Special Operations Forces

Industry Conference

CTO

Task Lead

COMPARATIVE TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

CTO Mission

- **Implement congressionally mandated** Foreign Comparative Testing (FCT) and Defense Acquisition Challenge (DAC) programs

- FCT & DAC **provides non-MFP-11 RDT&E funds** to acquisition **Programs of Record (POR)** for comparative or qualitative evaluation of systems/technologies/ processes at a mature **technical readiness level 7** or greater

- FCT (1989) program tests **foreign** defense systems that may meet USSOCOM operational requirements

- DAC (2003) program tests **technology, proposes alternatives** to improve a POR cost, schedule and or technical performance

COMPARATIVE TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

Applicability

- **DAC provides any person or activity within or outside the DoD the opportunity to propose to an existing DoD program alternatives, known as "Challenge Proposals," that could result in improvements in performance, affordability, manufacturability, or operational capability of the systems acquired by that program.**
  - For innovators, it means faster entry to the defense acquisition system
  - For the DoD program managers (PMs), it means increased technology insertions to improve systems
- **For the FCT program foreign items are nominated by a sponsoring organization within the DoD Government Program Office for testing in order to determine whether the items satisfy U.S. military requirements or address mission area shortcomings.**
  - CTO funds testing and evaluation
  - Services fund all procurements that result from a successful test

COMPARATIVE TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

USSOCOM CTO Historical Track Record

FOREIGN COMPARATIVE TESTING PROGRAM

- **Since 1996, SOCOM sponsored 69 FCT projects ~ $96.1M**
  - 11 Ongoing projects
  - 58 Completed projects
  - 41 met requirements – 38 fielded (93%)

DEFENSE ACQUISITION CHALLENGE PROGRAM

- **Since 2003, SOCOM sponsored 38 projects ~ $37M**
  - 11 Ongoing projects
  - 27 Completed projects
  - 18 met requirements – 17 fielded (94%)

	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12
CTO RDTE	**$11M (2%)**	**$17M (3%)**	**$10M (2%)**	**$3.6M**

- **CTO Funding has Represented a Sum Equal to 3% of SOCOM RDT&E Budget**
- **Value of Procurement of Successfully Tested Projects: $499M**
- **Impressive 300% Return on Investment!**

COMPARATIVE TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

Operational Philosophy

- **Enable testing of mature technologies & processes to rapidly meet Special Operations Forces warfighters' needs**
  - Accelerate acquisition process to support Overseas Contingency Operations
  - Expeditiously evaluate mature technologies
  - Reduce development costs

- **Enhance interoperability with coalition & allied forces**
  - Common equipment at the best value

- **Challenge existing programs at component, subsystem or system level**
  - Integrate innovative technologies
  - Improve POR cost, schedule, & performance

A Worldwide Focus to Meet Needs Quicker!
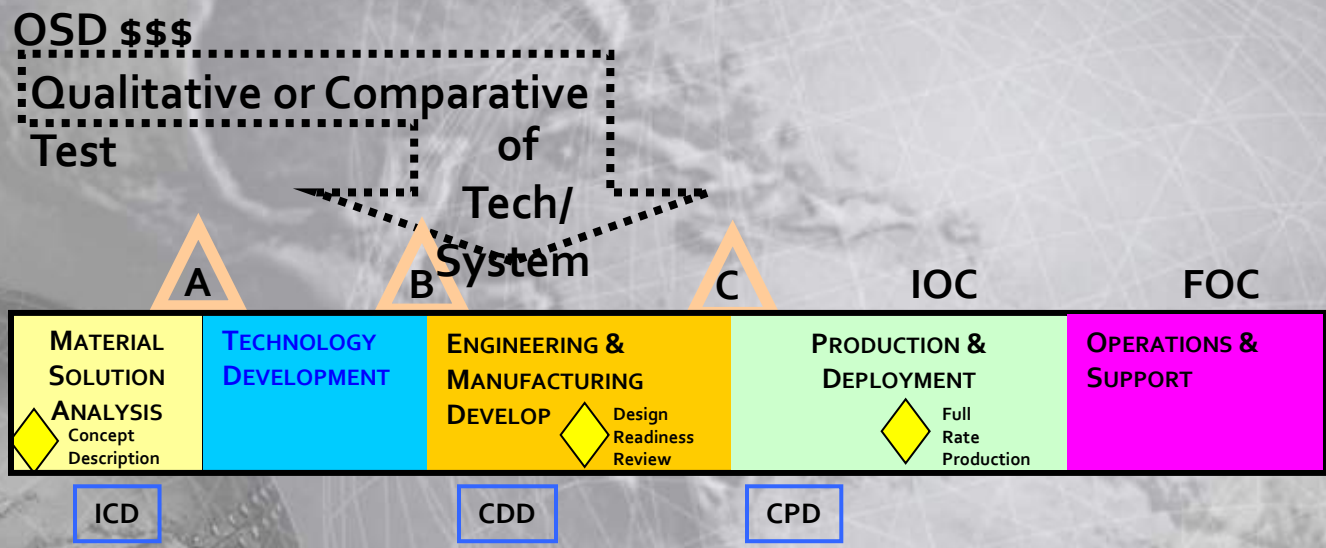
COMPARATIVE TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

What can FCT/DAC do?

- **Jump Start Program of Record**
  - *Accelerates Milestone B with available non-MFP11, RDT&E funds*
  - **Requisites: must have ongoing acquisition POR or signed requirements document, item must be TRL 7 or greater, *plus* intent to procure more systems if test successful**

RDECOM
RDECs / AMSAA
ECBC / STTC
ARL / ARO

SPECIAL AGENCY
CTTSO / TSWG
JIEDDO / RSJPO
DARPA

ACADEMIA
NPS, WCU
INDUSTRY

OSD $$$
Qualitative or Comparative Test of Tech/ System

A	B	C	IOC	FOC
MATERIAL SOLUTION ANALYSIS Concept Description	**TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT**	**ENGINEERING & MANUFACTURING DEVELOP** Design Readiness Review	**PRODUCTION & DEPLOYMENT** Full Rate Production	**OPERATIONS & SUPPORT**

ICD   CDD   CPD

Available Funds Accelerate Schedule

COMPARATIVE TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

Ongoing FCT Projects

FY	FCT Project	Program of Record	PEO
08	40mm L60 HEI Ammunition for AC-130	Aviation Ammunition	SW
08	Fire Control System for SCAR Grenade Launcher	Combat Assault Rifle-MK13	SW
09	Airborne Tactical Extraction Platform	Special Projects	SW
09	Enhanced Fuze for 70mm MPP Warhead	Aviation Ammunition	SW
09	Precision Sniper Rifle	Family of Sniper Weapon Systems	SW
09	Sub-Caliber Training System for MAAWS	MAAWS M3	SW
11	Multi-diver Heating & Cooling Sys for Wet Sub	Shallow Water Combat Submersibles	M
11	SOF Close Target Recon Systems	Sensitive Site Exploitation	SR
11	Standoff Gas Cloud Detector of Chem War Agents	Special Projects	SW
12	SOF Special Recon & Exploitation Systems	Hostile Forces Tag, Track Locate	SR
12	Tactical Communications Enhancements	SOF Deployable Node	C4

Ongoing DAC Projects

FY	DAC Project	Program of Record	PEO
08	Sensor Fusion Clip-on Night Vision Device	Weapons Accessories-CNVD	SW
09	Hand-Held Fluid Monitor	J4	J4
09	Improved Viper Strike	Munitions-SOPGM	FW
09	Next Generation Night Vision Technology	SOVAS-Handheld	SW
09	Shock Profile of SOF Combat Assault Rifle	Weapons Accessories	SW
10	Fully Integrated FCU for Machine Guns	SOF Machine Guns	SW
10	Hostile Fire Aid for AN/AVR-2B	AC Survivability Systems-HFI Systems	RW
10	LW Increased Capacity Magazine for SCAR	Combat Assault Weapon	SW
10	Tactical BLOS Comms Extension System	SOF Deployable Nodes	C4
11	Thermal FC for 84mm Carl Gustaf	MAAWS M3	SW

FCT & DAC Differences

- **New-start Proposals**
  - **FCT: Proposed by Government only**
  - **DAC: Government or non-Government**
- **Vendor Sources**
  - **FCT: Test <u>foreign</u> systems**
  - **DAC: Intended to test innovative <u>small US vendor</u> products/processes**
- **Technologies Tested**
  - **FCT: System candidates that meet SOF requirements**
  - **DAC: LRU solutions, system spiral developments or processes that challenge (improve) POR cost, schedule or performance**
- **FedBizOpps Announcement**
  - **FCT: OSD requires for new-start proposal**
  - **DAC: USSOCOM requires after project approval**
- **Approval Level**
  - **FCT: Congress approves new start projects**
  - **DAC: ASD (R&E) Approves; updates Congress annually**

COMPARATIVE TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

Frequently Asked Questions

- **What can I use money for?**
  - **Test articles (TA): items purchase or lease, vendor engineering support**
  - **Test agency costs: ranges, personnel**
  - **Program management costs: travel, documentation, engineering support**
  - **Cannot use for production items beyond First Article Test units**
- **Can I test foreign and domestic technology under one project? Yes:**
  - **Test item procurement is restricted; i.e., FCT money can be used to buy foreign TA candidates only; & DAC money can buy domestic & foreign TA**
  - **However, domestic and foreign TA can be tested head-to-head using either FCT or DAC funding, i.e., test agency and program management costs**
- **Is a project announcement (RFI/RFP) required after project approval? Yes:**
  - **Ensure full and open competition**
  - **OSD requires FCT include FedBizOpps announcement as part of proposal**
  - **USSOCOM requires DAC announcement post project approval**

COMPARATIVE TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

Frequently Asked Questions (cont.)

- **Do multiple sources for the same capability require separate DAC/FCT projects? No:**
  - One comparative test project can involve numerous vendors with the same test objectives
  - A project can test head to head foreign and domestic candidate technology - note above restriction on procuring candidate TA
- **How much money can I get for how many years?**
  - Projects normally run one to two years; sometimes three years
  - Usual upper limit is $1.5M-$2M a year; no lower limit
- **Are there restrictions on what countries can be involved in an FCT project?**
  - Allied countries: NATO and Non-NATO Allies
  - Other non-aligned countries
  - Not with countries in direct confrontation with the US: Iran, North Korea, Syria, Sudan, Cuba, Venezuela
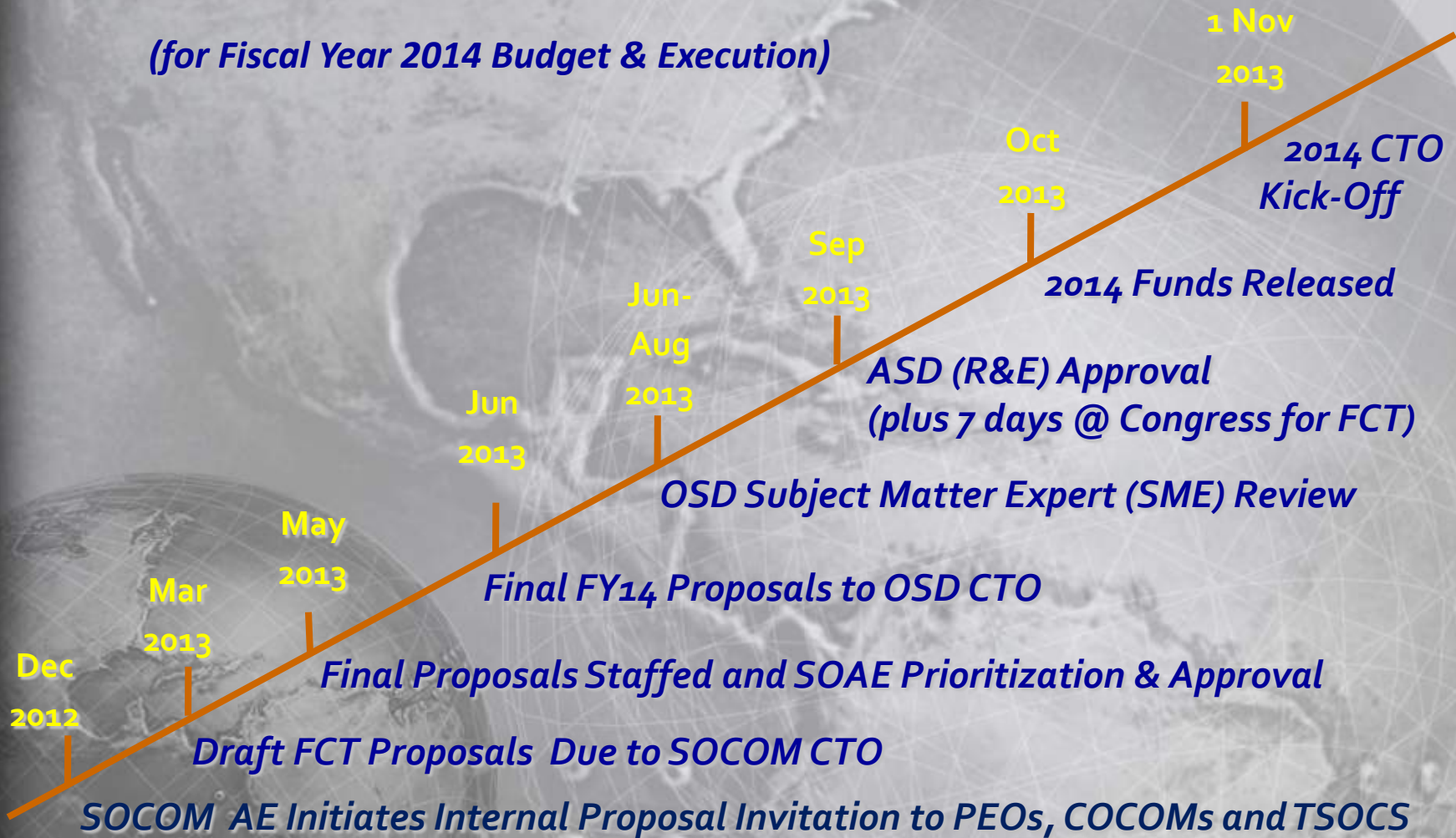
COMPARATIVE TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

COMPARATIVE TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

FY 2013 FCT Proposal Process Timeline

(for Fiscal Year 2014 Budget & Execution)

1 Nov 2013 — *2014 CTO Kick-Off*

Oct 2013 — *2014 Funds Released*

Sep 2013 — *ASD (R&E) Approval (plus 7 days @ Congress for FCT)*

Jun-Aug 2013 — *OSD Subject Matter Expert (SME) Review*

Jun 2013 — *Final FY14 Proposals to OSD CTO*

May 2013 — *Final Proposals Staffed and SOAE Prioritization & Approval*

Mar 2013 — *Draft FCT Proposals Due to SOCOM CTO*

Dec 2012 — *SOCOM AE Initiates Internal Proposal Invitation to PEOs, COCOMs and TSOCS*

UNCLASSIFIED

FY 2013 DAC Proposal Process Timeline (Tentative)

(for Fiscal Year 2013 Budget & Execution)

Jul 2013

Jun 2013

2013 Funds Released

May 2013

ASD (R&E) Review Selection Approval

Apr 2013

Submission Final Proposals to OSD CTO

Mar 2013

Development of Final DAC Proposals & SOAE Validation

Mar 2013

Mandated SOCOM Administrative and Technical Evaluation

Feb 2013

Draft DAC Proposals Due

OSD BAA Requesting Submission of Proposals to CTO Website

A Winning Proposal

- **Clear Explanation of Impact/Benefit to Warfighter**
- **Concise Description of Technology – Title & Bumper Sticker**
- **Valid Special Operations Requirement, Supported by USSOCOM**
- **Government Sponsor Contribution – Activity & Funding**
- **Solid Acquisition Strategy – Procurement funds in FYDP**
- **Return on Investment – Intangible or $$$ Savings**
- **Substantiated Claim of TRL 7**
- **Benefit to Other Users – Joint is Good**
- **Letters of Endorsement & Intent to Procure**
- **Well Designed Project Plan – Executable Schedule**
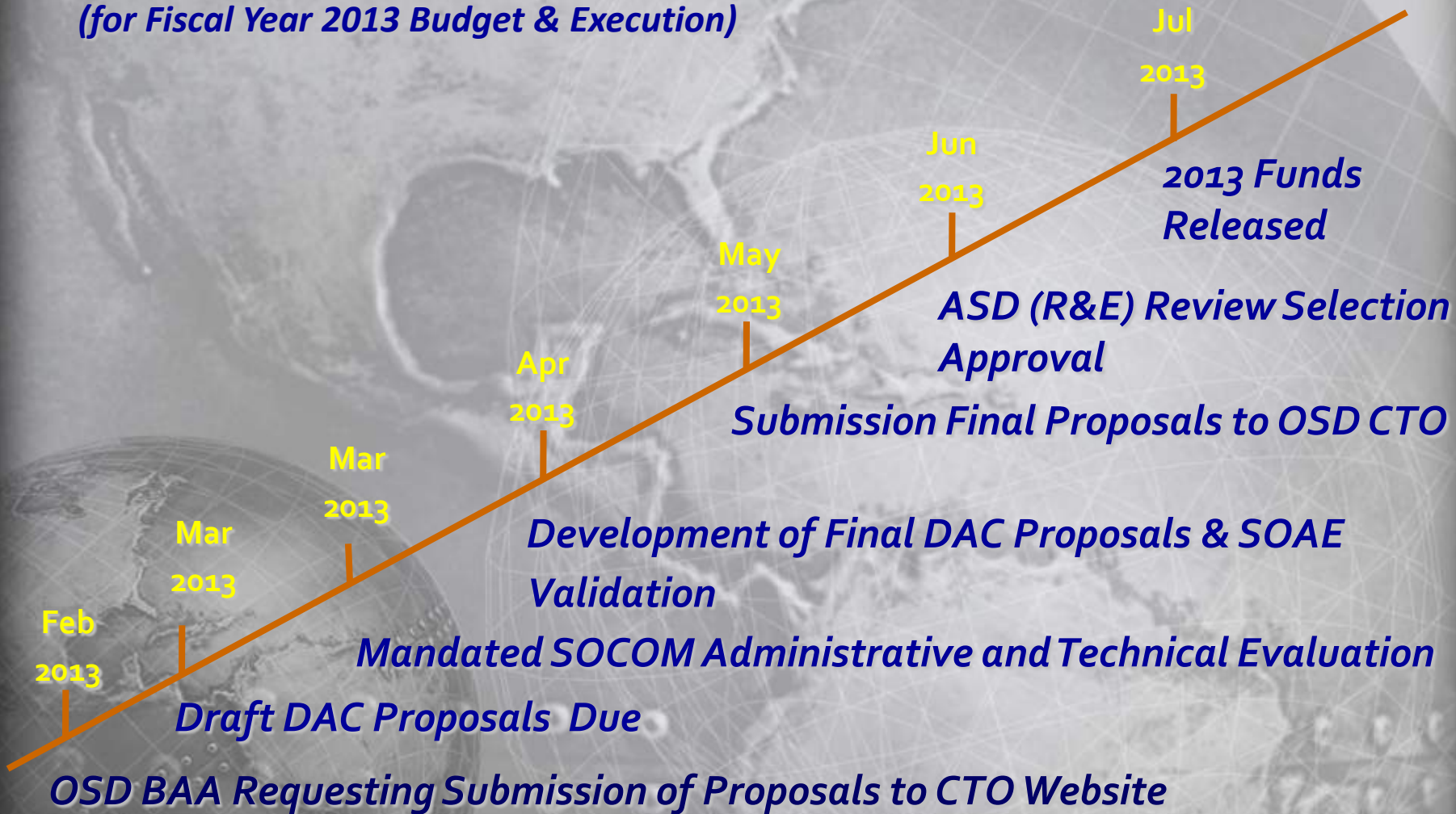
COMPARATIVE TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

Summary

- **OSD managed, administered by SOCOM/Services**
  - **FCT – Foreign non-developmental systems**
  - **DAC – Mature systems, technology, processes**
- **Source of OSD RDT&E funds for Government & Industry**
- **Evaluate "mature technologies" for military use**
- **Test to procure!!!**
  - **Jumpstarts POR test & evaluation, accelerates transition from test to production**
- **Competitive selection process**

Faster Evaluation, Quicker Fielding!

COMPARATIVE TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

Contact

- **CTO located HQ USSOCOM, MacDill AFB, FL**
- **Web Sites:**
  - **CTO Home Page: http://www.acq.osd.mil/cto/**
  - **BIDS: https://cto.acqcenter.com/osd/portal.nsf/**
  - **SOCOM S&T PORTAL: https://sof.socom.mil/sites/SORDAC/ST/CTO/default.aspx**
- **SOFIC Booth # 33**

COMPARATIVE TECHNOLOGY OFFICE