



U.S. Army Technology Transfer Mechanisms

We provide assistance to industrial and academic partners to speed development and commercialization of DOD-relevant inventions. The **Technology Transfer** mechanisms shown below enhance our partner's ability to sell new and improved technologies for the benefit of the warfighter.

- 1. Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDA)** – Use for the sharing of “Proprietary Information” between a Federal Lab and an outside party.
- 2. Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADA)** – Use for a Federal Lab to perform collaborative R&D with academic, industrial, not for profit, and nonfederal government parties. The Federal Lab can provide materials, equipment, access to facilities, expertise, but not money to the CRADA partner (CRADA partner can provide the same plus funding to a Federal Lab). CRADA partners receive a time-limited option to take an exclusive license to Government rights in CRADA-subject inventions within the field of the CRADA.
- 3. License Agreements** – Use for the transfer of Intellectual Property from a Federal Lab to a commercial partner. Noncommercial CRADA and IIA partners may also be granted licenses by Federal Labs, as long as they then sublicense to a commercial partner. Commercial Evaluation Licenses are given for short term evaluation of the commercial potential of a Federal invention.
 - What is Licensed:** Patents, Copyrights, Trademarks (*directly licensed by Army Trademark Licensing Program*), and Other Intellectual Property (*see below*)
 - Types of Exclusivity:** Exclusive*, Partially Exclusive*, or Nonexclusive (**requires Federal Register announcement*)
 - Fields of Use:** May be *topical* (e.g. therapeutic vs. diagnostic), *geographical* (e.g. US vs. worldwide), or *how the invention is used* (production vs. testing vs. sales/distribution)
 - Rights to Sublicense:** May be granted with written approval of the Federal Lab
- 4. Commercial Test Agreements (CTA)** – Use for Federal Labs to test materials, equipment, models, computer software, and other technologies on behalf of an outside party. Partner owns the technical data and any intellectual property that may arise from the testing.
- 5. Interinstitutional Agreements (IIA)** – Use for R&D collaborations or licensing among 2 or more Federal agencies. Stipulates which agency does what and with which funds and how deployment and commercialization will be done.
- 6. Partnership Intermediary Agreements (PIA)** – Use for promoting cooperative activities between a Federal Lab and a State or local government (or a nonprofit operating on behalf of a State or local government). It facilitates the transfer of technology for the benefit or economic development of a State or local government, small business, or educational institutions; and supports the mission of the Federal Lab.
- 7. Contracts** – Use for Federal funding of R&D by outside parties; Government retains Government use rights for federally funded inventions, but Contractor may retain ownership and commercialize inventions created under the contract.
- 8. Grants** – Use for Federal Lab funding of R&D in academia, industry, and not for profits (does not use Federal Lab Resources). Grant recipient may elect title to and commercialize new inventions create under the grant.
- 9. Cooperative Agreements** – Use for Federal Lab funding of R&D in academia, industry, and not for profits (that also uses Federal Lab Resources).
- 10. Other Transaction Agreements (OTA)** – Use for Federal Lab participation in prototyping collaborations with industry.

Types of Intellectual Property Used or Generated in Collaborations and Licensing

- 1. Patent** – gives the patent owner/assignee or sometimes its licensee the right to prevent others from practicing the invention as specified in the Patent claims.
- 2. Copyright** – gives the copyright owner/assignee or sometimes its licensee the right to prevent the unauthorized use of "original works of authorship."
- 3. Trademark** – gives the trademark owner the right to prevent the unauthorized use of a name, phrase, logo, design, or other symbol that identifies the source of the mark owner's goods/services and distinguishes them from the goods/services of others.
- 4. Other Intellectual Property** – know how, formulas, processes, software code, designs, materials, devices or other things proprietarily maintained