



# FRONTLINE OF THE FUTURE

## PROMOTING DEFENSE TECHNOLOGIES IN NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina – the Frontline of the Future - is home to a highly capable and diverse innovation ecosystem, fully capable of supporting America's warfighters worldwide. Fortunately, North Carolina is also home to the best infrastructure in the country to help industry- and academia-based innovators to win and successfully execute research and development opportunities with the Department of Defense (DoD).

The North Carolina Defense Technology Transition Office (DEFTECH) is a statewide resource of the North Carolina Military Business Center (NCMBC). Focused on technology transition, DEFTECH scours the state for business and university researchers who are developing new technologies with defense applications. These technologies may fit in one of many research and development (R&D) categories, including human performance, medical and biomedical, advanced textiles, autonomous systems, artificial intelligence and machine learning, cybersecurity and many more. Once identified, DEFTECH helps these innovators to introduce their advanced technologies to DoD, and assists them in navigating DoD agencies and R&D acquisition processes.

In addition to seeking out researchers developing defense-related technologies, DEFTECH also develops market intelligence and sources future DoD and Homeland Security technology requirements to the innovation ecosystem statewide. DEFTECH builds relationships with DoD and military service agencies that develop requirements and acquire technologies - including the Defense Innovation Unit (DIU), Army Futures Command, Marine Corps Systems Command, US Special Operations Command and the military services' rapid fielding organizations - and leverages these relationships to identify, distribute and help innovators to compete for federally-funded research and development opportunities. DEFTECH particularly targets and helps businesses to compete for and win defense-related Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR), Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) and various Other Transaction Authority (OTA) R&D acquisitions.

DEFTECH employs various methods to engage and communicate with the innovation ecosystem in our state. Innovators can explore the DEFTECH website at [www.DEFTECH.nc.gov](http://www.DEFTECH.nc.gov), review current and anticipated SBIR,



Left: An 82nd Airborne paratrooper using a tactical robotic controller for an expeditionary modular autonomous vehicle during a field exercise.

Below: Special Forces conduct a high-altitude, low-opening jump from an Air Force MC-130J Commando II.

STTR and other federally-funded R&D opportunities, and contact DEFTECH by email or phone to register in the DEFTECH network. Once connected, innovators can engage in DEFTECH's Mobilize community (<https://nc-defense-technology-transition-office.mobilize.io/network-groups>) to network with other businesses and receive updates and teaming opportunities. Finally, businesses can contact DEFTECH to attend the weekly, virtual Coffee Call series and other DEFTECH webinars and in-person events - such as the Defense Technology Symposium in Fayetteville on July 26 - that regularly connect innovators in North Carolina with technology acquisition agencies in DoD and other federal agencies. DEFTECH works daily to ensure that North Carolina remains the Frontline of the Future.

DEFTECH is one component of the North Carolina Military Business Center (NCMBC), a statewide business development and tech transition entity of the State of North Carolina embedded in our community colleges and headquartered at Fayetteville Technical Community College. Charged by the General Assembly with growing the



defense economy – the second largest sector of our state's economy (\$66 billion annual impact) – the NCMBC business development, DEFTECH and strategic industry staff members serve businesses in all 100 counties from 15 offices across the state. For more information about the NCMBC, visit [www.ncmbc.us](http://www.ncmbc.us), and register for free daily federal contract notices at [www.MatchForce.org](http://www.MatchForce.org).

Visit us online at [ncmbc.us](http://ncmbc.us) | [deftech.nc.gov](http://deftech.nc.gov) | [matchforce.org](http://matchforce.org) | [cybernc.us](http://cybernc.us)



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