

# FY22 SPARK KICK-OFF EVENT OPEN CALL FOR PROPOSALS

# THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

# THE LIVE EVENT WILL BEGIN IN A FEW MINUTES

# HOUSEKEEPING REMARKS

- Thank you for joining us for the FY22 SPARK kick-off and call for proposals!
- This is an MS Teams live event, if you have joined via phone please make sure you are muted at all times
- There will be time for Q&A at the end of this event, please type your questions in the Live Event Q&A sidebar during the kick-off
- If someone already asked your question or you would like to hear the answer to one, give it a thumbs up—we will address questions starting with the most liked





	Live event Q&A ⑦ ×
	Featured My questions Most recent ~
	Welcome to the Live Event! Please type your questions here and we will answer them during the designated Q&A portion!
ike	Anonymous 7:23 PM 1 Can you explain the SPARK process in more detail?
	Anonymous 7:24 PM &
	Anonymous 7:25 PM 1 How many finalists are selected to do an oral pitch?
	Anonymous 7:25 PM Bow much funding can I receive through SPARK?
	Ask a question

# MR. JOSH ISRAEL

JPEO-CBRND DEPUTY CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER

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# **AGENDA** 1:00-2:00 EDT

- 1:00: Housekeeping and Welcome from Mr. Josh Israel, JPEO-CBRND Deputy Chief Technology Officer
- 1:00-1:10: Opening Remarks from Dr. Jason Roos, Joint Program Executive Officer for CBRN Defense
- 1:10-1:25: Overview of SPARK by Dr. Julia Dooher, SPARK Lead
- 1:25-1:40: Featured Speaker: "Multidomain Operations" by Mr. Damon Yourchisin, Deputy Director, Maneuver Support - Capability Development Integration Directorate, Futures and Concepts Center, Army Futures Command
- 1:40-1:50: Workplace of Choice by Ms. Lorrie Chieffo, Deputy Director of Human Capital Management at JPEO-CBRND
- 1:50-2:00: Participant Q&A
  - Speakers will field questions entered in the Q&A window





# DR. JASON ROOS

JOINT PROGRAM EXECUTIVE **OFFICER FOR** CHEMICAL, **BIOLOGICAL**, RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR DEFENSE

# THREE GOALS TO SHAPE OUR FUTURE

#### MISSION

Protect the Joint Force from weapons of mass destruction by generating affordable capabilities.

#### VISION

A resilient Joint Force enabled to fight and win unencumbered by a chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear environment; championed by innovative, agile, results-oriented acquisition professionals.



#### Acquisition Excellence

• JPEO is committed to bringing the best business practices and tools into the JPEO (e.g., harnessing data for better decision making, technology tracking and transition, streamlining JPEO processes)

#### Transformational Capabilities

- Modernizing Biological Defense (including medical and non-medical approaches)
- Integrated Early Warning
- Unencumbering the Warfighter
- Approaches to countering emerging threats
- Integration with non-CBRN defense capabilities

#### Workplace of Choice

 Efficiencies and workplace improvements that would support our vital workforce to the fullest extent



# **SPARK**

# MEETS THE 3 COMMITMENTS



WE SEEK **FRESH IDEAS FROMWITHIN** THE JPEO, **ASWELL AS FROM** EXTERNAL **PARTNERS**— CURRENT **AND NEW!** 



# INGENUITY







# SHARE YOUR IDEAS!

Success

# DR. JULIA DOOHER

JPEO-CBRND CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

CHIEF SCIENCE COORDINATOR

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# WE WANT TO BRING YOUR IDEAS TO LIFE

# Who We Are

- 6<sup>th</sup> Year of **SPARK**
- SPARK funds innovative concepts for \$1-\$100,000
- Initial Proposals are just 3 pages
- Projects are generally 6-9 months duration
- A JPEO Sponsor is required
- Hundreds of proposals received since 2017
- Significant success stories across all JPEO areas







# Where We're Going

- Unique, innovative proposals in technology and beyond to improve business practices, efficiencies, and logistics
- JPEO-CBRNDs three commitments and their focus in SPARK this year
- You know best: how to innovate, improve processes, and create solutions

#### We want your ideas!







# WHY SPARK?

#### Empower JPEO Staff

- Technical and Programmatic
- Their idea, or they bring it to life as sponsor
- Trust and support our people and their initiative

**Reduce barriers** to good ideas being shared and considered.

• Non-traditional, relatively quick submission

#### Scout for **new performers** (orgs or teams)

- JPEO Staff may identify the performer, or performer steps forward and we see if a match
- The SPARK Innovation Initiative is like "Venture Capital" for emerging JPEO program areas, before they become free-standing funded programs
- Seedling investments in innovative tech approaches & in potentially better ways of doing things







O-CBRND's idea incubato

#### Invest **in gray areas** around (or before) a POR

• Not "wheelhouse" POR activities, but chance to address important problems or opportunities not being tackled

# Embrace **new ways** of doing things

- Try out an engineering hypothesis or prototype
- Try out a workplace tool or process
- Thoroughly reviewed, but risk friendly

Through SPARK, **provide funding back** to areas deemed to benefit the JPMs and JPLs, the warfighter, and bill payers

# WHAT DO I NEED TO INCLUDE IN A PROPOSAL?

- Title of Proposed SPARK Project
- Proposer Name, Organization, and Contact Info
- Proposed Amount
- Expected Project Duration
- Challenge Statement
- What is the SPARK here?
- What's the benefit?
- What are the risks?
- List stakeholder partners
- Other, if necessary
- If applicable, do you have a current contracting vehicle for the performer, or not yet?
- Name and signature of sponsoring JPEO government personnel if proposer is external to JPEO



# **SPARK**

#### FY22 Timeline

#### Kick-Off and Call for Proposals June 2021

- SPARK Kick-Off provides potential performers additional information regarding proposal requirements and a project life cycle.
- SPARK Projects should be six to nine months in duration, and may receive funding up to \$100,000.
- If an applicant is not internal JPEO staff, they will need to identify a JPEO sponsor to partner with them on the project.



#### 31 July 2021

Submission deadline for proposals. Call for proposals opens 15 June, and runs through 31 July.

#### Funding Selections and Notifications ~September 2021

Notifications will be made to applicants whose proposals were selected for funding.

#### Project Close Out End of 6-9 mos. PoP

 Performers will provide a final technical summary report and deliver a short out-brief to stakeholders to conclude their projects, including project transition information (relevance and support to current or potential future programs).





#### Panel Review and Finalist Selection August - September 2021

- Each proposal will be reviewed by 

   a panel of experts.
- Proposals are evaluated for technical, operational, and programmatic merit and innovation by multiple reviewers to ensure robust and balanced assessment.
- Finalist selections will be announced.
- Once selected as a finalist, applicants will prepare an oral presentation describing their proposal in greater detail, to be delivered virtually to a panel of experts.



#### Projects Begin Work Q1, FY22

- Project work begins on the 6-9 month PoP.
- Monthly check-ins with your sponsor are the minimum requirement. Semi-monthly check-ins are optional.
- Performers are required to update the JPEO SPARK team monthly on their project's progress through:
  - One-page quad summary updates.
  - A progress update and any challenges encountered.
  - Financial snapshot (obligation and expenditure status).

# FAQs



#### Q: I am new to working with the JPEO. What if I have an idea, but I don't have a government sponsor?

A: Please reach out to the SPARK mailbox/team contacts, and we can assist by inquiring if a civilian member of JPEO may have particular interest in your idea and becoming your sponsor.

#### Q: What happens after I submit my proposal?

A: A review panel will be convened (including JPEO HQ leadership and other invited individuals) to assess written proposals. The teams from the highest-ranking proposals will be asked to give a short, oral presentation of their idea, which allows for Q&A. Following that, winning proposals will be determined and all will be notified. The JPEO SPARK team is working to streamline the process for all!

#### Q: How will the review process be conducted?

A: Proposals are evaluated for technical, operational, and programmatic merit and innovation. All proposals are reviewed by multiple reviewers to ensure robust and balanced assessment. Cost realism is also assessed. Invited reviewers participate with an open mind and all proposals will be reviewed in accordance with legal considerations (e.g., regulations, conflict of interest / proprietary considerations).



# FAQs



A: The sponsor is a critical member of the team. They provide important execution help, and their insight can shape the direction of a SPARK and thereby ensure its relevance and impact. If the SPARK performer is an external entity, the sponsor interfaces with the JPEO SPARK office and JPEO financial office to keep the effort on track. Usually, the program office under which the SPARK falls handles contracting actions or downstream funding actions. The sponsor continues to check in with the performer team throughout the duration of the project.

Q: I'm a JPEO staff member; I have ideas on how to improve acquisition processes under the JPEO roof, or workplace matters, but not sure how I would go about turning it into a SPARK.

A: Please contact us. We want to hear your ideas across Dr. Roos' three priority areas. Perhaps some help is needed to shape your improvement concept.

#### Q: When is the SPARK proposal window open?

A: We will start accepting proposals 15 June, and the submission window will stay open until 31 July. Check the SPARK website for the proposal template or reach out to the SPARK mailbox!



## SPARK PROJECTS PREVIOUSLY FUNDED AND FUTURE INTEREST



# SPARK PROJECTS PREVIOUSLY FUNDED AND FUTURE INTEREST

Contact SPARK team for additional past-funded project details



Expanded Threat Detection



Enhancing Biodetection



Optimizing Medical Countermeasures



Product Enhancement for Mature Technologies





Maximizing Extractable Signals & Integrating Sensor Systems



UAS-Enabled CBRN Detection



Individual Protection, Decon, & Disablement



Workforce & Analysis





Modernized User Training









Artificial Intelligence Featured Speaker: Multidomain Operations

# MR. DAMON YOURCHISIN

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

MANEUVER SUPPORT -CAPABILITIES DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION DIRECTORATE

FUTURES AND CONCEPTS CENTER, ARMY FUTURES COMMAND







Dis-Integrate

# **MS-CDID, FCC, Army Futures Command**

Exploit -

**Re-Compete** 



Penetrate

inmpe





Exploit ------

**Re-Compete** 

- The Problem
- Frame the Past
- Illustrate Change
- 11<sup>th</sup> AHR Vignette 2003 vs 2035
- Protection Functional Concept

Dis-Integrate

Penetrate

Lompete



Futures & Concepts

Compete

### **The Problem**





APF v6, 02 DEC 2018



### **Frame the Past**



#### Fortifications



Great Wall



Washington D.C. Civil War Defenses



WWII Normandy Beach Bunkers

Dis-Integrate

Penetrate

Equipment

#### Corinthian Helmet



WWI German Gas Masks



Vietnam era Flak Jacket



M60A1 with Israeli Blazer Reactive Armor

Exploit ----



WWII Deception: M4 Sherman Tank Decoy

Re-Compete





Defense in Depth: WWI British Trenches

WWII Obscuration: Crossing the Rhine



Competer



#### **Illustrate Change**



## **Army Protection Across the Domains**



Exploit 🛥

**Re-Compete** 

Futures & Concepts

Compete

Penetrate

Dis-Integrate





Compete

### **11<sup>TH</sup> AHR Deep Attack**







Futures & Concepts

Lompéte

Penetrate





spaces, decisive points and connections, assets, facilities, information, understanding, infrastructure (not all inclusive) - (e.g., Mission Assurance)

Dis-Integrate

Exploit 🛥

**Re-Compete** 

*Featured Speaker: Workplace of Choice* 

# MS. LORRIE CHIEFFO

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HUMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

JPEO-CBRND

# **IDEAS START WITH YOU**









WHY AM I HERE A NEW WAY TO APPROACH SPARK PROPOSALS

IDEAS OF ALL SCOPE AND SIZE





# THE NEXT CHAPTER INITIATIVES





## A REFRESHER ON ACTIONS TO TAKE

- Improve transparency and trust with our External Stakeholders
- Improve transparency and trust internal to the JPEO-CBRND
- Increase transparency and improve connection between HQ and JPM/JPL staffs
- Education for the workforce to improve data proficiency

- Find ways to improve work/life balance and strengthen mental health
- Tackle discrimination head on
- Invest in Internal Communications
- Make additional Tools and Trainings available
- Offer more tools to the workforce
- Improve flexibility in the work environment



## **QUESTIONS?** ASK & VOTE IN THE Q&A SIDEBAR





## **BRING YOUR QUESTIONS TO THE AMA SESSIONS!**

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NYTHING

AMA Sessions via Microsoft Teams on: 24 June, 2:00 EDT 13 July, 10:00 EDT

> SPEC-CBRND SPEC-CBRND SPEC-CBRND SPEC-CBRND's idea incubator

# THANK



TO ALL OUR TALENTED REVIEWERS AND SUBJECT MATTER EXPERTS FOR DEDICATING THEIR TIME TO SPARK

# THE JPEO-CBRND SPARK TEAM IS HERE TO HELP



Government Lead: CTO Dave Restione, david.m.restione.civ@mail.mil



SPARK Lead: Dr. Julia Dooher, julia.e.dooher.ctr@mail.mil

SPARK Support: Jessica Parker, jessica.m.parker46.ctr@mail.mil

JPEO CBRND SPARK Mailbox: usarmy.apg.dod-jpeo-cbrnd.mbx.spark@mail.mil



SPARK Website: https://www.jpeocbrnd.osd.mil/Work-With-Us/SPARK/





# SELECTED EXAMPLES OF WHAT SPARK HAS FUNDED SO FAR

- Seedling investments in innovative, emerging tech approaches paper study, site visit, laboratory assessment, prototyping/demonstration
- Analysis involving using mature and COTS systems to determine if we can detect other threats
- Employing synthetic biology to develop safe bioproducts
- Modernized training (e.g., augmented reality)
- Support of sensor standards optimization and modernized approaches to software development
- Laboratory-based testing optimization
- Initial efforts in applying artificial intelligence practice to CBRN defense advanced developer challenges
- Workshop convening medical academic and industry stakeholders to exchange insight, refine planning
- Exploration into repurposing medical countermeasures
- Review of regulatory and policy guidance to enhance acquisition planning
- Workflow tools for the acquisition staff
- Staff-oriented skills development activity to enhance operational understanding



\*The above are only a subset of prior SPARKs, and in FY22 we are keen on concepts and solutions across the range of Acquisition Excellence, Transformational Capabilities, and Workplace of Choice!

