

MISSISSIPPI DEFENSE INITIATIVE OLDCC GRANT HIGHLIGHTS

Mississippi Defense Initiative (MDI) derived from a United States Department of Defense's (DoD) Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) Industry Resilience (IR) grant. MDI works to make Mississippi's defense sector more resilient, competitive, and diversified by improving job opportunities, the local tax base, wealth creation, and quality-of-life.

MDI's mission is to strengthen Mississippi's defense and national security assets as an economic driver for the state.

MISSISSIPPI'S KEY COMPETITIVE DEFENSE INDUSTRY SECTORS



BLUE ECONOMY



AEROSPACE



NATIONAL SECURITY

MDI FOCUSES ON:



RESEARCH &
DEVELOPMENT



DEFENSE-RELATED
TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE



EDUCATION



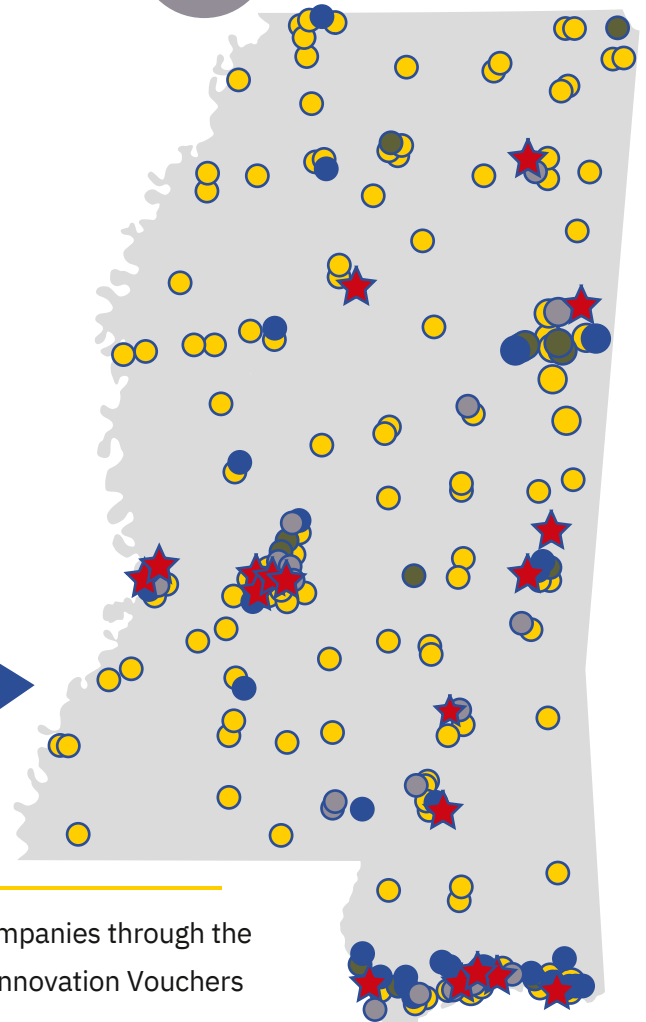
DEFENSE-FOCUSED
COMPANIES

-  BLUE ECONOMY
-  AEROSPACE
-  NATIONAL SECURITY
-  SERVICE PROVIDERS
-  MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

MDI NETWORK INCLUDES

120+

MISSISSIPPI COMPANIES
AND NUMEROUS ASSISTANCE
PROVIDERS



\$187,500

in direct assistance to through the 15 companies through the
MDI GAP Fund Program in the form of Innovation Vouchers

\$92,000 in additional assistance for rapid prototyping, scaling up, & research through Mississippi Polymer Institute & USM Office of the Vice President for Research

\$45,000 toward mentoring services for companies to further commercial potential of early-stage "duel-use" (military/civilian technologies or innovations)

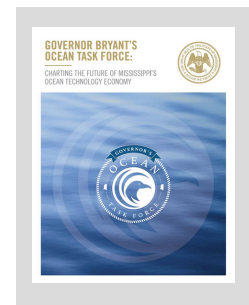
MDI is credited with assisting **Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) SYSCOM Security Cooperation Office (SSCO)** to achieve an **estimated cost avoidance of ~\$25M over 3 years.**



FACILITATED STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI



PROVIDED SUPPORT FOR OCEAN TASK FORCE



70+ REPORTS COMPILED,

consisting of **industry sector analysis, highest and best use case study, and economic analysis** that assisted network partners in showcasing Mississippi's ever growing & expanding defense economy



CYBERSECURITY WORK

- Partnered with MSU Center for Cyber Innovation to build a free Cybersecurity Tool, **NIST Controls Awareness Training (NCAT)**
- Introduced the tool to over **50 Mississippi companies**
- Working to build a **world-class cyber security** program at USM

MDI works closely with the Mississippi Installation Commanders Council (ICC) and the Mississippi Governor's Office of Military Affairs to strengthen Mississippi's competitiveness.



NEW INITIATIVES



LEGISLATIVE ISSUES



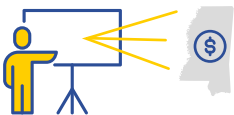
QUALITY-OF-LIFE ISSUES



EXPANSION AND UPGRADE
OF FACILITIES

MDI ASSISTED AND FUNDED THE DEVELOPMENT OF 3 NEW COURSES:

- 1 Economic Development for Military Communities
- 2 Developing Solutions for Defense (DS4D)
- 3 U.S. Navy Uncrewed Maritime Systems Certification



MDI's network partners have hosted **126 events** to support the partner efforts to **strengthen collaborations**.



MDI promotes the use of the **nation's newest strategic port, the Port of Gulfport economic driver** for the Mississippi Gulf Coast & state as a whole.

MISSISSIPPI DEFENSE INITIATIVE NETWORK CONSISTS OF:

- Defense-focused Companies
- Non-profit and Business Assistance Organizations
- Local Military Communities
- Military Units and Facilities
- Mississippi Universities and Colleges
- Mississippi State Government Entities
- Local and Regional Economic Development Organizations



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