## 30 April 2019 Bridging Innovation Newsletter

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Our MISSION is to bring the nation's greatest minds and most innovative technologies – from inside and outside of MITRE – together to solve the government's hardest challenges.

By combining MITRE's whole-of-government perspective, deep technical expertise, and willingness to collaborate, we can work together to achieve maximum impact for a safer world.

## In the News

## MITRE Creating a Bridge Between Hanscom and the Boston Innovation Ecosystem

Two recent events created opportunities for Hanscom Air Force Base leaders to learn about MITRE and DoD programs and engagement in the Boston innovation ecosystem. The Armed Forces Communication and Electronics Association's (AFCEA) New Horizons conference is an annual forum that brings together military and industry leaders to share insight into current challenges facing the Department of Defense and opportunities ... Read more

### **DEF Boston Drink & Think**

DEF Boston recently hosted Drink & Think on Thursday, 18 April at 6:00 PM at The Air Force Accelerator by Techstars in Boston. The MITRE Corporation is currently supporting the Department of Defense to transform policies, procedures, and training to enable program offices to thrive in the rapid acquisition and agile DevOps environments. This DEF event is a conversation to address the top innovation barriers for entrepreneurs trying to participate ... Read more

## Techstars Boston Celebrates Its First Decade of Helping to Transform Massachusetts' Technology Innovation Ecosystem

April 16, 2019- Techstars Boston Accelerator today announced a significant milestone: ten years of operations and growth in service to the Massachusetts' technology community. From 2009 to 2019, Techstars Boston has played a pivotal role in contributing to the Boston region's innovation ecosystem, through providing 155 startups access to experienced mentors and a powerful network for capital, business development, and recruitment. Techstars ...

## Events

# MIT Enterprise Forum Cambridge Startup Spotlight June 12

At the Startup Spotlight, you network your way through a curated group of startup demos with other like-minded tech-curious folks. To be clear, this is not just another demo day/networking event! We want our audience to be involved by voting for their favorite startups in our soon-to-be-updated categories for the 2019 event. Previous year's categories have included: The Company I Want ... <u>Read more</u>

# Air Force Accelerator Powered by Techstars Demo Day May 16

Industry Engagement Day May 17 (deadline May 9)

Assistant Director for Autonomy Industry Engagement Day Registration The 2018 National Defense Strategy directs a focused investment in the modernization of key capabilities including advanced autonomous systems. In response, the DoD is investing broadly in the military application of autonomy, artificial intelligence, and machine learning, including rapid application of commercial breakthroughs, to gain competitive military advantages. The Assistant Director for ... Read more

Networking: How One Connection Can Change Your Career May 9 The Air Force Accelerator Class of 2019 powered by Techstars will be coming to a close on 16 May with demo day. This event will showcase the 10 startups that have been a part of this 3-month program. In support of our sponsors, and contributing to dual-use technology acceleration through the Air Force Accelerator Powered by Techstars, MITRE led two ...

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Networking – whether you love it or not, we all know it's an important step in advancing our career. A single connection can lead to invaluable opportunities, and strong networking skills are essential to establishing these relationships. Please join the MITRE Corporation for a career development event on "Networking: How One Connection Can Change Your Career", where a panel of … Read more

## Success Story

#### What did we do?

We sourced companies for the inaugural **AF Techstars** Autonomous Technology Accelerator and provide government connections and opportunities post-program. For the next program, MITRE will source companies, develop workshops, provide technical and domain mentoring, offer access to lab facilities, and engage interested sponsors in how to take part in the program.



Charlie Benway with SECAF Heather Wilson and AF Techstars Managing Director, Warren Katz, at the showcase event. Bridging Innovation organized event with AF Techstars.

#### Outcomes

- 1 of the 10 inaugural cohort companies was a MITRE recommendation
- Expanded the AF Techstars network by connecting the program to multiple Boston-area resources
- Increased funding opportunities through direct introductions to the Rapid Reaction Technology Office (RRTO) (OSD – \$100M in potential funding)
- Exposed the program to various federal sponsors, including organizing a showcase event with SECAF Heather Wilson
- Identified opportunities for joint collaboration; submitted proposals for internal MITRE funding
- Continued collaboration with other innovation organizations such as AFWERX, MD5, and other accelerator programs

Read what Warren Katz had to say about partnering with MITRE.

#### For more information on Bridging Innovation, go to <u>bridge.mitre.org</u>.

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