SmallBusinessSuccessStory

Small Businesses Sustain NASA’s Science and Exploration Directives

G.M. Green, Director for Communications and Operations
NASA Headquarters Space Technology Mission Directorate

Small businesses are behind many of the cutting-edge technologies that NASA regularly deploys as part of its missions. A small business is developing a drill and sample system that will help future rovers analyze the surfaces of the Moon and Mars. A private company is building laser technologies to monitor gases in spacesuits and on board the Orion crew vehicle. And it is a small business that is developing the latest material used for absorbing the heat generated by spacecraft entering the atmosphere. NASA—in collaboration with America’s entrepreneurs—is building the future of space exploration while stimulating the innovation economy.

The Space Technology Mission Directorate (STMD)—through Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) and Game Changing Development (GCD) programs—works with America’s small businesses to develop the technologies that are vital to solving the technical challenges faced by the aeronautics, space exploration, space science, and Earth science communities.

With funding from STMD, Honeybee Robotics has been developing a drill for planetary exploration that will bore 1 meter into a surface, thus enabling the geologic examination of Mars’s subsurface. This new drilling capability will help answer scientists’ questions about the planet’s formation, history, and resources. Honeybee’s drill technology has caught the attention of NASA’s Advanced Exploration Systems Division, which is looking to incorporate the technology in future missions to the Moon and take samples of subsurface lunar water.

Vital to maintaining human life outside of Earth’s atmosphere is the ability to monitor

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MISSION STATEMENT
To advise the Administrator on all matters related to small business, to promote the development and management of NASA programs that assist all categories of small business, to develop small businesses in high-tech areas that include technology transfer and commercialization of technology, and to provide small businesses maximum practicable opportunities to participate in NASA prime contracts and subcontracts.

VISION STATEMENT
The vision of the Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP) at NASA Headquarters is to promote and integrate all small businesses into the competitive base of contractors that pioneer the future of space exploration, scientific discovery, and aeronautics research.
and control gas levels in crewmember environments. As a recipient of three SBIR program awards, Vista Photonics has been developing the technologies to do just that—through infrared laser technology. Vista Photonics has been working with NASA's Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate (HEOMD) to advance the technology system through the SBIR Commercial Readiness Program (CRP).

Just as important is the ability to travel safely through the atmosphere. Vehicles traveling at supersonic and hypersonic speeds experience intense friction with air molecules, generating heat that would incinerate any unprotected vehicle. STMD's GCD program has been developing the latest in thermal protection systems, and in 2014 it teamed up with Bally Ribbon Mills, a small business manufacturer, to create technologies for weaving 3D textile material used in thermal protection for extreme entry missions.

In 2015, there will be opportunities for more small businesses to participate in STMD programs. Watch the STMD Web site (http://www.nasa.gov/spacetech) for upcoming opportunities. The SBIR/STTR program issues an annual call for Phase I proposals in November 2015; Phase II proposals will be accepted in December 2015. Visit http://sbir.nasa.gov for more details.

SBS Spotlight

Joyce C. McDowell, Small Business Specialist
NASA Kennedy Space Center

I was born in Jacksonville, FL, and at the age of 3 my parents decided to move to Cocoa, FL, for a job that was offered to my father. I am the oldest of four children. During my junior year in high school, I accepted a clerical position with NASA through a school program called Stay in School. I was offered the chance to work full time for NASA during my senior year and obtain credits toward graduation. In 1980, I graduated from Rockledge High School with honors. I went on to attend and graduate from Warner University in Lake Wales, FL, with a bachelor of science degree. While working and going to school, I raised my daughter Tiffany and my son Jabori as a single parent. Today, I am most proud of their personal and professional accomplishments. Tiffany has four children, and she works as a certified nursing assistant with VITAS Hospice Services. Jabori is married, has two boys, and currently serves as a Leading Petty Officer (recruiter) in the U.S. Navy.

I have worked at NASA for over 30 years and have gained a wealth of knowledge in the Procurement Office as a Contracting Officer. I worked as a Procurement Technician when the Central Industry Assistance Office (CIAO) was built back in 1990, and I am proud to say that I came up with naming the CIAO. After working at the CIAO for a number of years, I was promoted to a Contract Specialist and moved to the Headquarters Building.

I never thought that I would ever work again at the CIAO, but what God had in store for me I never saw coming. In January 2013, I was asked to come back to the CIAO and work in the small business office while the previous Small Business Specialist was out sick. To everyone’s surprise, that employee decided to retire. Well, I guess that left me as a prime candidate, and now I currently serve as the Kennedy Space Center Small Business Specialist.

My favorite part of being a Small Business Specialist is serving as an advocate for small businesses and interfacing on behalf of companies that want to do business with NASA. The “struggle is real” for small businesses, and as a Small Business Specialist, I can help integrate them into the contracting process and assist them with obtaining awards. I also enjoy the marketing efforts such as Industry Days and outreach events as well as helping my Contracting Officers bridge the gap and find small businesses that can successfully perform the task.

Even though small businesses collectively generate trillions of dollars in the United States, I feel the biggest issue or challenge for small businesses is survival. It appears that the economy is recovering, but small businesses cannot become complacent. I want to be a bus of opportunities for small businesses: “If they miss one bus, there will be another bus coming!”

NASA Mentor-Protégé Program Update

Tabisa T. Kalisa, Program Manager
Melanie A. Carr, Program Analyst (Contractor)
NASA Office of Small Business Programs

Happy new year to all! The Mentor-Protégé Program (MPP) corner is back with new and exciting updates to the NASA Mentor-Protégé Program. The MPP corner will highlight success stories, program and policy updates, and program statistics on a quarterly basis. The corner will be available at http://www.osbp.nasa.gov.
AA’s Corner

As I open this edition of the “AA’s Corner” in the newsletter, I would like to start by congratulating David Grove on receiving NASA’s third highest award: the Exceptional Service Medal. Grove has been working for the Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP) as a Program Manager for 8 years. He has continually worked hard and focused on the success of the NASA Small Business Program. I am humbled to be able to work with him. Congratulations, and thank you for everything you do every day, Dave. I would also like to congratulate the NASA Small Business Council, which is composed of all the Small Business Specialists from every Center, for receiving yet another (their third) Agency Honor Award for their amazing work during Fiscal Year (FY) 2013. Each and every one of you makes this program successful, and I appreciate your contributions. I am so proud to be a part of this team.

I would also like to highlight a couple of honorary recognitions. I presented Small Business Champion Recognitions to Robert Harris, Director of Procurement at Stennis Space Center (SSC), and Virginia Wycoff, Associate Director at Langley Research Center (LaRC). Over the last 9 years, I have only recognized two other people with this honor. Both Harris and Wycoff have been such strong advocates of the program over several years—and not just with talk, but with action. Both of them were instrumental in having their Centers receive the NASA Administrator’s Cup Award for having the Agency’s best overall small business program. Congratulations to both of you, and thank you for your unwavering support for small businesses.

I’d like to reflect on the last Industry Day that took place on February 3, 2015, and featured Service-Disabled Veteran–Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSB). The event was hosted by Stennis Space Center as a means for NASA to engage more SDVOSBs in FY15 and make them aware of our requirements and possibly do more work with them. As always, NASA asks that Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (VOSBs) and SDVOSBs examine NASA’s requirements and respond to our market research so that we become aware of your capabilities.

I wanted to mention our newest publication titled Orion: A Case for Small Business. This publication features some of the small businesses that made the launch of Orion possible. Orion also documents just a few of the high-tech small businesses that support the Orion program and the impact they have in moving NASA forward in our journey to Mars. If you have not had a chance to get your hands on the new publication, please do so—it is worth your while. It will increase your appreciation for the technologies that small businesses can develop and how those advances impact NASA on a daily basis.

In closing, I want to reaffirm my strong belief that NASA’s small business program is one of the most impactful and best programs in the Federal Government. I am pleased to be a part of this program and look forward to a flourishing year fostered by all the individuals who make our success a reality every day.

NASA Mentor-Protégé Program Update (Continued)

Quarter Recap

NASA OSBP’s Mentor-Protégé Program has been off to a sizzling start this fiscal year. The Center Small Business Specialists have worked diligently and patiently to review and endorse new agreements, and all their hard work has paid off. During the first quarter of FY15, three new Mentor-Protégé Agreements (MPAs) were approved and are now active. As of December 31, 2014, OSBP has 12 active agreements (valued at over $2 million) with 30 approved NASA Mentors.

On December 11, 2014, Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) held a ceremony honoring the newest MPA between Jacobs Technology and Linc Research, Inc., a local Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUBZone)-certified small business, under the MSFC Engineering and Science Systems and Skills Augmentation (ESSSA) contract. This marks the fourth active agreement that Jacobs’s ESSSA Division has established with NASA’s MPP. Additionally, this is the second agreement that MSFC has created with a HUBZone small business. Linc Research, Inc., president Curtis Taylor has exciting plans to maximize on the developmental assistance from Jacobs Technology while keeping a focus on the HUBZone workforce in Huntsville, AL.

FY 2015 Outlook

OSBP has outlined a full year of updates, training, and face-to-face MPP annual reviews with all Mentors, Protégés, Specialists, and Contracting Officers who have active agreements. Additionally, OSBP is currently reviewing its Mentor-Protégé templates to update reporting requirements and publications. Annual reviews have been tentatively scheduled with the Center Small Business Specialists who have active agreements. These annual reviews will consist of face-to-face discussions with Mentors, Protégés, Specialists, and Contracting Officers to review the progress and status of the agreements. Annual review visits will include OSBP training for both Contracting Officers and Small Business Specialists.

Congratulations again to the Mentor and Protégés of the newest agreements: Raytheon Company and Element 84, Inc. (GSFC); AECOM Technical Services and AE3 Partners, Inc. (ARC); and Jacobs Technology (ESSSA Division) and Linc Research, Inc. (MSFC).
The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for fiscal year 2015 (FY15) contains five sections affecting small businesses—three of which apply Government-wide. The biggest news, though, is what is not in the NDAA: The initiative to raise the Government-wide goal for small business to 25 percent did not become law.

Section 822 improves data on bundled or consolidated contracts with the hope that greater transparency will help small businesses compete with large contractors. This section requires the SBA to “develop a plan to improve the quality of data reported on bundled or consolidated contracts in the Federal procurement data system.” The SBA is also set to recommend changes in policies and procedures, including training, to properly identify and mitigate the effects of bundled or consolidated contracts. When will the FAR have coverage on consolidated contracts?

Section 823 allows the SBA to assist 8(a) contractors when appropriate on the regulations issued under section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act and on compliance with those requirements.

Section 825 provides authority for sole-source contracts to Economically Disadvantaged Women-Owned Small Businesses (EDWOSBs) and Women-Owned Small Businesses (WOSBs) in substantially underrepresented industries. Agencies may award sole source when there is not a reasonable expectation that two similar businesses will submit offers. The anticipated award price (including options) of the sole-source contracts cannot exceed $6.5 million in the case of manufacturing or $4 million in the case of any other contract opportunity.

Section 821 involves the Department of Defense’s test program to negotiate comprehensive small business subcontracting plans. A comprehensive small business subcontracting award

(a) applies to the entire business organization of the contractor or to one or more of the contractor’s divisions or operating elements, as specified in the subcontracting plan; and

(b) shall cover each Department of Defense contract that is entered into by the contractor and each subcontract that is entered into by the contractor as the subcontractor under a Department of Defense contract.

Section 821 extends this program until December 31, 2017; requires that the contractor report to the Secretary of Defense on a semiannual basis; requires that the failure to meet the goals in the comprehensive subcontracting plan be considered as part of the evaluation of past performance; and effective in FY16, precludes a contractor from entering into another comprehensive small business subcontracting plan when it fails to meet the subcontracting goals negotiated for the prior fiscal year. Will this test eventually result in a change Government-wide?

Section 824 places limitations on the Secretary of Defense’s use of reverse auctions. Reverse auctions must be compliant with existing Federal regulations and the DOD’s memo on single-bid offers; must provide offerors with the ability to submit revised bids throughout the auction; and must comply with certain limitations when the reverse auction is conducted by a third party. Additionally, section 824 prohibits the use of reverse auctions for design-build military construction contracts. Will these restrictions eventually apply Government-wide?

The management of subcontracting plans, as many of you may know, can be something of a pain in the backside for contractors as well as Contracting Officers and Small Business Specialists. However, there is payoff—for industry, NASA, and the Government as a whole.

As we have frequently advised small businesses, during both public engagements and private counseling (and everything in between), the subcontracting venue is a common path of entry into the NASA business community. Subcontracting allows indoctrination, so to speak, to NASA’s management and financial cultures—among other aspects—before a small business attempts to go prime. It also allows a small business to build up its past performance inventory.
According to Amazon, NASA has the largest exposure of any Federal agency in the public cloud. Currently, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) has, on average, more than 400 instances running in the cloud, while the Office of the Chief Information Officer’s Web Services has more than 300 instances. In the past, OCIO Web Services had approximately 500 instances, but through efficiency and consolidation, this number has decreased by 40 percent. The number of instances for the Computing Services Office (CSSO) is approximately 75. Each instance can be considered a virtual server. These instances do not include many of the Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) offerings that NASA may be currently using, including ServiceNow (our new help desk software), Dropbox, Microsoft Office 365, Google apps, and others.

What exactly does cloud computing mean to NASA, and how can it benefit us?

NASA has approximately 25,000 servers in its network. These servers need to be refreshed on a regular basis. They are stored in a data center that takes up real estate and uses other assets such as power and cooling. If these servers could be leased instead of owned, we would pay only for the use of the computing platforms.

There are five characteristics that must be available for a service to be considered to be in the cloud:

1. On-demand self-service—you should be able to turn your services on or off as needed.
2. Broad network access—your services are available over the network and accessible via mobile phones, tablets, laptops, PCs, etc.
3. Resource pooling—the provider’s computing resources are pooled or shared using a multi-tenant model, with different physical and virtual resources dynamically assigned and reassigned according to demand.
4. Rapid elasticity—depending on your application usage and load, the service can scale up or down rapidly as needed.
5. Measured service—the service can monitor, control, and report on your utilization.

As NASA starts evaluating many of the functions that are performed by those 25,000 servers, we are looking at which ones can benefit from the different service models currently offered by a variety of cloud service providers:

- Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) examples are virtual machines, storage, networks, or other fundamental computing components, resources, and capabilities.
- Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) examples are programming languages, libraries, databases, Web servers, services such as execution runtimes, or developer tools supported by the provider.
- Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) examples are e-mail services, help-desk systems, and other services that use the provider’s applications running on a cloud infrastructure.
- Second-Tier Services—such as Data-as-a-Service, Desktop-as-a-Service, Security-as-a-Service, and Recovery-as-a-Service (Backups)—are constructed on top of the above services.

So what is the future of cloud usage at NASA?

The possibilities are endless, and some are game changers. We will just name a very small number here. Let’s first look at what is in the pipeline. The CSSO is working with the Science Mission Directorate on Earth sciences collaboration, OpenNEX data sharing, and Tournament Labs.

Web Services is collaborating with the Imagery Experts Program on http://images.nasa.gov, which will be available starting July 2015. This service will empower the public to find the best-of-the-best of NASA’s images, videos, and audio clips from one location. The technology in the cloud necessary to make the application a success has finally caught up to the big idea of http://images.nasa.gov.

Web Services is also working with the Office of the Chief Engineer (OCE) to provide business process, architecture, software, and systems modeling tools in the cloud. For more information about Web Services, visit http://inside.nasa.gov/webservices/.

The Subcontract Strategy (Continued)

percent of the billion or so dollars that flowed to WOSBs were subcontracting dollars. And in the SDVOSB subcategory, the difference is even more dramatic: Of the quarter-billion dollars flowing to SDVOSB firms, over two-thirds, or 68 percent to be exact, was at the subcontracting level. As of this writing, NASA reached its Agency subcontracting goals in four of the categories in FY 2014, missing the mark in only the HUBZone category.

Down the line, help may be forthcoming in administering subcontracting plans. During the last several months, OSBP has attended two focus group sessions geared at enhancements to the Electronic Subcontracting Reporting System (eSRS). Improvements in searching for and sorting data, and in exporting data to Excel, are possibilities you may see in the next couple of years. Center-level reporting is also a possibility that may come later.

Until then, take satisfaction in the knowledge that every time NASA reviews an Individual Subcontracting Report (ISR) or Summary Contracting Report (SSR) (and accepts or rejects it), completes the subcontracting section on a Contractor Performance Assessment Reporting System (CPARS), assigns award-fee dollars based on subcontracting performance, or publishes recommended subcontracting goals in solicitations, we reinforce the subcontracting message. We build the Government’s industrial base. And we take steps closer to Mars.
Important Dates To Remember

March 19, 2015
Women as Veteran Entrepreneurs (WAVE) 5th Annual Women Veterans Small Business Seminar
Arlington, VA
http://www.wave.charsoft.com

March 26, 2015
2015 Veterans Business Conference
Arlington, VA
http://www.veteransbusinessconference.com

March 31, 2015
2nd Annual High-Tech Small Business Industry Day
Long Beach, CA
http://www.eventbrite.com/e/2nd-annual-high-tech-small-business-industry-day-tickets-10132391255

April 8, 2015
National Contract Management Association (NCMA) Chesapeake Bay Naval Air Station Patuxent River
http://www.ncmacbva.org

May 4–8, 2015
National Small Business Week
Washington, DC
http://www.sba.gov/nsbw/nsbw

June 3–5, 2015
CelebrAsian 2015 Procurement Conference
Bethesda, MD

June 4, 2015
2015 National Sponsored Programs Administrators Alliance (NSPAA) Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Technical Assistance Workshop Series
Arlington, VA
http://nspaa.com

June 9, 2015
Veteran Entrepreneur Training Symposium (VETS)
Norfolk, VA
http://www.veterantrainingsymposium.com

NASA Center Highlight

NASA Armstrong Flight Research Center

Robert Medina, Small Business Specialist
NASA Armstrong Flight Research Center

On March 1, 2014, Hugh L. Dryden Flight Research Center was renamed Neil A. Armstrong Flight Research Center (AFRC). The formal dedication and renaming ceremony occurred on May 13, 2014. During the renaming ceremony, AFRC Director David D. McBride stated, “While we are changing our name, the work we do remains consistent. We fly, we explore, we measure, we reveal, and we discover the overlooked and unexpected for the benefit of the Nation and for the benefit of humankind.” The vision of AFRC remains unchanged: “To fly what others only imagine.” This vision is to turn people’s dreams into reality. “To separate the real from the imagined and to make known the overlooked and the unexpected” was Hugh Dryden’s explanation for the need for flight research.

AFRC is NASA’s center of excellence for atmospheric flight research. The Center was renamed in honor of the late Neil Armstrong, a former research test pilot at the Center who became the first human to step on the Moon on July 20, 1969, during the historic Apollo 11 mission. Hugh Dryden will continue to be memorialized at the former Western Aeronautical Test Range, which has been renamed the Dryden Aeronautical Test Range. The range consists of a network of radar, telemetry, and communications assets that monitor, process, and record data from test flights in restricted special-use airspace and transmit that information to mission control centers.

NASA Administrator Charles Bolden said of the Center’s renaming, “I cannot think of a more appropriate way to honor these two leaders who broadened our understanding of aeronautics and space exploration. Both Dryden and Armstrong are pioneers whose contributions to NASA and our Nation still resonate today. Armstrong was the first person to walk on the Moon. Dryden’s expertise at the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics [NACA] and then at NASA established America’s leadership in aerospace, and his vision paved the way for Armstrong to take those first steps.” Administrator Bolden’s words resonated with those who knew both men.

Dryden and Armstrong knew and worked with each other during their days at the NACA and NASA. Both were quiet, humble, and visionary men who had a love for aerospace flight research and testing. Both played significant roles in this Nation’s landing on the Moon. Although Armstrong is predominantly known for being the first human to walk on the Moon, he was a test pilot before he became an astronaut, and he conducted some of his astronaut training at the Center.

Dr. Hugh L. Dryden was considered an aeronautical engineering genius. He focused on high-speed flight and pioneered aerodynamics research on the problems of airflow, turbulence, and the boundary layer phenomenon during his tenure as an aeronautical scientist with the National Bureau of Standards. He became a member of the NACA in 1939 and later became the NACA’s director in 1947. Dryden’s quiet but visionary leadership of the NACA is what prepared the NACA to become NASA on October 1, 1958. Dryden’s vision and organizational genius was at the root of Armstrong’s most spectacular flight achievements, from the X-15 to Tranquility Base.

Though the Center’s name has changed, the vision of turning people’s dreams into reality, “to separate the real from the imagined,” and “to fly what others only imagine,” continues to live and thrive on the southern end of the Mojave Desert.
NASA Center Highlight

NASA Management Office at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Chanrick “Rick” M. Ellerbe, Small Business Specialist
NASA Management Office

The NASA Management Office (NMO) has always taken part in every effort to provide for small businesses, including assisting the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) with all of its small business events and programs. JPL currently provides an annual roundtable event as well as the Small Business Supplier Fair. The NMO also assists with the open-door policy that allows small businesses to visit JPL every Thursday. In addition, the NMO provides JPL with its annual small business goals on the prime contract. Together as a team, the NMO and the JPL Business Opportunities Office work together each year to promote Small Business Week and inform small businesses of opportunities at JPL. The NMO office assists NASA with promoting small business programs at each Center.

Preparation To Meet with the Government: 15-Minute Elevator Speech

Christine L. Munroe, Small Business Specialist
NASA Ames Research Center

As a Small Business Specialist, I am here to be your company’s champion. I provide information to contractors in various areas: upcoming requirements that are listed on our acquisition forecast, which office at the Center would be interested in working with your business, what current prime contractors are looking for subcontractors, and how to do business with NASA.

Therefore, I have a few important tips that I would like to share with contractors to assist them prior to scheduling a meeting. The key is understanding what each NASA Center purchases. (See http://osbp.nasa.gov/business.html for detailed information.)

Regardless of the services and products your company offers, your company representatives should review the NASA Acquisition Internet Service (NAIS), which includes the Acquisition Forecast and postings of business opportunities at each NASA Center. Additionally, your company should register to receive e-mail notifications for postings pertaining to your North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes (http://prod.nais.nasa.gov/cgi-bin/nais/index.cgi).

Contact the Small Business Specialist at the Center where you want to do business to schedule an appointment. Most Government personnel will meet with you for only 30 minutes, so it’s important that representatives of your company be prepared to speak for 15 minutes and leave time for questions for the remaining 15 minutes. Company representatives should send a copy of their presentation via e-mail prior to the meeting. The presentation should include the following:

1. A 1–2 page capability sheet that highlights your company’s niche unique capabilities.
2. Pertinent experience with specific customers and any relevant solutions provided.
3. A brief capability presentation of five slides, with no more than five bullet points per slide; include your company’s information and other information relative to the full presentation.
4. The NAICS codes that you are interested in doing business with at the Center.

The five-slide template is a tool I created for industry. The tool is similar to the elevator speech in that it communicates capabilities to Ames Research Center (ARC) acquisition personnel in a consistent manner. The template and 15-minute elevator speech have made information sharing between industry and the ARC acquisition community highly efficient.
a.i. solutions, Inc., is a mature small business with a Nationwide workforce of over 400 engineering, science, and information technology professionals serving civilian, defense, and commercial customers. Founded in 1996, a.i. solutions began with an initial contract to provide orbit maneuver planning for the Earth Observing System (EOS) missions at Goddard Space Flight Center. Since then, a.i. solutions has grown to support most of NASA’s Centers.

In November 2014, a.i. solutions was selected as Kennedy Space Center’s (KSC) 2014 Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year for the company’s track record of excellence in providing mission integration, mission assurance, and launch vehicle engineering to NASA’s Launch Services Program (LSP). The Launch Services Program supports NASA missions, as well as commercial and Department of Defense launches at both KSC and Vandenberg Air Force Base. a.i. solutions has provided a variety of engineering and technical services to the LSP since 1998, supporting hundreds of launches, and is currently the prime contractor on the Expendable Launch Vehicle Integrated Support (ELVIS) 2 contract.

a.i. solutions attributes its success to providing a work environment that fosters innovation and encourages staff to seek out smarter approaches and cost-efficient technical solutions that achieve better results for its customers. With core capabilities that span space mission design and operations, launch vehicle and missile systems engineering, flight dynamics ground systems, and cyber security, a.i. solutions has a “big-picture” perspective on the inherent challenges of ensuring reliable access to space. The company has a strong reputation among its customers for providing best-in-class solutions to complex mission challenges and for delivering superior results. a.i. solutions is also the developer of FreeFlyer, a commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) software application used for space mission analysis, design, and operations.

a.i. solutions is a proud participant of NASA’s small business program and was previously selected as the NASA Agency Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year in 2010. The company looks forward to many more years of being a part of NASA’s continued mission to pioneer the future in space exploration and scientific discovery.