Department of Defense Joint Artificial Intelligence Center Awards Space Force Project Agreement to accelerate AI development efforts through Tradewind
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The Department of Defense Joint Artificial Intelligence Center and the Army Contracting Command – Rock Island awarded an Other Transaction (OT) Agreement on March 16 for the Space Force's Perceptor project. Peceptor was awarded to Via Science to assist Space Force in processing and analyzing Space Domain Awareness (SDA) data at "the edge." Space Force currently requires human in the loop processing for SDA data, leading to lengthy timelines for interpreting sensor information.

Via Science will leverage artificial intelligence solutions to enhance Space Force's overall Space Domain Awareness. This solution will assist in pre-process sensor data, compose data analytics, and automating process to support mission critical operations.

Operators face challenges in ingesting and processing SDA data from electro-optical and RADAR sensors "at the edge" to produce valuable assessments for decision makers. Timely and accurate SDA is vital to informing decision makers on what actions are occurring on orbit and whether assets are threatened by natural or manmade actions. Perceptor's prototype project aims to automate data ingestion, processing, and analytics to improve space domain awareness and data processing timelines.

The project agreement was awarded via the Tradewind ecosystem by the Army Contracting Command – Rock Island, on behalf of the JAIC under the OT prototyping authority. Utilizing this method of procuring allows continued access to the development of the product while concurrently collecting data to aid in future solutions. The JAIC and its partners are continuing to look at a diverse set of technology solutions to deliver the best AI capabilities across the Department.

Additionally, the JAIC, along with academia and industry partners, together evaluated User Stories in advance to make the final determination for the project agreement awardee. Using this holistic approach in the Tradewind ecosystem allowed for more vendors to compete, with a more viable product, at the best cost for the government.

Tradewind helps DoD components to deliver capabilities through agile methodologies, tailored and optimal intellectual property strategies, and ethical and responsible AI. This will be done while eliminating traditional bottlenecks found in DoD acquisitions. As Tradewind develops into a data centric model, lessons learned from this effort will be collected and improved for future DoD AI efforts.

For more information on Tradewind, visit www.AI.mil or https://tradewindai.com/