



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON DC

16 JUN 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

FROM: SAF/AQ

SUBJECT: Small Business Innovation Research Commercialization Pilot Program

In FY06, Congress authorized a Commercialization Pilot Program (CPP) to increase the transition of Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) technologies. In order to accomplish this, Congress authorized the Services to use up to one percent of each year's SBIR funding to assist with transition efforts. To capitalize on this opportunity to improve the SBIR program, we expect the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) to issue policy guidance in the near future.

In line with this anticipated OSD guidance, the Air Force plans to hire "Transition Agents" with this funding, one or two people for each product center. Initially, the plan is to hire "Transition Agents" to be placed at the Space and Missile Systems Center and the Aeronautical Systems Center to provide a bridge between the laboratory and the product centers. After approximately six months, "Transition Agents" will also be placed at the Electronic Systems Center and Air Armament Center. Among other things, these "Transition Agents" will be charged with tracking, facilitating and improving SBIR technology transitions to better meet the needs of the product centers and the Air Force as a whole. I appreciate your support of these efforts to establish an open and collaborative environment and ensure the "Transition Agents" maximize the Air Force's return on investment in the SBIR program.

The SBIR program can be a valuable resource in meeting the Air Force's needs. Please encourage your Program Directors to fully leverage the program and utilize the energy and expertise of these "Transition Agents." I look forward to working with you in making the SBIR program a valuable part of your technology portfolio. My point of contact for this program is Lt Col Patrick Bradshaw, SAF/AQRT, DSN 425-7861.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald J. Hoffman", is positioned above the typed name.

DONALD J. HOFFMAN, Lt Gen, USAF  
Military Deputy, Office of the Assistant  
Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisition)

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