

# SBIR Partnering Platform Newsletter

# INNOVATOR Edition FY24 Q2

partnering  
... powered by DOE

Thank you for signing up to receive the [SBIR Partnering Platform Newsletter](#)!

## SBIR Partnering Platform

Developed in collaboration with Phase III awardee, [OmniSync](#), the [SBIR Partnering Platform](#) was released in October 2023. Open to all **Industry Stakeholders** (i.e., investors, service providers, utilities, etc.), this public, self-supporting platform facilitates partnering between SBIR/STTR small business applicants and awardees (**INNOVATORS**) and various industry stakeholders in their representative ecosystems (**PARTNERS**).<sup>1</sup> Using keywords and AI, **INNOVATORS** are able to find and connect with **PARTNERS** to assist them during both technology development as well as bringing their SBIR/STTR funded technologies to market.

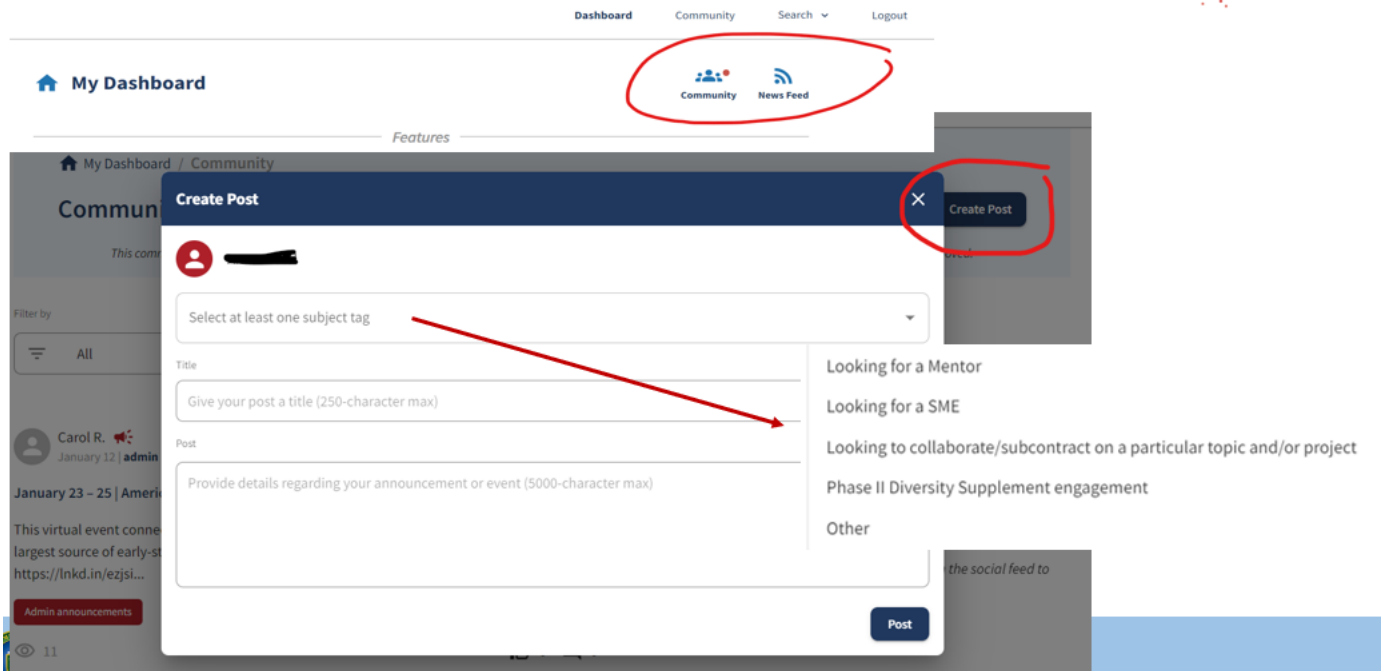
The DOE SBIR/STTR FY25 Phase I, Release 1 topics are now available within the [SBIR Partnering Platform](#)! Release 1 includes topics from the Office of Advanced Scientific Computing Research (ASCR), Office of Fusion Energy Sciences (FES), Office of Basic Energy Sciences (BES), Office of High Energy Physics (HEP), Office of Biological and Environmental Research (BER) and Office of Nuclear Physics (NP). **INNOVATORS** can search the topics using keywords to identify topics of interest.

The screenshot shows the 'Funding Search' interface. At the top, there are navigation links for 'My Dashboard' and 'Funding Search', along with buttons for 'Keyword Search' and 'AI-Powered Recommendations'. A search bar contains the term 'Superconducting' with a search icon and a 'Clear Search Term' link. Below the search bar, there are filters for 'Agency (1)' and 'Clear All', and a 'Show' button set to '20' items out of '17 items'. The search results are displayed in a table with columns for Agency, Topic Number, Phase I Ceiling, Phase II Ceiling, Letter of Intent Deadline, and Submission Deadline. The first result is for 'HIGH FIELD SUPERCONDUCTING MAGNET TECHNOLOGY' from the Department of Energy, with a Phase I Ceiling of \$200,000, a Phase II Ceiling of \$1,100,000, a Letter of Intent Deadline of 08/27/2024, and a Submission Deadline of 10/08/2024. A 'View Details' button is located at the bottom right of the result card.

Agency	Topic Number	Phase I Ceiling	Phase II Ceiling	Letter of Intent Deadline	Submission Deadline
Department of Energy	C59-26-B	\$200,000	\$1,100,000	08/27/2024	10/08/2024

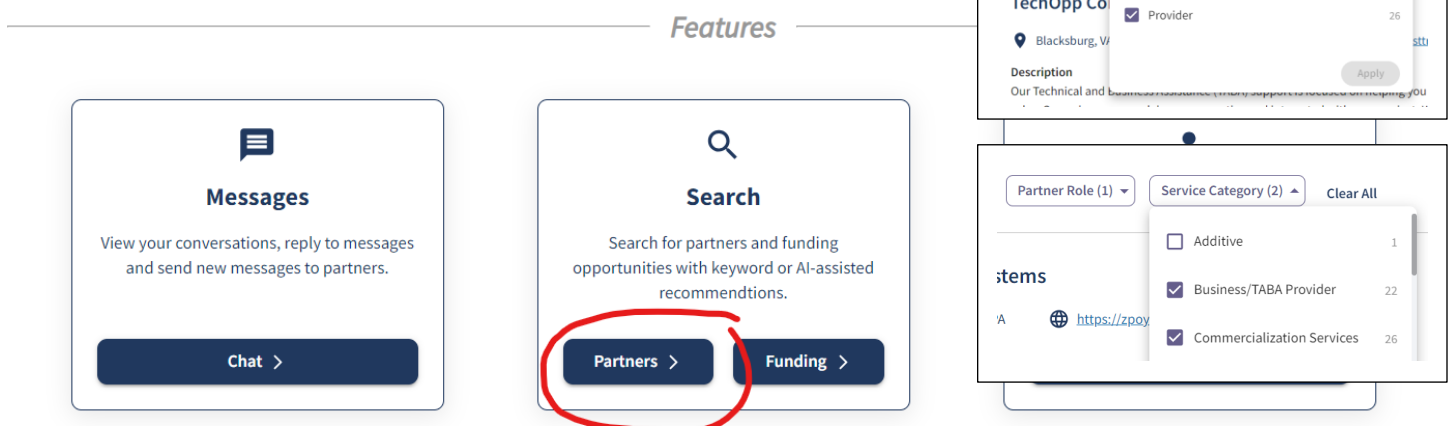
<sup>1</sup> **DOE Disclaimer:** By enabling and publishing the DOE SBIR Partnering Platform, DOE is not endorsing, sponsoring, or otherwise evaluating the qualifications of the individuals and organizations that appear on this platform as partners, resources, awardees or innovators.

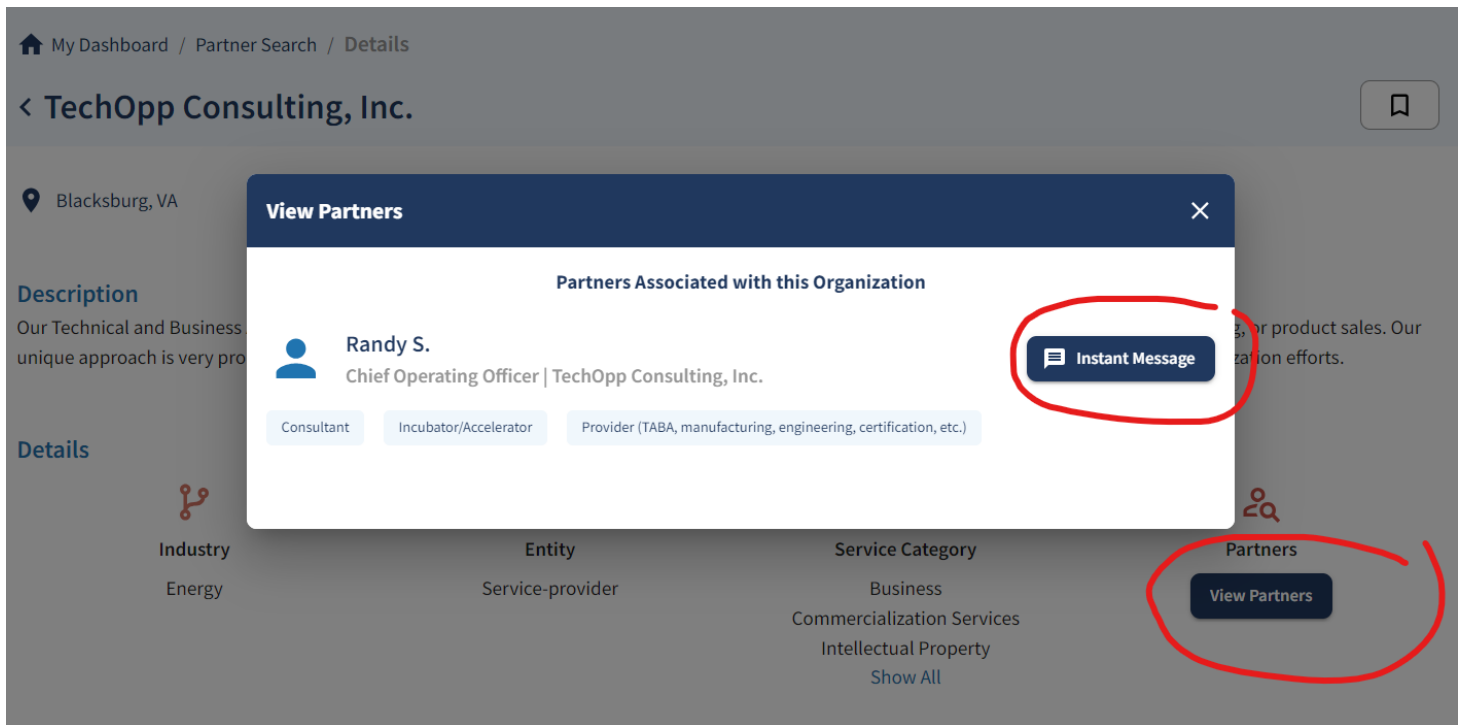
If you identify a topic of interest but need to add expertise to your team, network with other **INNOVATORS** using the **COMMUNITY** page.



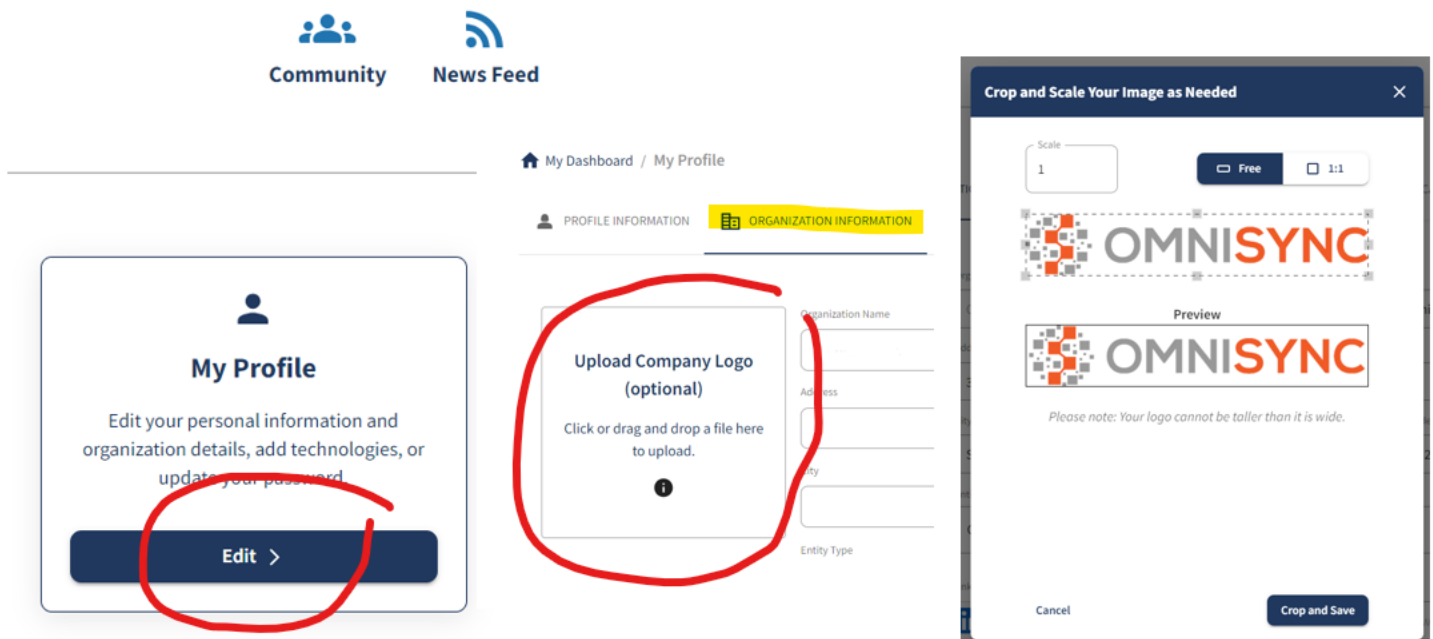
Working on an application and looking for TABA Providers, Engineering Design support or Manufacturing support? Engage directly on the [platform](#)! Once logged in, choose **PARTNER SEARCH** from your dashboard. Select 2 filters: **Partner Role** (*Provider*) and **Service Category** (*Business/TABA Provider & Commercialization Services, Engineering Design or Manufacturing, as applicable*). This will provide you with a list of **PARTNERS** that can be sorted further by **STATE** or by **KEYWORD**. Once you identify a company of interest, click **VIEW PARTNERS** from the **MORE DETAILS** page. You will find the points of contact and a button for **INSTANT MESSAGE**.

## My Dashboard





**NEW FEATURES FOR INNOVATORS** – You are now able to resize and preview what your logo looks like on your profile when **PARTNERS** visit your organizational page or come across your company while searching vP<sup>3</sup> **PITCHES, AWARDS** or **TECHNOLOGIES**. Once logged in, choose edit **MY PROFILE** from your dashboard. Select **ORGANIZATION INFORMATION**. Upload a **COMPANY LOGO** – the information button provides details on file type and pixel size. When the image has been uploaded, the **CROP and SCALE** box will open as displayed below.



**Look for new market research tools on the [platform](#) later this summer just in time to help with FY25 Release 1 applications!** An email announcement will be made when they become available.

If you haven't joined the ecosystem – don't miss out! DOE awardees make sure to log in and complete your onboarding and claim your DOE awards! **[REGISTER NOW!](#)**

## DOE SBIR/STTR FY25 Phase I, Release 1 Topics Released

As discussed above, the [DOE SBIR/STTR FY25 Phase I, Release 1 topics](#) were released in early July. Make sure to visit our [funding opportunity](#) page for the full schedule and to register for webinars! The topic webinars allow you to ask the topic managers questions/clarification on the solutions they are seeking. **Missed the webinar?** Recordings and slides can be found on our [funding opportunity](#) page. After the funding opportunities announcement (FOA) document is released on August 5<sup>th</sup>, we will hold a webinar – make sure you register to get your questions answered! Finally, we host a popular “Ask us” weekly webinar series to answer application questions.

**New to DOE SBIR/STTR?** Register for the [free Phase 0 program](#) to obtain guidance and coaching on putting together your Phase I application. [REGISTER HERE!](#)

## Quarterly Virtual Commercialization Workshops

The FY24 Q2 workshop was held virtually on June 13<sup>th</sup> and covered the topic of **Financial Modeling based on Cash Flow**. Geared toward understanding cash flow and its significance on making operational decisions, the virtual event opened with Michael Delgado ([Rhodium Group](#)) providing highlights from Rhodium’s collaboration with MIT’s Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research (CEEPR), The **Clean Investment Monitor** (CIM). Then, , [Phase Shift II](#) coaches, Max Green and Tom Teynor, discussed the basics of financial modeling walking through various real-world scenarios. The workshop concluded with a panel of DOE Phase II awardees (Joe McCrink – KVA Stainless; Kimberly White – Coreform; Greg Yeric – Cerfe Labs) sharing critical take-aways from their Phase Shift II participation.

Interested in viewing the recordings of any of the virtual commercialization workshops – visit <https://bit.ly/DOECommercializationWorkshops>.

Remaining workshops for FY24 include: **Preparing for Product Launch** (October 9<sup>th</sup>) and **Developing a Strategic Cap Table** (December 11<sup>th</sup>)

## FY23 SBIR/STTR Small Business of the Year

Each year DOE’s Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) recognizes a U.S. small business that exemplifies the spirit of DOE’s SBIR/STTR programs by strengthening and expanding its high-technology research and development (R&D) competitiveness within DOE and/or the private sector. Competitively vetted with many worthy nominees, the awardee is to excel at one or more of the following criteria:

- Stimulating U.S. technological innovation and enhancing the nation’s return on its DOE SBIR/STTR investment.
- Providing the DOE and/or its national laboratories, research facilities, or university research partners the benefits of commercial applications derived from DOE SBIR/STTR funded R&D.
- Stimulating U.S. economic growth and/or increasing private-sector commercialization of innovations as a result or in part of DOE SBIR/STTR funded R&D.

The EERE Water Power Technologies Office's nominee Tetramer (dba [VBASE Oil Company](#)) won the 2023 OSDBU award. A success story is underway and will be available later this summer!

## NEW DOE Success Stories

This quarter we published two new success stories highlighting SBIR/STTR small businesses that are successfully generating revenue from the SBIR/STTR funded technology and/or received non-SBIR investment for continued development/commercialization.

- [Pixelligent](#), a Virginia-based startup that specializes in nanomaterials design and manufacturing, received funding through several government grants, including multiple SBIR awards. Initially focused on developing new materials for the semiconductor industry, Pixelligent's pivot to designing nano-enhanced additives for lubricants and increasing the refractive index of polymers using its proprietary nanoparticle design capabilities was made possible through DOE SBIR awards. Their innovative lubricant additive technology even earned several follow-on contracts from the Department of Defense. Pixelligent is currently partnering with large commercial testing partners, including ExxonMobil and Infineum, to test and bring its products to the automotive and renewable energy markets, as well as the application of high refractive-index formulations for optoelectronic applications.
- [Nion Company](#), an electron microscopy startup acquired by Bruker Corporation in 2024, has made significant strides in materials science and biology through its cutting-edge scanning transmission electron microscopes (STEM). Founded in 1997, Nion's technology enables resolutions at the atomic level, leading to groundbreaking applications in energy conversion, storage devices, and other fields. The company's journey has included the development of advanced electron sources and innovative technical features funded in part by DOE SBIR grants. Through a series of successful Phase I and Phase II awards, Nion has been able to make key technological advancements, such as improving microscope brightness and stability. The company's strategic approach to product development, coupled with its focus on innovation and expertise, has positioned Nion as a leader in electron microscopy, with estimated annual revenues reaching \$10 million.

Read more about these successful awardees [here](#).

## Upcoming Events to Meet DOE SBIR/STTR Team Members

Members of the DOE SBIR/STTR programs team will be attending the [2024 Chemical Ventures Conference](#) in Chicago August 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> and the [2024 Energy Tech Venture Forum](#) hosted by the Rice Alliance on September 12<sup>th</sup>. It is an anchor event for the [Inaugural Energy and Climate Startup Week](#), happening the week of September 9<sup>th</sup> in Houston. Attending? Make sure to seek us out and say hello!