

SECURE Program: Concept of Operations



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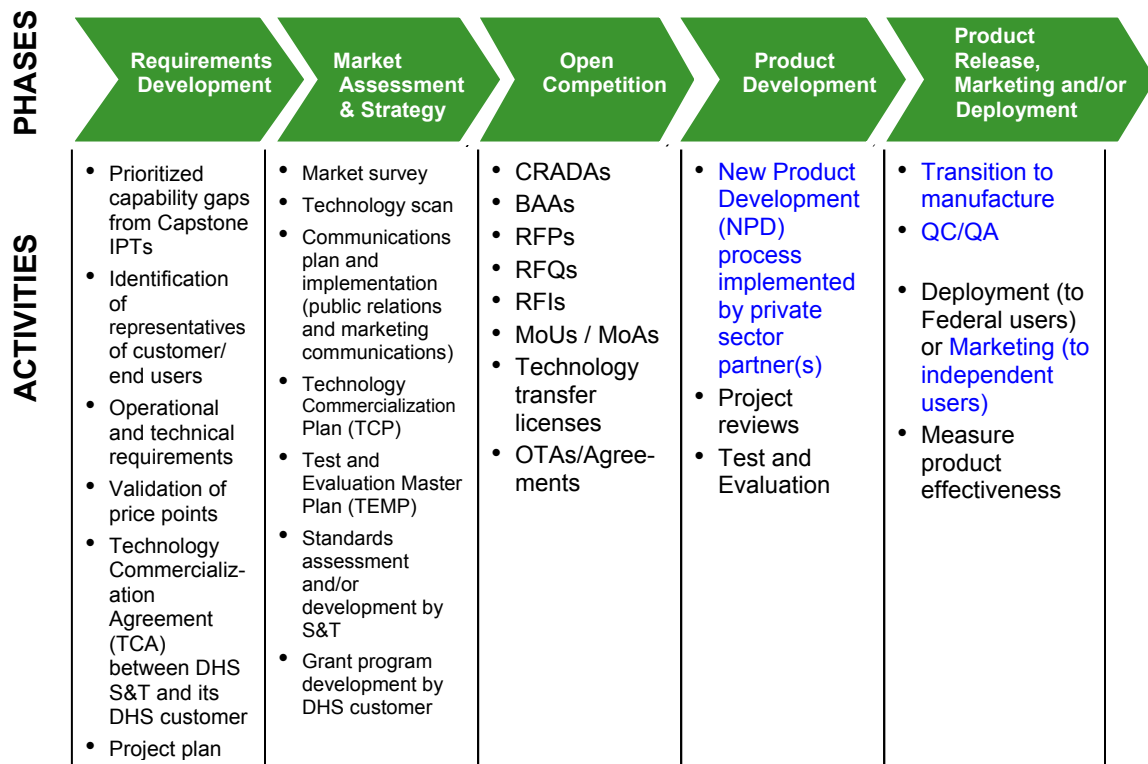
SECURE Program: System Efficacy through Commercialization, Utilization, Relevance and Evaluation

Scope:

We have developed a comprehensive program to enable DHS-S&T to efficiently and cost-effectively leverage the resources, skills, experience and productivity of the Private Sector to develop technologies and products in alignment with specific requirements obtained from DHS Components, the First Responder Community and other End-Users involved in Homeland Security applications.

Overall Process:

Below is a graphical representation of the overall outreach process we have implemented to stimulate and engage the Private Sector to use its resources to rapidly develop technology, products and services that can yield significant benefits for DHS-S&T with a speed-of-execution not typically observed in the Public Sector.



Legend: Black text = Typical Government activities
 Blue text = Typical Private-Sector activities

Outreach to the Private Sector



Program Process:

In order to provide DHS Operating Components, the First Responder Community and other End-Users with products that meet their specific requirements, DHS-S&T will provide a vehicle by which Private Sector entities can offer products and/or conduct product development geared specifically toward meeting those needs. Private Sector entities currently possessing a technology/product/system rated at a Technology Readiness Level TRL-5 (i.e. applied or advanced R&D) or above that potentially closes a defined DHS capability gap by addressing detailed operational requirements supplied by DHS-S&T will have the opportunity to continue development of their technology/product/system to TRL-9 (i.e. fully field deployable product) at the expense of the Private Sector entity with the assurance that DHS-S&T will verify their independent third-party test(s) of a given technology/product/system.

Only when TRL-9 is achieved, will Private Sector entities be assured that their testing and evaluation (T&E) of the fully deployable technology/product/system (performed by an independent third-party) is verified by a DHS-S&T assessment of a given third party, independent T&E. DHS-S&T will publish its assessment on the DHS' public website as validation of the success (or failure) to meet the Private Sector entity's own established specifications. This approach enables DHS-S&T to review several highly developed technologies/products/systems in an open and fair manner while successful Private Sector entities will share in the imprimatur of DHS-S&T. DHS Operating Components, the First Responder Community and other End-Users are enabled to make informed purchasing decisions for necessary technologies/products/systems to enhance their capabilities through meeting their detailed requirements. In addition, these solutions are excellent candidates for liability protection under the provisions of the DHS SAFETY Act.



Application:

In the spirit of open and free competition, and in order to capitalize on the free-market system, DHS-S&T intends to publish this program and all ancillary requirements documents/information on the DHS-S&T website. These materials will be accessible by all businesses. Given this information, Private Sector entities may file an application to develop or enhance their technology/product/system in cooperation with DHS-S&T that will improve upon currently fielded DHS technologies. We envision a simple application for this program that can be completed via the internet. The contents of the application will include basic, non-proprietary business information, contact information, alignment to widely available DHS-S&T capability gaps and ancillary requirements documents we choose to offer such as ORDs (Operational Requirement Documents), etc.



Selection:

In order to be fully considered by DHS-S&T for cooperative development:

- The company entity must demonstrate they possess technology at TRL-5 (i.e. applied or advanced R&D) or above and possess the resources to invest in the commercialization of its technology to TRL-9 (i.e. fully field deployable product)
- The company entity must propose a technology/product development effort that has clear and substantial alignment with published DHS-S&T capability gaps and other announced requirements

A DHS selection committee will be established to review applications and monitor the mutually-agreed-upon roles and responsibilities of the partnership. The selection committee will consider these and other DHS proprietary metrics for selection consideration.



Agreement:

The Private Sector entity and DHS-S&T will execute a simple, straightforward and binding agreement whereby the Private Sector entity details milestones with dates and agrees to bear full and total financial responsibility to develop its technology/product/system to a TRL-9 state (if not already at that level). DHS-S&T will publish on the DHS-S&T website the factual findings of such assessment. DHS-S&T has the right to cancel an agreement if the Private Sector entity does not fulfill/achieve any of its milestones by the mutually-agreed-upon dates.



Publication of Results:

It is apparent that the Private Sector highly values DHS-S&T's potential assessment of a given product's independent third-party test and evaluation. DHS-S&T will openly publish these T&E results on the DHS public web portal for review by the DHS Operating Components, First Responder communities and other end users.

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DHS-S&T SECURE Program Application



1. Company Name: _____
2. Address: _____
3. Contact (Title & Contact Information): _____
4. Website: _____
5. Brief Description of Firm: _____

Product/Technology Offered for Productization by Applicant:

Current Technology Readiness Level: _____ **Estimated time to TRL-9:** _____
SAFETY Act QATT Designation Y/N: _____ **D&B D-U-N-S Number:** _____

Product Name: _____

Description of Product, Technology or Technical Capability: _____

Alignment with Homeland Security Operational Requirements Document: _____

Please describe your new product development process(es): _____

Please describe your experience in commercializing products: _____

DHS Use Only: Review: _____ Rating Index: _____

Questions:
Please contact (202) 254-6749 or
SandT_Commercialization@dhs.gov