

Submission Guidelines for the TARDEC Ground Vehicle Gateway

The TARDEC Ground Vehicle Gateway is provided as a tool for you to submit written communications to TARDEC. It is intended to be primarily used for military ground vehicle research and development activities, including combat, tactical, and non-tactical vehicles, and ancillary systems.

TARDEC is a research and development organization. We use the Army Contracting Command - Warren to purchase commercial products and services. If you are communicating regarding a commercial product or service please check FedBizOpps at www.fbo.gov to view solicitations for which your product or service may apply. Also contact your local Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) (<http://www.aptac-us.org>) to see if they can assist you with obtaining a contract with the Department of Defense.

TARDEC sorts written communications or submissions into four categories:

- General Questions – will be answered by TARDEC or sent to the appropriate organization to be answered
- Commercial of-the-shelf (COTS) product information – is routed to the appropriate technical area for awareness and archive
- Requests to collaborate with TARDEC on one of the specific business mechanisms listed in the TARDEC website such as: *Technical Service Agreements (TSA)*, *Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADA)*, *Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)* will be evaluated for suitability
- Submissions resulting from your review of the TARDEC Strategy, Capabilities and Opportunities found on the TARDEC Web Site will be evaluated by Subject Matter Experts in the specific technical area.
 - In your submission, please include:
 - Contact Information: Company Name, website, POC information (Name, email and phone)
 - Name or short description of the technology;
 - Specific statement of your intent for presenting this technology to the Army;
 - Brief summary of the proposed technology, including what it does; how it does it; and the intended application of the technology for military ground vehicles or ancillary systems;
 - Estimate of the Technology Readiness Level for the technology being offered (TRL 1 through 9, from table below);
 - Results of independent testing, if applicable (can be a separate attachment). Also indicate if any prototypes have (or will be) created and tested.
 - List of any patent information; also, indicate if your submission is to be considered as proprietary information.
 - List of any conferences or briefings you may have attended for displaying your technology; for briefing your technology to conference audiences; for submitting

technical papers; and/ or for gathering more information regarding your technology;

- Possible sources of funding. NOTE: The Army typically only has funding for items publicized by its various procurement branches. If your technology requires funding, identify possible sources of funding from within the federal or state governments, and/or from partnering with another firm to mature your technology.
- List any other DoD labs, other Federal Government labs or Government agencies you are currently providing proposals to or have proposed your technology to on this technology. Or are currently working with, on this technology.
- **File Format & Size:** Attachments limited to a total of 3. File types accepted: Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, PDF and JPG. Maximum combined file size cannot exceed 10 MB.

Submitting to the TARDEC Ground Vehicle Gateway in no way obligates the US Government, other than in the protection from disclosure of sensitive information to unauthorized third parties. If you include confidential, trade secret and/or proprietary information with your submission, you do so at your own risk. All sensitive information should be labeled accordingly.

[Email TARDEC](#)

Technology Readiness Levels in the Department of Defense (DoD)

(Source: DoD (2010), Defense Acquisition Guidebook)

Technology Readiness Level	Description
1. Basic principles observed and reported	Lowest level of technology readiness. Scientific research begins to be translated into applied research and development. Examples might include paper studies of a technology's basic properties.
2. Technology concept and/or application formulated.	Invention begins. Once basic principles are observed, practical applications can be invented. Applications are speculative and there may be no proof or detailed analysis to support the assumptions. Examples are limited to analytic studies.
3. Analytical and experimental critical function and/or characteristic proof of concept.	Active research and development is initiated. This includes analytical studies and laboratory studies to physically validate analytical predictions of separate elements of the technology. Examples include components that are not yet integrated or representative.
4. Component and/or breadboard validation in laboratory environment	Basic technological components are integrated to establish that they will work together. This is relatively "low fidelity" compared to the eventual system. Examples include integration of "ad hoc" hardware in the laboratory.
5. Component and/or breadboard validation in relevant environment.	Fidelity of breadboard technology increases significantly. The basic technological components are integrated with reasonably realistic supporting elements so it can be tested in a simulated environment. Examples include "high fidelity" laboratory integration of components.
6. System/subsystem model or prototype demonstration in a relevant environment.	Representative model or prototype system, which is well beyond that of TRL 5, is tested in a relevant environment. Represents a major step up in a technology's demonstrated readiness. Examples include testing a prototype in a high-fidelity laboratory environment or in simulated operational environment.
7. System prototype demonstration in an operational environment.	Prototype near, or at, planned operational system. Represents a major step up from TRL 6, requiring demonstration of an actual system prototype in an operational environment such as an aircraft, vehicle, or space. Examples include testing the prototype in a test bed aircraft.
8. Actual system completed and qualified through test and demonstration.	Technology has been proven to work in its final form and under expected conditions. In almost all cases, this TRL represents the end of true system development. Examples include developmental test and evaluation of the system in its intended weapon system to determine if it meets design specifications.
9. Actual system proven through successful mission operations.	Actual application of the technology in its final form and under mission conditions, such as those encountered in operational test and evaluation. Examples include using the system under operational mission conditions.