfying the Governments needs**
  - **Meet full and open competition requirements**
- **Used for the acquisition of basic (6.1) and applied (6.2) research and that part of development (6.3) not related to the development of a specific system or hardware procurement**
- **Used to acquire scientific studies and experimental proof of concepts directed toward to advancing state-of-the-art technologies**
- **Announcement published in [www.beta.sam.gov](http://www.beta.sam.gov)**



# Innovation Broad Agency Announcement

- **MDA BAA Announcement for FY21 covers a two-year period April 2, 2021 – April 1, 2023**
- **Open continuously (two-year periods) to private industry, qualified educational institutions, individuals and nonprofit organizations**
- **Contains 13 research topics of interest revised annually**
- **Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDC) and University Affiliated Research Centers (UARC) are eligible if authorized by their sponsoring contracts and charters**
- **Awards may occur anytime during the two-year BAA period**
- **Contract value not limited**



# MDA Contract Clause H-08

## Public Release of Information

- **Public Release of Information (H-08) (June 2013)**
  - **Contractor shall coordinate 60 days in advance of release regarding the release of information pertaining to any MDA contract**
  - **Materials may be technical papers, presentations, articles for publication and speeches or mass media material, such as press releases, photographs, fact sheets, advertising, posters, compact discs, videos, etc.**
  - **Subcontractor materials shall be submitted through the prime contractor to MDA**



# Technology Interest Areas

## • Interceptor Technology

- Guidance, navigation, and control
- Batteries and power systems
- Advanced materials
  - o High temperature
  - o Lightweight
- Seeker technology
- Radiation hardened technology
- Deployment systems
- Low SWaP Inertial Measurement Units
- Lightweight composites
- Propulsion and control technologies
  - o Improved specific impulse

## • Command and Control, Battle Management, and Communications (C2BMC)

- Advanced tracking and discrimination algorithms
- Command and control algorithms
- Low latency and secure communications
- Battlespace management
- Data fusion
- Warfighter training
- Joint track management
- Combat identification
- Network management
- AI/MI

## • Modeling and Simulation

- Lethality
- Battlespace environments
- Engagement
- Aerothermal environments
- Technology investment evaluation
- Test verification

## • MDS Testing

- Affordable targets
- Scene generation
- HWIL
- Rapid analysis software toolkits
- Predictive analysis and modeling
- Range safety

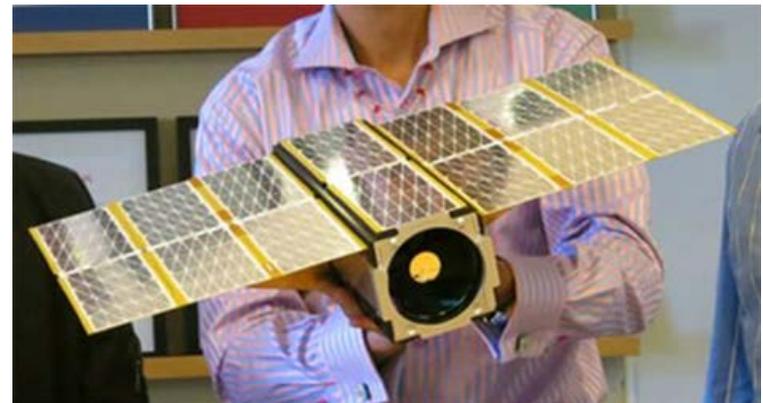
## • Sensors

- EO/IR and radar
  - o Track and receive modules
  - o FPAs
- Signal and data processing algorithms
- Radiation hardened technology
- Telescopes and antennas
- Windows and radomes



# NanoSat Testbed Initiative

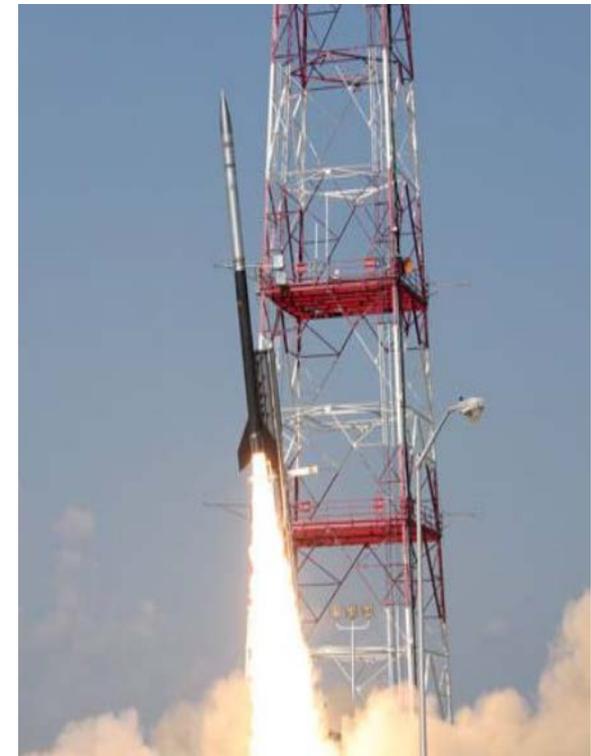
- ◆ **Uses small, low cost satellites to demonstrate MDS technology in a space environment**
  - **Directly applicable to MDS kill vehicles, space sensors, and space weapons**
  - **Takes advantage of emerging small satellite technology, launch capacity, and automated operations for missile defense – many partnering opportunities available**
  - **Demonstrations integrate with existing MDA space operations center and Electro Optical / Infrared testbed (EO/IR)**





# Sub-Orbital Flight Experiments

- ◆ **Demonstrates SBIR/STTR developed technologies in an operational environment**
  - **Raises Technology Readiness Level (TRL) to level 6**
  - **Impartial demonstration**
  - **Can be used by small businesses as justification for insertion into programs of record**
  - **Provides risk mitigation activities for key components of MDA architecture (Divert Attitude Control Systems, Batteries, Sensors, Inertial Measurement Units)**
  - **Can be iterated on regular basis**
  - **Allows experimentation at a lower cost level than a flight test**





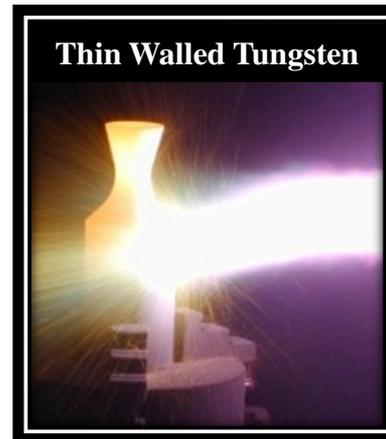
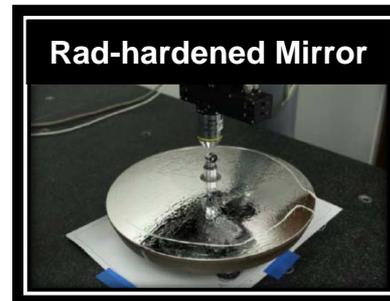
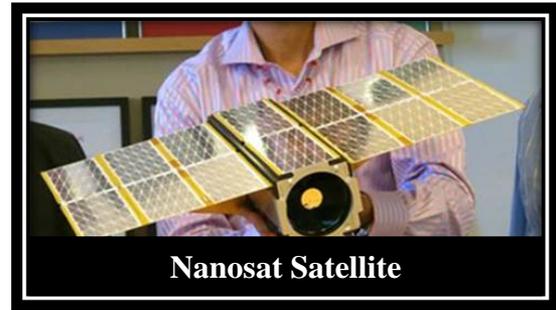
# Hypersonic Defense Mission

- ◆ **Defines weapon concepts and investments in key technology to enable a broad set of solutions including kinetic and non-kinetic means across left and right of launch**
  - **Focus on development of weapon concepts through competitive development**
  - **Concepts and identified technology component risk reduction will formulate the trade space across cost, risk, and performance to inform the requirements development process**
- ◆ **Develop technology to increase sensor capability**
  - **Execute sensor technology demonstrations to inform the development strategy**
  - **Invest in larger focal plane arrays, clutter mitigation algorithms, low size, weight, and power, high speed processing**
  - **Develop advanced seeker window materials and modeling techniques**



# Recent SBIR / RIF / BAA Sponsored Research Accomplishments

- Inaugurated a nanosat testbed program to demonstrate notional Kill Vehicle communication architecture
- Executed structural test series to validate SBIR developed lightweight composites
- Near Net Shape Manufacturing Non-Eroding, Thin Walled, Tungsten
- Completed radiation testing on hardened mirrors
- Developed high-speed test instrumentation





# For More Information

[www.mda.mil](http://www.mda.mil)

- Missile Defense News, Images, Videos, Fact Sheets
- BMDS Overview, BMD Basics
- MDA Business Opportunities  
([https://www.mda.mil/business/advanced\\_research.html](https://www.mda.mil/business/advanced_research.html))
- DoD SBIR/STTR website: <https://sbir.defensebusiness.org>
- SBA SBIR/STTR website: <https://www.sbir.gov>

## To Contact MDA

- SBIR / STTR      256-955-2020 [sbirsttr@mda.mil](mailto:sbirsttr@mda.mil)
- University / BAA      256-450-3800 [Advanced\\_Research@mda.mil](mailto:Advanced_Research@mda.mil)
- Commercialization      256-450-5343 [SBIR-PhaseIII@mda.mil](mailto:SBIR-PhaseIII@mda.mil)



# Questions