



Marshall's Innovative Partnerships Program (IPP) is your ideal resource for finding technical solutions to the challenges faced by your Mission Programs. We help you identify technologies that meet your needs through technology infusion. Whether the technology is transferred from one NASA Center or Mission Program to another, or brought in from an external organization (such as a small business, university, or other government agency), we can make all the arrangements for smooth interactions between contacts—and we'll tailor our level of involvement to meet your program needs.



Technology Infusion through the Innovative Partnerships Program

Saving you time and resources. Delivering technologies you need.



Why Technology Infusion?

Infusing technologies from outside resources:

- ✓ Helps spread your development funds further
- ✓ Leverages funds from partners to achieve NASA's R&D goals
- ✓ Saves valuable development time and technical resources
- ✓ Helps accelerate technology maturation
- ✓ Increases NASA's return on its R&D investment

Delivering Needed Technologies: Step-by-Step

The IPP offers a systematic approach to technology infusion—one that involves innovators and program managers without burdening them with paperwork and details. We dedicate ourselves to an ongoing relationship with you to serve your needs at the appropriate level, based on your infusion goals and desired level of involvement.

Step 1: Understanding Your Needs

We work with you to gain a clear understanding of your program's technology needs and goals. We make it our job to stay on top of changing needs as well as performance, schedule, cost, and risk considerations.

Step 2: Identifying Technology Solutions

Once we fully understand your goals, we look within other NASA Centers and programs as well as external organizations—including business, government, and academia—to identify solutions. Often, an exact technology solution is not available. So, we consider industries with which you might not regularly come into contact (for example, medical, retail, and telecommunications) that are developing innovations that may be further enhanced to suit your program or mission needs.

Step 3: Offering You Options

We provide you with multiple options for technologies that we've evaluated, ones that meet your program needs—as-is or with further development through an infusion partnership. We introduce these technologies into the trade space for your evaluation and selection.

mission
infusion



Facilitating Discussions

As you move closer to selecting the appropriate technology for your program, the IPP can serve as your communications facilitator, relieving you of the burden of setting up meetings and locating appropriate contacts. We can arrange webinars, conference calls, face-to-face meetings, and more—continually evaluating the level and form of discussion needed to best suit your requirements.

Identifying a Partnering Mechanism

A critical outcome of infusion discussions is choosing the appropriate agreement or funding arrangement that will enable a successful technology infusion. This may take the form of an SBIR/STTR contract, a Space Act Agreement, a Memorandum of Understanding, an IPP Seed Fund partnership, or other arrangement. We can help you assess all of the options and determine the best approach.



The technology infusion process is cyclical and ongoing. As our relationship with you matures, we can continually help reassess your goals as we seek technology opportunities that align with your Mission Program needs.

Infusion Success!

Any technology that is ultimately infused into a program is certainly deemed a success. Those technologies that remain in the trade space for future consideration by NASA Mission Programs also are examples of successful technology infusion efforts. We take great pride in each infusion success that results from a strong relationship with the IPP.

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We give [the IPP] a list of our key technology areas and challenges and our risks and they go out and [look to] where other industries are working on those areas so that we can match them up. For example, with our large-scale integrative test vibration article... we needed some way to be able to move up and down the stack... [The IPP] actually found a company that built systems like that for construction. And they were able to come in and, for non-aerospace prices, give us some very robust solutions to get the job done.

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—Steve Cook, former Manager of the Ares Projects Office, NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, speaking at the third public meeting of the Review of U.S. Human Space Flight Plans Committee

For More Information

If you would like more information about the technology infusion services offered by Marshall's Innovative Partnerships Program Office, please contact us:

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