AFWERX

An Innovation Approach

Connecting Innovators. Accelerating Results.

www.afwerx.af.mil

AFWERX Why?

THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON DC

JUL 31 2017

To the Airmen of the United States Air Force:

For more than 70 years, our fellow Americans have asked you to be the sentinels of air and space for the nation, delivering unmatched capabilities every day. The demand for what you, as American Airmen, bring to the fight will only increase. We will continue to lead and support the Joint Force in defending our homeland, owning the high ground, and projecting power with our allies. As the most dominant air force in the world, we will continue to face serious and ever-changing threats. In order to ensure our Air Force remains lethal and ready when the nation calls, we have established the following Air Force priorities:

- **Restore readiness** … to win any fight, any time.
- **Cost-effectively modernize** … to increase the lethality of the force.
- **Drive innovation** … to secure our future.
- **Develop exceptional leaders** … to lead the world's most powerful teams.
- **Strengthen our alliances** … because we are stronger together.

Everything we do as a team should advance or augment these priorities. Each and every one of our Total Force Airmen has a role to play in making us successful in this endeavor. We will prevail through the power of our Airmen.

You and your families represent our nation's absolute best. We are humbled to lead this great Air Force and honored to serve with you every day.

Heather Wilson
Secretary of the Air Force

David L. Goldfein
General, USAF
Chief of Staff

Kaleth O. Wright
Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force

"Drive Innovation"

The world is changing and the Air Force needs to evolve with it.

AFWERX

MISSION:

A fusion of capabilities
that connects innovators
and accelerates results
for Air Force culture and technology.

AFWERX

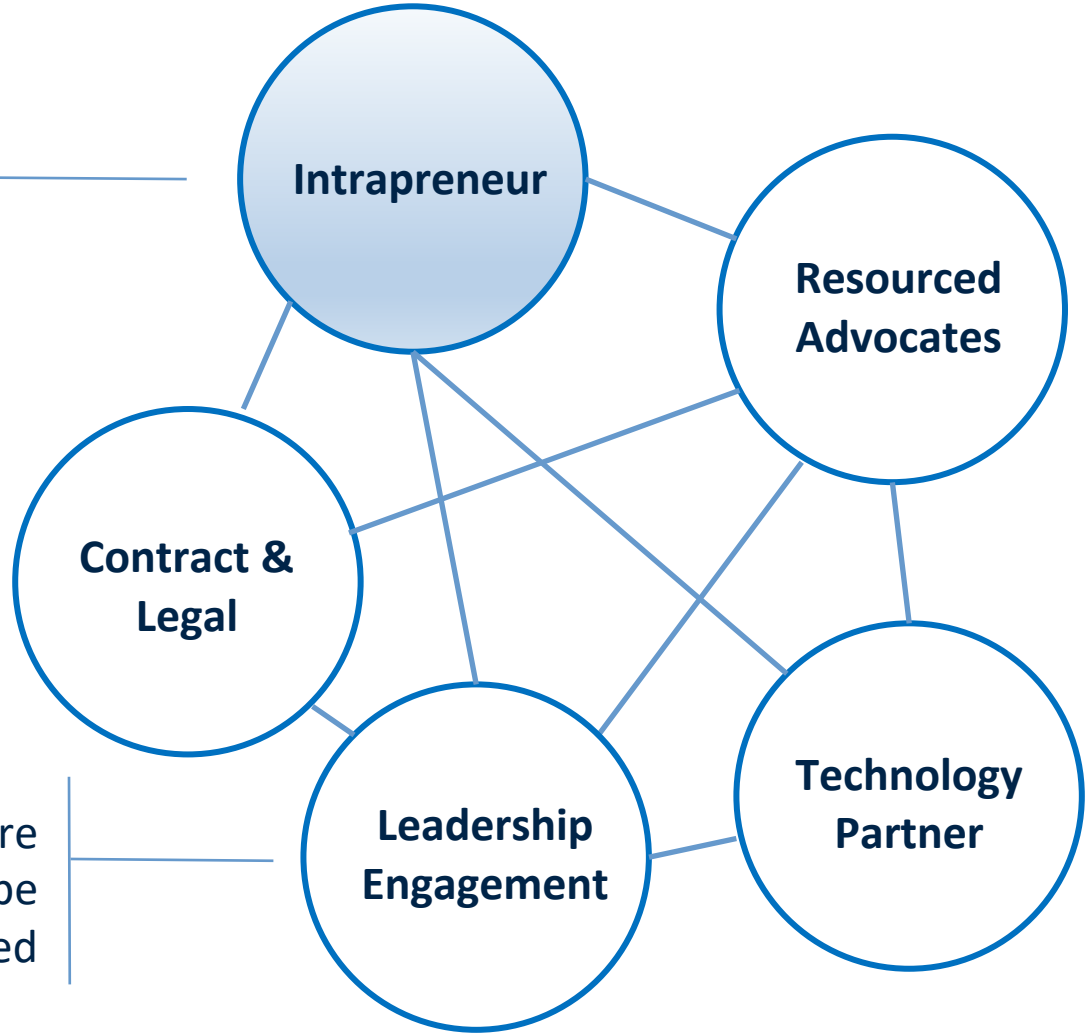
AFWERX Innovation Approach

An Air Force innovation project typically needs 5 types of “nodes” to succeed

Problem owner & user understand the problem & **leverages network** to find solution

Contract vehicles & legal framework to ensure that a solution can be executed

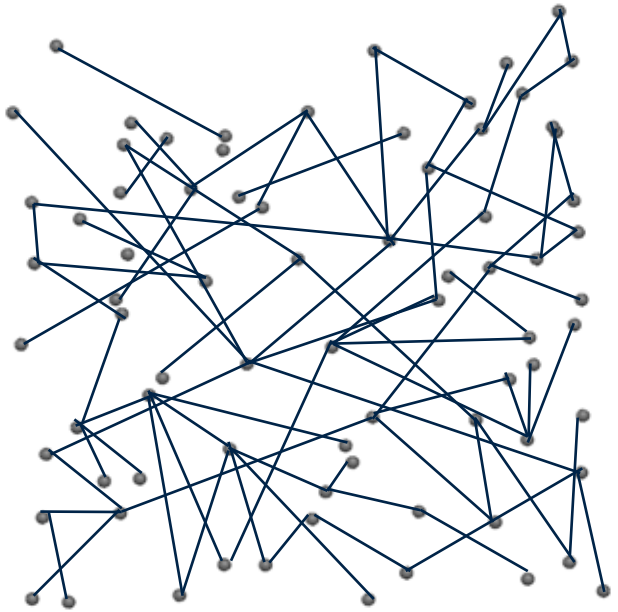
Organizational will to ensure that a solution can be deployed and transferred



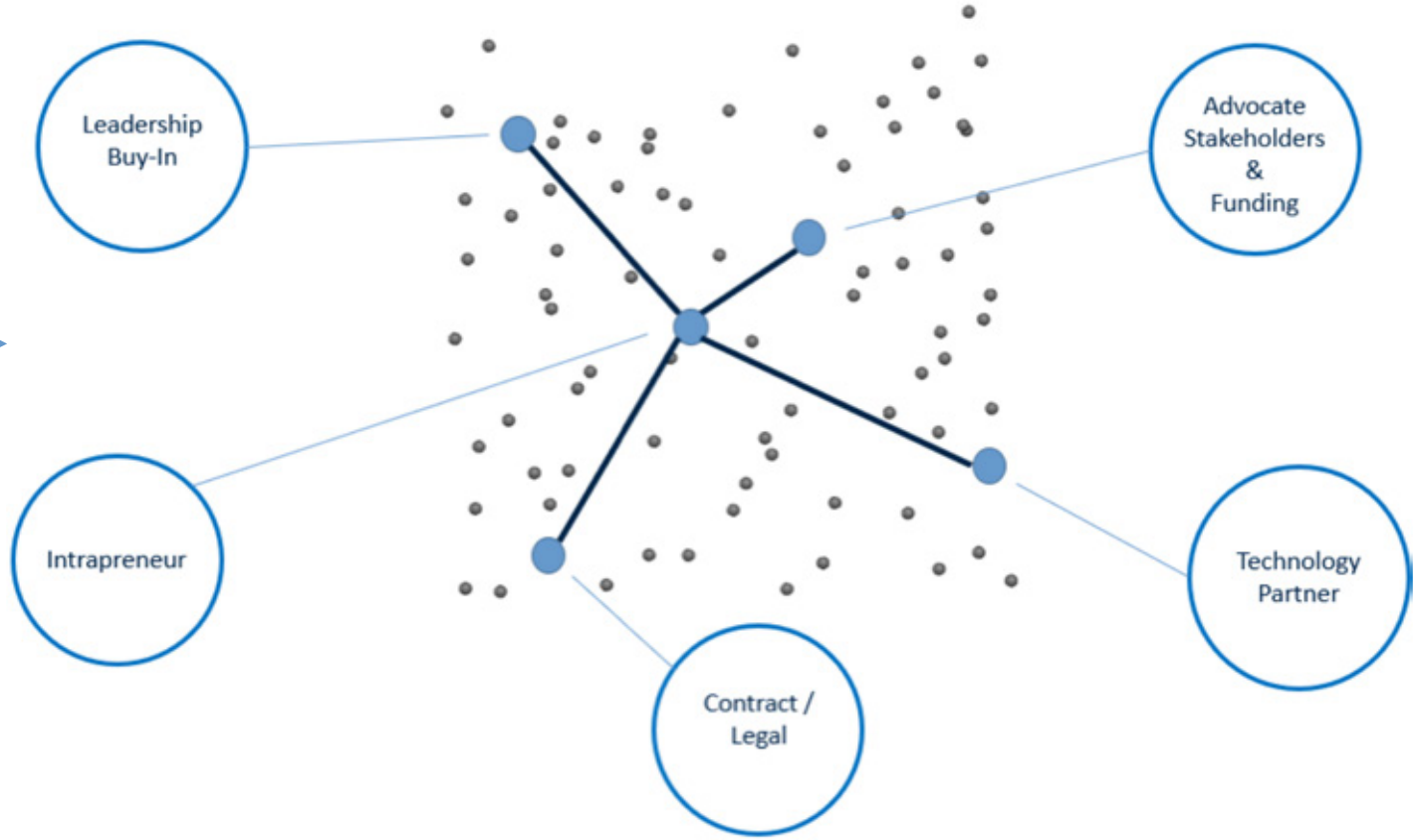
Advocate Stakeholders & Funding that will provide the project with resources to both make it through prototyping and scale

Technology Partners that can provide new tech or help to integrate new tech to create a solution

Ad-Hoc AF Networks are Forming to Find these Nodes

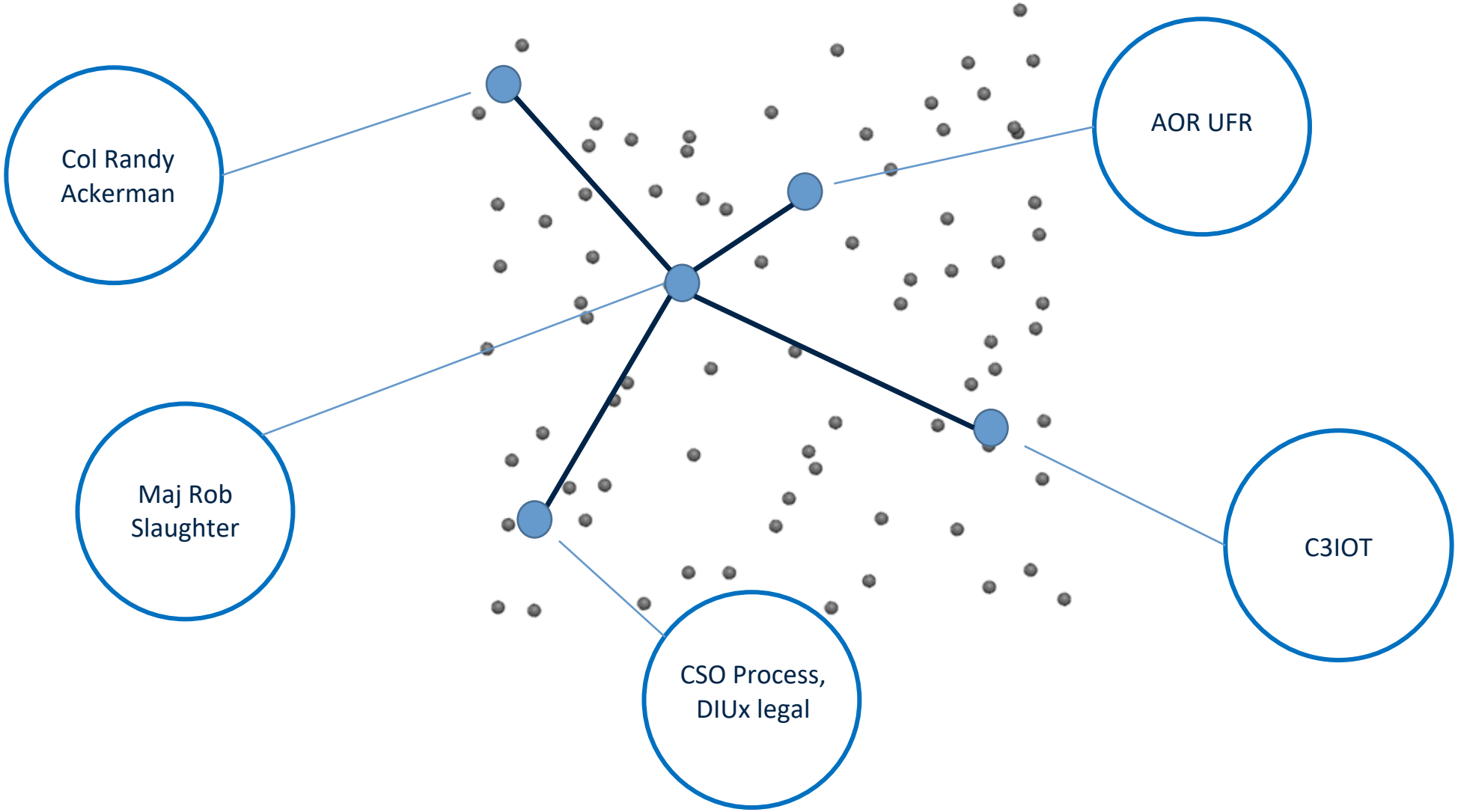


Sometimes the Right Combination of Nodes is Found

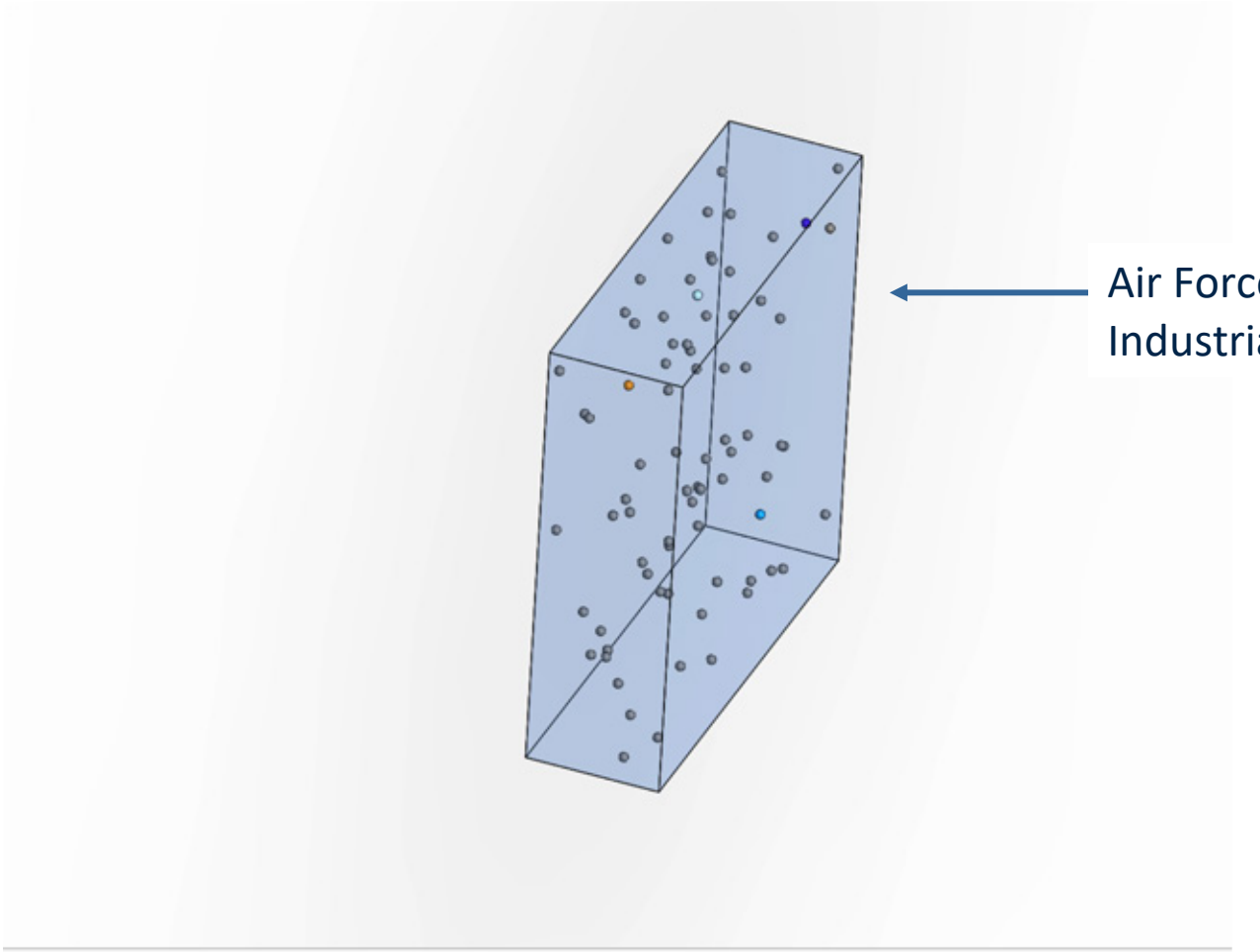


Power of Combination: Predictive Maintenance (E-3)

Innovation is people solving problems

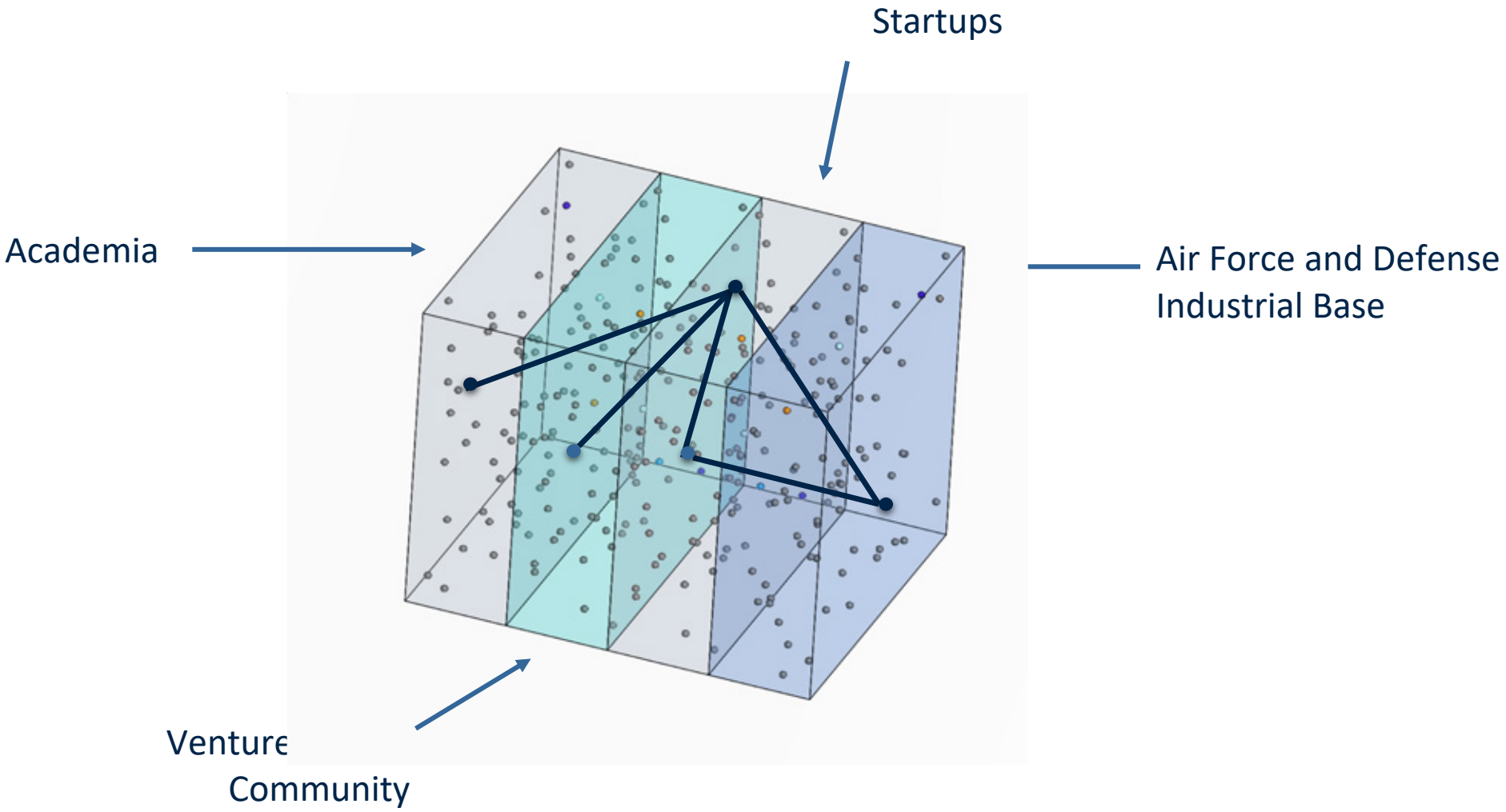


Traditionally only connecting nodes in one sector



AFWERX Leverages a Larger Network

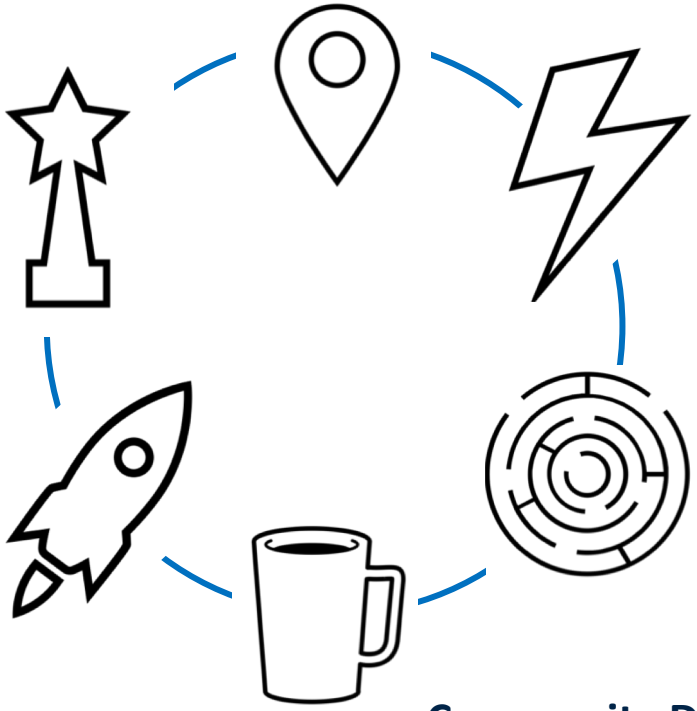
pulling these networks together creates a resilient ecosystem



AFWERX Innovation Products

Innovation Hubs
(Vegas, DC, Austin)
bringing the tools and resources together under one roof

Spark Tank
access to mentors and a competitive driver



Spark
facilitating AF intrapreneurship at the base level

Challenges
spurring entrepreneur/intrapreneur problem solving

Tech Accelerator
scouting ventures with military interest to create more options today and in the future

Community Development
convening force to grow and engage the virtual and physical community

Spark

A decentralized network of semi-autonomous, organically formed innovation cells that are network together through a common pursuit of accelerating results

The AFWERX product that leverages grassroots innovation to bring tomorrow's tools to the Warfighter today.

Igniting the most innovative military in the world!

Innovation Hubs

A decentralized network of semi-autonomous, organically formed innovation cells that are network together through a common pursuit of accelerating results

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The long play: to ignite the most innovative military in the world

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Accelerator

A tool that utilizes startup industry best practices to scout emerging dual-use technologies, rapidly validate those technologies against our needs, leverage private R&D investment, and build trust with the startup ecosystem.

AFX runs one “flagship” program per year and helps to foster the community of practice

- 3 Accelerators run to-date, 5 more in the Air Force pipeline
- Multiple services and other government agencies following suit

AFWERX

Spark Tank

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AF Innovation Ecosystem

- Advanced Technology & Training Center
- Air Force Rapid Capabilities Office
- Air Force Research Lab (AFRL)
- AFWERX
- ARL/ARL Open Campus
- Army Rapid Capabilities Office (RCO)
- Army Rapid Equipping Force (REF)
- BRICC
- Comparative Technology Office
- CyberWorx
- DARPA/Fast Track Programs
- Defense Digital Service
- Defense Innovation Board (DIB)
- Defensewerx
- DIUx
- Griffins Institute
- JIAMDO/Blackdart
- JIDO
- Joint Capability Technology Demonstration
- Kessel Run
- Marine Corps Rapid Capabilities Office (MCRCO)
- Military District 5 (MD5)
- MCWL - Experimentation Division
- MCWL - Technology Initiative Screening Office
- Navy Illuminate
- Naval Postgraduate School - Field Experimentation
- Office of Naval Research (ONR) Global
- ONR – SwampWorks
- Other Transactions Consortiums
- Rapid Innovation Fund (RIF)
- Rapid Reaction Technology Office
- Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)
- SOCOM S&T Directorate
- SOFWERX/DIRTYWERX
- Strategic Capabilities Office (SCO)
- Wright Brothers Institute (WBI)
- Hacking for Defense (H4D)
- Wing Level: SPARK, ICON

Questions and Discussion

What Can YOU Do?

Mission Model Canvas

The Mission Model Canvas

Mission/Problem Description:	Designed by:	Date:	Version:

Key Partners

Key Activities

Key Resources

Value Propositions

Buy-in & Support

Deployment

Beneficiaries

Mission Budget/Cost

Mission Achievement/Impact Factors

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Join the Air Force Innovators Slack Workspace