



# National Warheads and Energetics Consortium

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the National Warheads and Energetics Consortium?

The National Warheads and Energetics Consortium (NWEC), is a consortium of over 120 companies and academic institutions brought together to enhance warfighter lethality and survivability by leveraging the nation's industrial and academia research and development base to advance and expand our military technological superiority in critical fields of Warheads, Explosives, Propellants, Pyrotechnics, Fuze/Sensors, Demilitarization, Enabling Technologies, Insensitive Munitions, and Ordnance Protection and Survivability.

### What is the difference between NWEC and the DoD Ordnance Technology Consortium?

The NWEC is the industrial/academic component of the DoD Ordnance Technology Consortium, an enterprise established by the Office of the Secretary of Defense to serve as the focal point for ordnance system technology research and development to address the Department of Defense's long range science and technology objectives.

### How is NWEC operated?

The NWEC is guided by an Executive Committee comprised of representatives of member companies. The Executive Committee is chaired by Mr. Gary Schneider, who also serves as the DoD Ordnance Technology Consortium's Industry Co-Chair. The committee has at least one academic representative and a proportional amount of representation from the small and large business membership to represent the small and large business population of the general membership.

Managerial oversight of NWEC activities is the responsibility of the NWEC Executive Director. Supporting his efforts is ATI, the NWEC Consortium Management Firm (CMF). The CMF manages the day-to-day affairs of the consortium. In addition, the Consortium Management Firm, acting on behalf of the NWEC, administers the efforts under the Section 845 Other Transaction Agreement between the Government and the National Warheads and Energetics Consortium Executive Committee.

### What is a Section 845 Other Transaction Agreement?

"Other Transactions Agreement (OTA)" is the term commonly used to refer to the 10 USC 2371 authority to enter into transactions other than contracts, grants or cooperative agreements. The Department of Defense (DoD) currently has temporary authority to award relevant to weapons or weapons systems proposed to be acquired or developed by the DoD. OTA's for prototype initiatives are acquisition instruments that generally, are not subject to the federal laws and regulations governing procurement (FAR based) contracts. As such, they are not required to comply with the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), its supplements (i.e. DFARS) or laws that are limited in applicability to procurement contracts.



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### How do I join NWEC?

Go to the following webpage on the NWEC/DOTC website: <http://www.nwec-dotc.org/application.html>. This includes general information about the process and the membership application (download in Word or complete the online form). A completed and signed application and a signed Consortium Membership Agreement (page 46 only) needs to be submitted to the Consortium Management Firm. This package will be reviewed and voted on by the NWEC Executive Committee. The CMF will notify the applicant of the Committee's decision.

### What is the Consortium Member Agreement?

This is the Agreement that governs the rights and obligations of the NWEC Member Organizations as they relate to the organization and operation of NWEC.

### Is there a cost to participate in NWEC?

There is a \$500 membership fee, which must be renewed each October. Your initial membership fee will be pro-rated based on the effective date of your membership approval. In addition, any awards made to a member are assessed 0.5% of the total awarded amount. The NWEC uses the funds collected to offset operating expenses. The percentage assessed may be adjusted in the future to ensure sufficient operating funds.

### As an NWEC member, how do I receive an award for an initiative?

On a periodic basis, the CMF will issue a DOTC Request for Ordnance Technology Initiatives soliciting initiatives to address technology gap objectives identified in the DOTC Annual Technology Plan. This is a two-step solicitation process that includes an initial whitepaper followed by a full technical and cost proposal. The Government performs the technical evaluation and source selection. If selected for award, the CMF will negotiate and execute an Ordnance Technology Base Agreement with the NWEC member. This agreement is governed by the same provisions as the OTA between the Government and NWEC. Subsequently, any proposal that is selected for award will be funded through an Ordnance Technology Initiative Agreement issued under the Base Agreement.

### What is an Ordnance Technology Base Agreement?

The agreement between the NWEC CMF and the NWEC member organization or a team of NWEC member organizations that will serve as the baseline agreement for all future Ordnance Technology Initiative funding agreements, flowing down applicable terms and conditions from the Other Transactions Agreement between the government and NWEC.

### What is an Ordnance Technology Initiative Agreement?

The agreement between the CMF and the NWEC member organization or a team of NWEC member organizations whose Ordnance Technology Initiative proposal was evaluated and competitively selected by the Government for funding, in accordance with an established and agreed upon scope of work, terms and conditions, period of performance, and payment under the Government funded Ordnance Technology Initiative.



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### Are there NWEC meetings?

NWEC hosts an Annual General Membership Meeting each year in the June-July timeframe. Each NWEC member organization is strongly encouraged to send at least one representative. There are also periodic Technology Sub-Committee Meetings. Information regarding these meetings is posted on the Events page of the NWEC/DOTC website.

### How do I get access to more information?

The website can be accessed at [www.nwec-dotc.org](http://www.nwec-dotc.org) which includes publically available information about NWEC and DOTC. The public site contains a link to access the Members Only site which contains solicitation information, the latest Annual Technology Plan, meeting proceedings, etc. If your organization is an NWEC member, and you do not already have a log-in you can request one here: <http://www.nwec-dotc.org/nwecreg-form.html>. The Primary POC for each organization must approve all requests so there may be delay in receiving this information.