Beyond Connectivity: Shaping a Secure 6G Future for National Defense

GNU Radio Conference 2025

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FutureG Motivation and Mission





MOTIVATION

Military information requirements are outpacing DoD mobile wireless capabilities

MISSION

ADOPT, ADAPT, AND ADVANCE

commercial technologies for asymmetric warfighter advantage

RESEARCH AND DEVELOP

wireless innovations to meet DoD technical and capability requirements

INVENT, INNOVATE, AND LEAD

to increase U.S. defense utility of commercial developments

TECHNOLOGY AREA	COMMERCIAL	DEFENSE
Coverage	Non-urban access	Worldwide coverage
Networks	Carrier networks	Base and tactical networks
Remote operations	Remote tele-operations	Remote operations and planning
Sensing / Al technologies	Smart city	Smart battlefield
Drones / UXS	Urban delivery	Force protection
Health	Biometric wearables	Warfighter health/status
Transportation	Autonomous vehicles	Autonomous supply chain



FutureG Strategic Lines of Effort

Drive commercial wireless innovations to meet DoD requirements

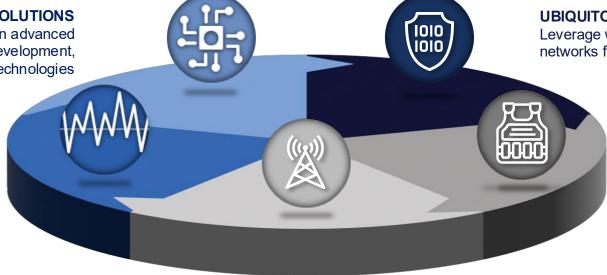


RESILIENT AND OPEN COMMERCIAL SOLUTIONS

Innovate and collaborate with industry on advanced research in open solutions, workforce development, wireless components, and other dual-use technologies



Advance spectrum sharing technologies for seamless coexistence for commercial and military users



UBIQUITOUS, SECURE AND INSTANT ACCESS

Leverage world-wide high availability commercial networks for assured and resilient DoD communications

EXPEDITIONARY AND TACTICAL USE

Deliver rapidly deployable networks by leveraging the increasing overlap between commercial mobile network capabilities and warfighting needs

INTEGRATED SENSING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Utilize developing sensing concepts in commercial networks to create new military capabilities such as force protection, information operations, and surveillance

CROSS-CUTTING TOPICS

STANDARDS

Represent U.S. interests in an international industry operating at a global scale

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Advance skillsets inside and outside DoD at all layers of the network and all career levels

SECURITY

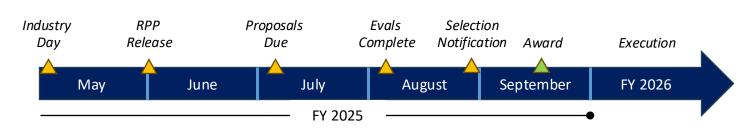
Monitor and address risks across cyber, operational, and supply chain security



Open Centralized Unit Distributed Unit (OCUDU) Project



The **Open Centralized Unit Distributed Unit (OCUDU) project** is intended to deliver DoD-unique capabilities on a commercially sustainable platform, ultimately saving acquisition costs and driving rapid capability changes to the field



OCUDU Request for Prototype Proposals (RPP)

- In coordination with Army Contracting Command-New Jersey (ACC-NJ) and National Spectrum Consortium (NSC)
- Bidders have been notified of award
- Negotiations complete
- Award processing

















AI-DRIVEN

UBIQUITOUS

TRANSPARENT

INTEROPERABLE

COST-EFFECTIVE

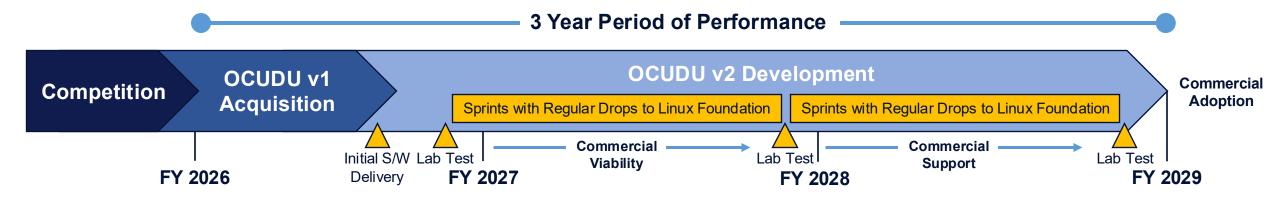
CUSTOMIZABLE

DOD INVESTS IN OPEN SOURCE FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND RAPID INNOVATION



OCUDU Software Project Timeline





Competition	Acquisition	Development
 Industry Day – 7 May RPP Release – 4 June 	 Contract Start – ~1 Oct (FY 2026) Standup of Technical Steering Committee (TS 	,
 Proposal Completion – 10 July Selection Notifications – 26 Aug 	 Initial Software (S/W) Deliver – ~March 2026 Open MPI BSD-3 Clause Licensing Linux Foundation Support 	 Regular S/W Drops to Linux Foundation CI/CD/CT pipeline
Award Announcement – NLT 15 Sept	Linux Foundation Support	 Performance diversity Scalable, commercial grade CU/DU S/W Community and ecosystem build-out
4 Months from RPP to Award	TSC Formed and Operational S/W is Open Source	Established Development and Testing Cycles with Community Contributions

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Integrated Sensing and Communication (ISAC) Strategy



- Advanced communications, object detection, sensing, and 3-D imaging integrated onto the same radio resources
 - Scale and leverage commercial investments
 - Collaboration with Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) for some sensing modes
 - Standardization expectation for 6G
- A key success factor for a commercially successful ISAC is positioning it as a platform for innovation







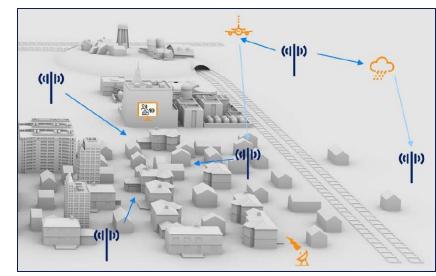
Mono-static

Bi-static

Passive Coherent Localization

Use Cases:

- Non-emitting UAS detection
- Ground vehicle detection
- Biometric detection
- Environmental Sensing



FutureG Executed Timeline

- Dear Colleague Letter to Industry February 2025
 - 30+ responses
 - Learned about company proprietary research
- ISAC Academic Workshop April 2025
 - 20 top researchers
 - Identified ISAC research challenges
- ISAC Strategy Summit August 13-15, 2025
- ISAC Strategically Aligned Project Kick-Offs FY 2026



ISAC Strategy Summit – 13-15 August 2025

















Day 1 (13 August) – "Industry Day"

- · What is the state of practice?
- What is needed to advance ISAC capabilities (technically & commercially)?

Day 2 (14 August) - "Government Day"

- How are governments perceiving ISAC?
- What do U.S. agencies want to use ISAC for?

Day 3 (15 August) - Classified Day

Defense and intelligence aspects of ISAC

Takeaways:

- Community formation
- Focal point for industry investment
- Incentive compatible early system deployment
- Standards leadership
 - Support MNO and vendor collaboration
 - · Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) to access ISAC info
- Key technical advances



Scan the QR code to connect on the website

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