

TTS IMPACT

Increasing defense operational efficiency through artificial intelligence

The Department of Defense (DOD) partnered with the GSA's Federal Acquisition Service (FAS) Technology Transformation Services' Centers of Excellence to support JAIC in accelerating the DOD's adoption and integration of AI to achieve mission impact at scale.



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE'S JOINT ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER'S STORY

The mission of the [Joint Artificial Intelligence Center \(JAIC\)](#) is to transform the DOD by accelerating the delivery and adoption of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to achieve mission impact at scale. The goal is to use AI to solve large and complex problem sets that span multiple services. Additionally, they aim to ensure that the DoD

Components have real-time access to ever-improving libraries of data sets and tools.

The JAIC serves as the focal point for the execution of the DOD's AI Strategy that supports the U.S. National Defense Strategy. The JAIC continues to carry out its vision to transform the U.S. military through AI and support the DOD AI strategy and the JAIC mission of leading military AI ethics and safety. This effort also aligns with the White House's Executive Order on AI that seeks to apply artificial intelligence solutions to the unique business challenges the government faces.



THE CHALLENGE

Previously, it was difficult to provide the Joint Force with AI-enabled solutions vital to improving operational effectiveness and capabilities that meet the needs of the warfighter and decision-makers at every level. The JAIC is a new team with a cutting-edge mission, which means everything needs to be sourced from scratch. JAIC must find and hire talent with security clearance and experience in AI, create and manage mission initiatives from requirements gathering to product delivery, and foster a general understanding of AI requirements and how to support missions and people.



THE SOLUTION

The TTS Centers of Excellence (CoE) and the DOD JAIC moved into a partnership in 2019 that will last until 2021. Further collaborating with GSA's Federal Systems Integration and Management (FEDSIM) Center, together they are bringing access to better technologies that can be used governmentwide through assisted acquisition. TTS's CoE is an integral part of the process to help scope opportunities that can increase operational efficiency.

To support JAIC's efforts, FEDSIM awarded an \$800 million task order through [GSA's Alliant 2 Governmentwide Acquisition Contract](#). Specific tasks of this order encompass a wide mix of technical services and products across the full spectrum of technical support to the Joint Warfighter National Mission Initiative. This includes data labeling, data management, data conditioning, AI product development, and the transition of AI products into new and existing fielded programs and systems across the DOD.

The CoE provided contractors specifically trained in building, testing, and deploying secure software across various cloud environments along with AI SMEs who ensured that new vehicles reflect Mission requirements. Additionally, consultative services advised, monitored, and tracked the management and delivery of AI product teams and their projects/products, including advising

on technical plans, contract management support, and program budgeting. Through a series of workshops and human-centered design sessions, the COE collaborated with the JAIC to establish a data governance framework and data management procedures. Program Management Office SMEs and software that will provide best PMO practices, concept of operations, and lessons learned. 18F has also provided support in both acquisitions as well as SMEs directly supporting JAIC's Chief Performance Officer.

JAIC, being the DOD's AI Center of Excellence, is supported by TTS's AI COE to provide uniformity across the DOD as well as the federal government. Specifically the partnership at JAIC, which started in September 2019, is focused on accelerating the DOD's adoption of AI. The team was focused on helping the JAIC set up a premiere acquisition office and accelerate the DOD's AI DEVSECOPS environment. Recently the engagement had a very important win: completing an AI acquisition for the Joint War Fighter Mission Initiative.

The CoE has partnered with JAIC to help establish the Joint Common Foundation, which will be instrumental in scaling AI development and delivery across the JAIC, Joint Force and DoD. The JAIC was established in 2018 to accelerate the delivery of AI-enabled capabilities, scale the department-wide impact of AI, and synchronize DOD AI activities to expand Joint Force advantages.



THE IMPACT

Work on this task order will deliver AI-enabled products to support warfighting operations and be instrumental in embedding AI decision-making and analysis at all tiers of DOD operations. The delivered AI products will leverage the power of DOD data to enable a transformational shift across the DOD that will give the United States a definitive information advantage to prepare for future warfare operations. The foundational elements of leveraging data as a strategic asset support the broad range of JAIC functions as a tech accelerator and Department-wide enabler in areas such as predictive maintenance, healthcare, cybersecurity, and HADR. As a result, JAIC will be able to buy products and services faster, provide higher quality AI products/capabilities faster and at scale, mature operations at the speed of relevance, and increase DOD effectiveness across the board.

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