TECHCONNECT
CRITICAL TECHNOLOGY
CHALLENGE:
AUTONOMY, AI AND CYBER

Produced by TechConnect a division of ATI

ADDRESSING CRITICAL TECHNOLOGIES AND NATIONAL PRIORITIES

Transforming automomy, AI, and cyber challenges into opportunities.

In alignment with U.S. national priorities and critical technologies, we invite innovators to enter the TechConnect Critical Technologies Challenge: Autonomy, AI, and Cyber. The Challenge is an open innovation program designed to accelerate transformative technologies in lockstep with rapidly evolving strategic priorities for national, societal, and economic security.

Participate in the nation's largest pooling of federal, private, and corporate funding and acceleration opportunities!

- **Pitch on a Global Stage** – Present your solution to key industry, investment and government decision-makers and funders.
- **Access Funders** – Connect directly with leadership representing over $8 billion in annual emerging technology funding through SBIR and OTA contract offices and vehicles.
- **Shape the Conversation** – Position yourself and your innovation at the forefront of the industry's transformation, influencing the direction of policy, funding, and development.

SUBMIT NOW   *Due June 20*

Areas of Interest:

- AI for critical technologies
- Autonomous systems
- Drones and robotics
- Counter unmanned aerial systems
- Data analytics and solutions
- Cybersecurity platforms
- Cybersecurity for critical infrastructure
- Integrated sensing
- AI for national security
- and more!

WHO SHOULD APPLY

Our industry and government tech scouts seek cutting-edge, commercially viable innovations, including technologies from university and research labs with actionable IP and spinouts; startups seeking investment, licensing, partnering actions; and federal awardees (i.e., SBIR, OTA, DARPA, ARPAE, ARPAH, BARDA).

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Submit your technology for review. If selected, you will confirm your position and pitch to a panel of investment, industry, and national security leadership in National Harbor, MD at the conference.

PITCH & SHOWCASE

TechConnect will notify finalists in June. Selected companies must confirm their participation through either a registration or showcase fee, as indicated upon notification.

Pitch dates: November 19-21, 2025
Challenge location: Gaylord National Hotel and Convention Center, National Harbor, MD

Please contact the University of South Florida Technology Transfer o8ice representative for submission – Karla Schramm at kschramm@usf.edu