

Non Traditional Center of Excellence for Advanced Anti Corrosion Technologies for Undersea Applications (NT-CAACTUS)

Summary

A key component of the reduction of total ownership costs of the U.S. Navy's fleet of Submarines and other Undersea assets is the reduction of the cost of corrosion prevention via the utilization of the most effective innovative technologies available. NAVSEA Undersea Technology Directorate has adopted a collaborative open innovation approach that broadens the participation of entities engaged in its research, development, test and evaluation programs. Innovation companies of all sizes, Universities and Government Agencies are collaborating under this program to develop Non Traditional Centers of Excellence (NTCE) aimed at transitioning the latest emerging technologies to the Navy's operational arena. NT-CAACTUS is proposed as the pilot for these centers, and will focus on reducing the cost of corrosion prevention of the Navy's fleet of submarines and other undersea assets, starting with the operations at Pearl Harbor Naval Ship Yard.

The NTCAACTUS center is aimed at providing a shared infrastructure consisting of technical personnel and physical facilities, to support the research, design, prototyping, test and evaluation of new technologies that have been developed by businesses participating in the annual Innovation Challenge contests to support the Navy's operations. Such a shared infrastructure will level the playing field so that the very best technologies could be available to the Navy regardless of the size or capitalization of the entities that have developed the intellectual property for those technologies. Among the capabilities anticipated for this center will be:

- Commercial-scale production of newly developed laboratory-scale products.
- Technical support for staging Applied Innovation Challenges.
- Prototype production support to contestants in Applied Innovation Challenges.
- Technical support to companies for Navy product qualification.
- Characterization of novel advanced materials and processes.
- Clearinghouse for technology transition from discovery to deployment.