



Calhoun: The NPS Institutional Archive
DSpace Repository

Acquisition Research Program

Acquisition Research Symposium

2017-04-27

Analysis of Expedited Defense Contracting Methods in the Acquisition of Emerging Technology

Sabin, Jacob

Monterey, California. Naval Postgraduate School

<http://hdl.handle.net/10945/58426>

This publication is a work of the U.S. Government as defined in Title 17, United States Code, Section 101. Copyright protection is not available for this work in the United States.

Downloaded from NPS Archive: Calhoun



Calhoun is the Naval Postgraduate School's public access digital repository for research materials and institutional publications created by the NPS community. Calhoun is named for Professor of Mathematics Guy K. Calhoun, NPS's first appointed -- and published -- scholarly author.

Dudley Knox Library / Naval Postgraduate School
411 Dyer Road / 1 University Circle
Monterey, California USA 93943

<http://www.nps.edu/library>

Abstract

- National security depends on technological advantage
- U.S. government R&D is shrinking with defense budgets under pressure
- DoD increasingly depends on innovative technology firms
- Technology firms differ from DOD in acquisition process
- Emerging technology enjoys broad market demand
- R&D funding sources affect rights to intellectual property
- The DOD has authority for non-traditional contracting methods to better adapt to this competitive marketplace
- This project analyzes how the DOD can effectively leverage its existing and potential authorities to be a competitive buyer



Methods

- Explore methods available to DOD organizations charged with quickly procuring emerging technology solutions
- Policy review, interviews, and technology procurement cases to investigate acquisition methods available to agencies
- Attendance of DIUx small business town hall and a series of meetings with staff to learn their processes in outreach efforts
- Operational feedback based on oral and written responses from professionals in various rapid acquisition offices

Results

- Limited awareness of expedited contracting methods in defense acquisition community
- Congress granted expedited authority 11 agencies with various degree of use for various acquisition efforts
- Support within the government depends on organizational that tends to be risk-averse
- Intellectual property balance between government and prospective contractors remains elusive



**DEFENSE INNOVATION
UNIT EXPERIMENTAL**

Recommendations

- Government should use a strategic approach to emerging technology acquisitions by leveraging its strengths, including expedited procurement authority, and mitigating administrative burdens
- The intellectual property policy spectrum should be applied carefully and selectively based on government's leverage in a given procurement, not simply on legacy policy or internal preference – data rights come with monetary and non-monetary costs