



## Conferences, Workshops & Symposia

### ARMY NEWS SERVICE (DEC. 16, 2004) ARMY, INDUSTRY, ACADEMIA COLLABORATION BRINGS NEW TECHNOLOGY

Steven Field

**O**RLANDO, Fla.—Alliances are as important in developing new technology as they are in sustaining positive diplomacy, an Army researcher said.

The Collaborative Technology Alliances sponsored by the U.S. Army Research Laboratory were on display to highlight the importance of cooperation in creating the soldier of the future at the Army Science Conference.

"The CTAs represent an excellent business model for leveraging the investments and talents of others in collaboration with Army scientists and engineers while increasing the likelihood that cutting-edge technology gets into the hands of our soldiers," said Dr. John Parmentola, Army director for research and laboratory management.

The five CTAs bring together Army, academic, and industry experts to accelerate the creation of new technology that is vital to the future force. By investing more than \$180 million between 2001 and 2006, the Army hopes to spur the development of robots, energy sources, sensors, decision architectures, and communication networks that will make the fighting force more effective.

Through partnerships, the Army expects to achieve the best results by taking advantage of the practicality of industry, the frontiers of research and technology through universities, and the ability of Army Research Laboratory to shape and transition the results for Army application.

"Each researcher is brilliant in his or her own right, but together the brilliance increases exponentially; it's a force multiplier," said Ginny Fite of General Dynamics Robotics, one of the collaborators in the Robotics CTA.

Each CTA has members from Army Research Laboratory, an industry lead, and members from academia, small businesses, and historically black colleges or other minority institutions.

"We are equal partners in a consortium—military, industry, and education," said Susan Archer of Micro Analy-

sis & Design, an industry member of the Advanced Decision Architectures CTA.

The Advanced Decision Architectures CTA focuses on understanding human behavior and adapting technology to conform to function most compatibly with human instincts, essentially creating technology that helps soldiers make better decisions.

"There is so much information and technology out there," Archer said. "We help the soldier pull a needle out of the information haystack."

The other four teams are the Power & Energy CTA, which seeks to increase the efficiency, mobility, and survivability of power generators used on the battlefield; the Communications & Networks CTA, which seeks to develop more secure, mobile, and lightweight modes of communicating on the battlefield; the Advanced Sensors CTA, which develops sensors that increase situational awareness; and the Robotics CTA, which is designing robot technology for unmanned missions that can keep soldiers out of dangerous situations.

Military, industry, and academia all have different things to offer, and all help the others in their mission, members of CTAs said. For example, academia receives concrete direction about the needs of the Army through direct communication with Army officials, so researchers are able to focus on practical military needs, said Dr. Stuart Jacobson of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who is a member of the Power & Energy CTA.

Industry then provides an outlet for manufacturing the new technologies developed on campus, he said.

Jacobson is designing a battery that uses internal combustion to make energy, allowing batteries to last four times longer.

A provision of the Collaborative Technology Alliances program allows the Army Research Laboratory to withhold up to 10 percent of the annual funding amount to fund parties external to the Collaborative Technology Alliances program for innovative research. Inquiries should be made to the collaborative alliance manager.

For more information about CTAs, visit [www.arl.army.mil/alliances](http://www.arl.army.mil/alliances).



### INTERNATIONAL TEST & EVALUATION ASSOCIATION (ITEA) 9TH ANNUAL TEST INSTRUMENTATION WORKSHOP (MAY 2-5, 2005)

**T**he 9th Annual Test Instrumentation Workshop, hosted by the ITEA China Lake and Antelope Valley Chapters, will be held May 2-5, 2005, at the Kerr-McGee Center in Ridgecrest, Calif. The theme of the 2005 event will be "Test Instrumentation for the Full Product Life Cycle." For more information, call or e-mail Bettye Moody at (760) 939-7252, [bettye.moody@navy.mil](mailto:bettye.moody@navy.mil).

### DEFENSE PROCUREMENT AND ACQUISITION POLICY, E-BUSINESS CONFERENCE (MAY 23-26, 2005)

**T**he 2005 Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy e-Business Conference will be held May 23-26, 2005, at the Rosen Centre in Orlando, Fla. Strategic acquisition through electronic systems is the future, and e-Business is leading the journey to achieve this ideal. Hosted by the Office of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, e-Business (DPAP, EB), the e-Business Conference will focus on the approaches, strategies, and initiatives that will make this environment a reality. The conference will cover:

- **Enterprise Architecture**—a movement away from application silos
- **Portfolio Management**—an assessment of technical and functional capabilities supporting strategic acquisition
- **Transition Planning**—a plan to transform the acquisition domain from what is to what should be
- **Governance**—reflective of both procurement and acquisition processes and strategies.

Who should attend? Acquisition and procurement executives who oversee strategic plans and manage transformation policies. For details on registering, go to the DPAP Electronic Business Web site: <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/ebiz/index.htm>.

### NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH (SBIR) PHASE II CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION (JULY 11-14, 2005) BEYOND PHASE II: READY FOR TRANSITION

**T**he National SBIR PH II Conference will be held July 11-14, 2005, at the Sheraton Hotel and Marina in San Diego, Calif. This conference gives ac-

quisition professionals the chance to meet one on one with small high-tech firms that have innovative technologies. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about transitioning advanced SBIR research and development into your acquisition program

For more information on this event, check the SBIR Web site: <http://www.dodsbir.com/conference> > or e-mail [sbirconference@brtrc.com](mailto:sbirconference@brtrc.com).

### ACQUISITION SENIOR LEADERS' CONFERENCE

**T**he Acquisition Senior Leaders' Conference is scheduled for Aug. 22-25, 2005, in Detroit, Mich. Watch the U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center Web site at [http://asc.army.mil/events/conferences/2004/slc\\_geninfo.cfm](http://asc.army.mil/events/conferences/2004/slc_geninfo.cfm) > for future updates and conference information.

### 2005 ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL TEST & EVALUATION ASSOCIATION (ITEA) INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM (SEPT. 26-29, 2005)

**T**he ITEA Symposium 2005 will be held Sept. 26-29, 2005, at the Albuquerque Convention Center in Albuquerque, N.M. This year's event will provide a forum for addressing the issue of transformational test and evaluation, examining the topic from three perspectives:

- **Programs** that are or will be testing in the Joint Force and Coalition Battlespace
- **Methodologies**, processes, resources, tools, and limitations that enable or hinder our testing in the Joint Force and Coalition Battlespace
- **Lessons Learned**, including recommendations for the way ahead.

For more information on this event, check the ITEA Web site: <http://www.itea.org> > or call (703) 631-6220.

### 8TH ANNUAL SYSTEMS ENGINEERING CONFERENCE (OCT. 24-27, 2005)

**T**he 8th Annual Systems Engineering Conference will be held Oct. 24-27, 2005, at the Hyatt Regency Islandia, San Diego, Calif. The call for papers and the conference announcement will be mailed and will be available at [http://register.ndia.org/interview/register.ndia?PID=Brochure&SID=\\_1D00RC2RA&MID=6870](http://register.ndia.org/interview/register.ndia?PID=Brochure&SID=_1D00RC2RA&MID=6870) >. If you would like to add your information to the mailing list, please contact Phyllis Edmonson at (703) 247-2588 or [pedmonson@ndia.org](mailto:pedmonson@ndia.org).