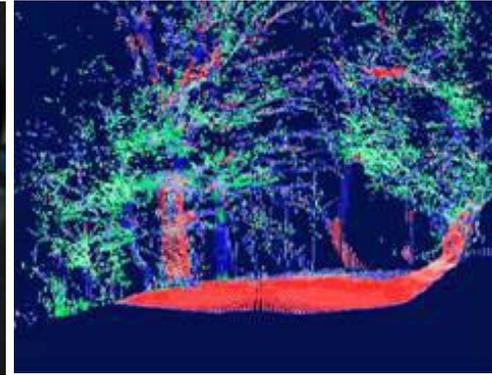
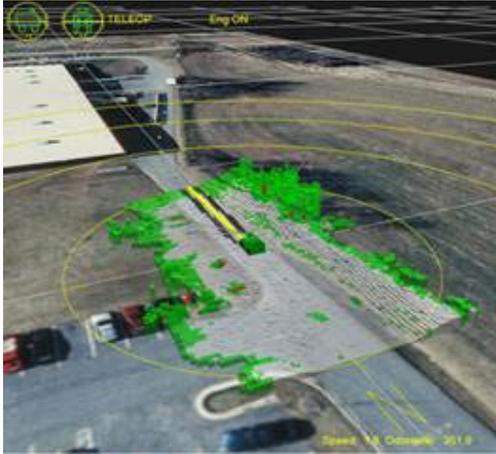


# ***ROBOTICS COLLABORATIVE TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE***



***Jon Bornstein  
Collaborative Alliance Manager  
Army Research Laboratory***

***Bill Borgia  
Consortium Manager  
General Dynamics Robotic Systems***



# Robotics CTA Overview



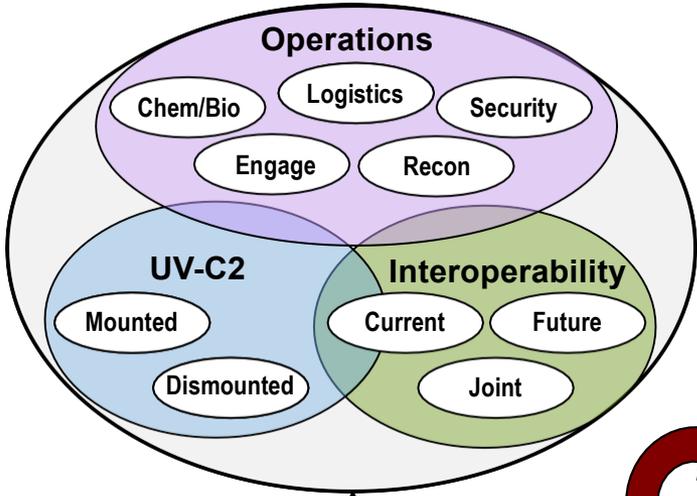
**Army Needs**

+

**Experience**

=

**Applied Research**



Network Centric

Battle Team Focus  
Constrained Bandwidth  
Info. Dissemination

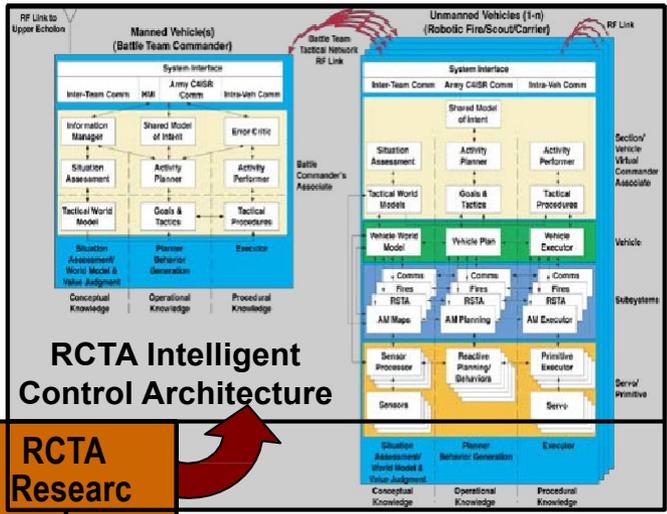
User Centric

Human Performance  
Trust in Automation  
Workload Theory

Robot Centric

Autonomous Mobility  
Tactical Behaviors  
Safe Operations

Hybrid Architectures  
& Reactive Behaviors



**RCTA Research**



Other CTAs  
C&N, P&E, ADA, Sensors



*Using the best resources in Government, Industry and Academia to develop and validate robotic technologies that meet current and future Army needs...*



# Robotics CTA Task Areas



## CTA Inception

- Terrain Based Preplanning
- Fixed Behaviors with Fragile Performance
- Limited Replanning Under Failure Conditions
- Extensive Human Interaction Required

## Required

- Automatic Planning & Replanning with Limited Human Interaction
- Dynamic Replanning Based on Perception, Tactical Information, & Frag Orders
- Robust Behaviors to Operate Over a Wide Range of Situations

## Human Machine Interface

## Required

- Decision Aids for Offloading Operator
- Rapid Context Switching Between Multiple Platforms
- Robotic Platform Supervision & Tasking
- Multi-Model Input/Output
- Multi-Platform & Mixed Asset Tasking

## CTA Inception

- Human Intensive Planning
- Extensive Teleoperation Required
- Operator Saturation

## CURRENT

- Program making steady progress toward required capabilities

**Requires advancing the state of the art in three critical areas:**

- Perception
- Intelligent Control
- Human Machine Interface

**Requires integrating research advances from all three areas using a system-level approach to provide a mechanism for:**

- Field experimentation and research validation
- User input

## Intelligent Control

## Perception

## CTA Inception

- Road Following on Well Defined Surfaces
- Slow Cross-Country Navigation in Relatively Benign Terrain
- Highly Sensitive to Environmental Effects
- Vulnerability while Platform is in Motion

## Required

- All Weather, Day/Night
- Complex Environments
- Recognition of Tactical Situations
- Speed Commensurate with OPTEMPO
- Perception for Mid-Range Planning
- Understanding of Moving Agents while Platform is in Motion
- Perception to enable Vehicle Safeguarding





## Consortium Members

- General Dynamics  
Robotic Systems  
(Lead Industrial Partner)
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Applied Systems  
Intelligence
- Jet Propulsion Laboratory
- Alion Science &  
Technology
- BAE Systems
- Sarnoff Corporation
- SRI International
- Florida A&M University
- University of Maryland
- PercepTek
- Robotic Research
- Signal Systems Corp
- Howard University
- NC A&T University
- University of Pennsylvania
- Skeyes Unlimited

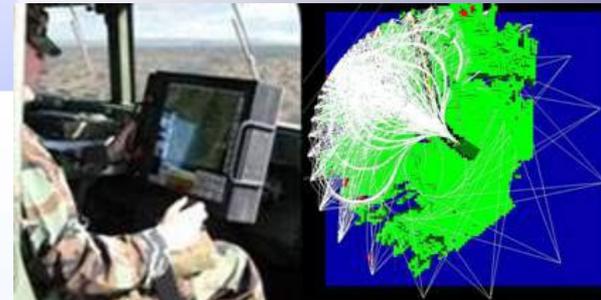
## Objectives

*Make the research investments that support the Army's robotic system development goals:*

- *Develop perception technologies that allow robotic vehicles to sense and understand their environment;*
- *Develop intelligent control technologies and architectures enabling robotic systems to autonomously plan, execute, and monitor operational tasks undertaken in complex, tactical environments;*
- *Develop human-machine interfaces that allow soldiers to effectively task robotic systems and minimize operator workload.*

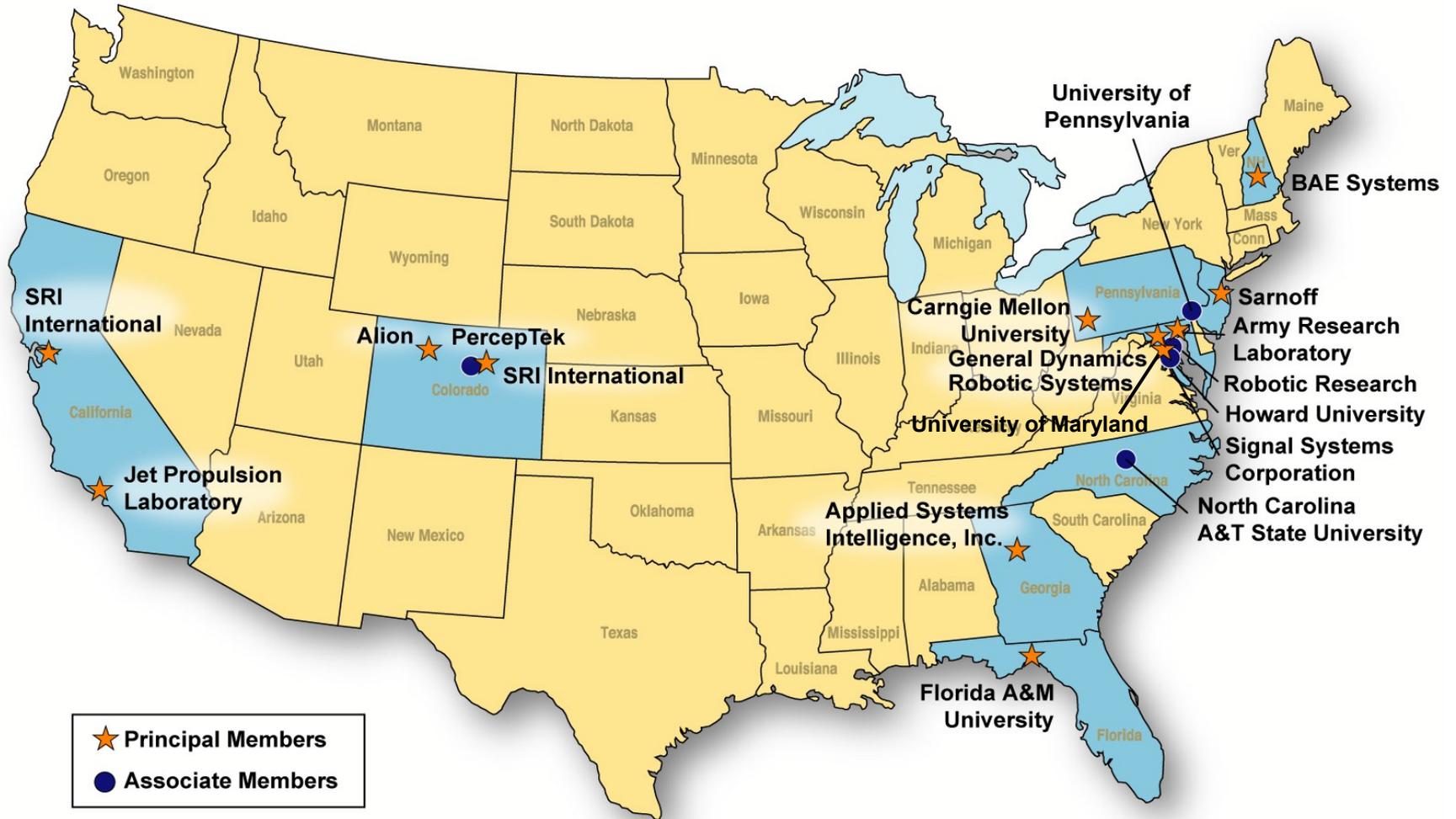
## Technical Areas

- Advanced Perception
- Intelligent Control & Behavior Development
- Human / Machine Interfaces

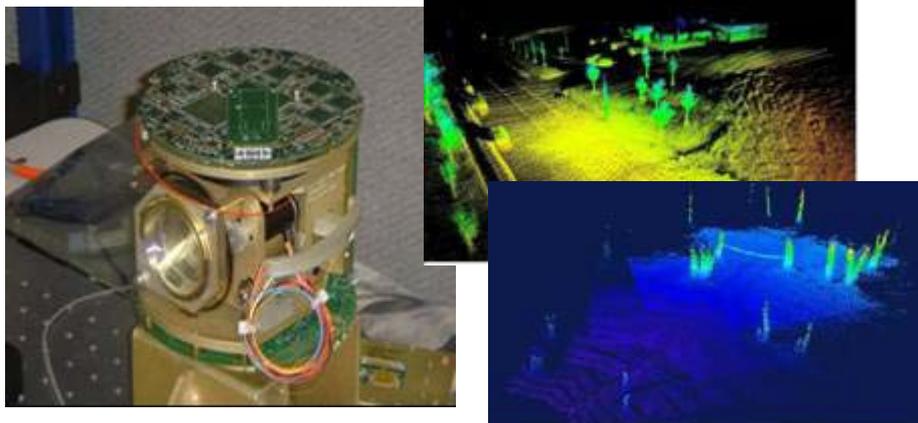




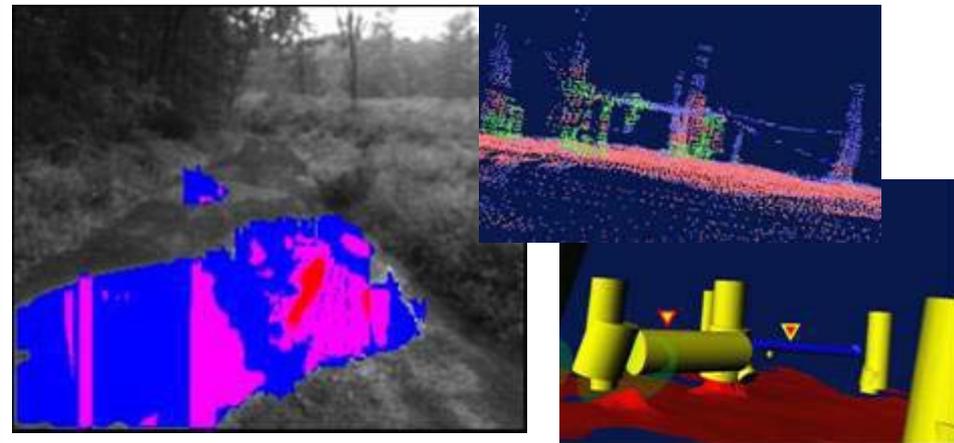
# Robotics CTA – Member Distribution



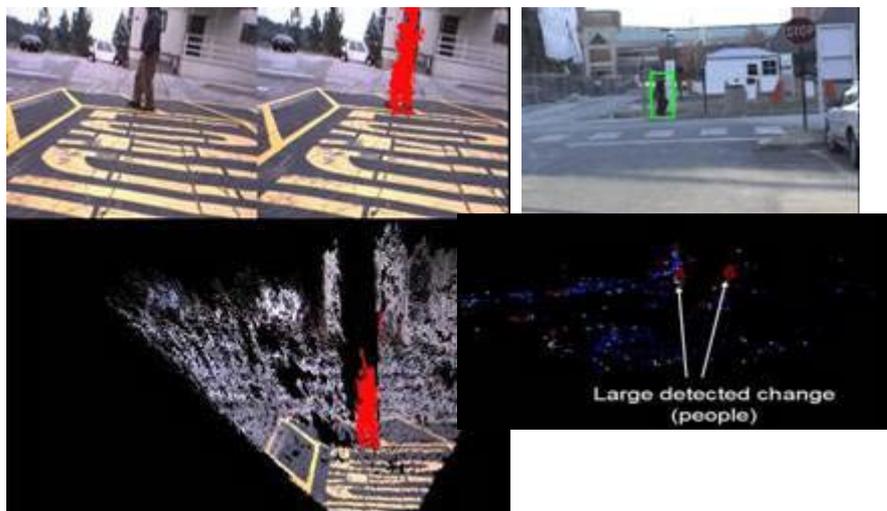
## LADAR Development & Processing Algorithms



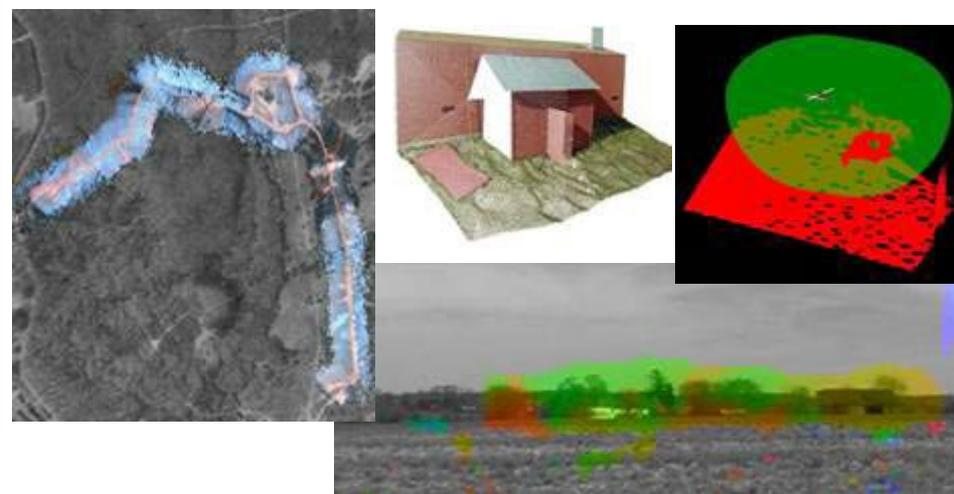
## Terrain Classification



## Moving Agent Understanding



## Air / Ground & Mid-Range Sensing





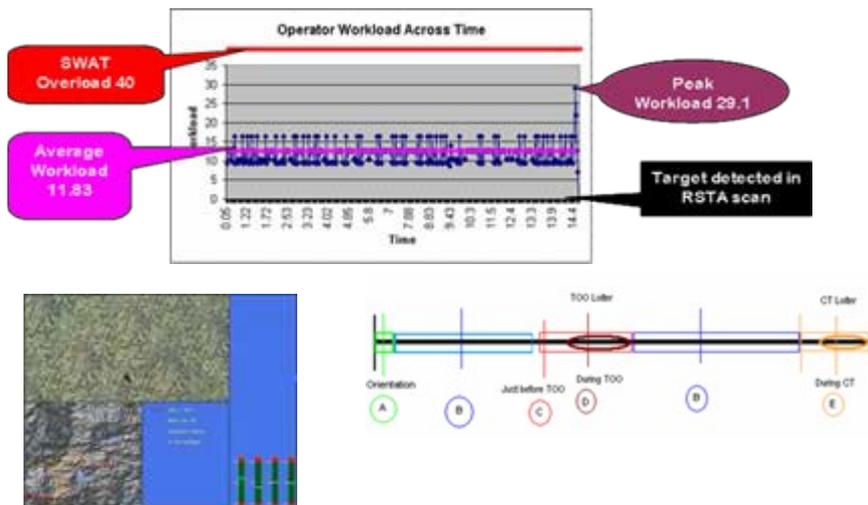
## Scalable Human Machine Interfaces



## Multi-Modal Input



## Workload / Trust in Automation



## HMI Interface Extensions





## Stages of Experimentation and Integration

### Proof of Concept Testing with COTS Hardware

Researchers test proof of concept in their own labs with commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) hardware. The image at right is from the Carnegie Mellon Robotics Institute Laboratory.



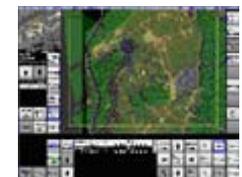
### Perception and Autonomous Navigation Testing with GDRS Standardized Test Facilities

GDRS facilities are used to test perception and autonomous navigation tasks. Data is analyzed against the ground truth of known obstacles. ARL and NIST design quantitative experiments.



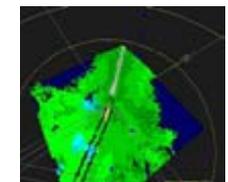
### Simulation Testing with RCTA SIL

The RCTA Systems Integration Lab (SIL) at GDRS provides a hardware-in-the-loop simulation testbed for Advanced Perception, Intelligent Control Architecture (ICA) and Human Machine Interface (HMI) technologies.

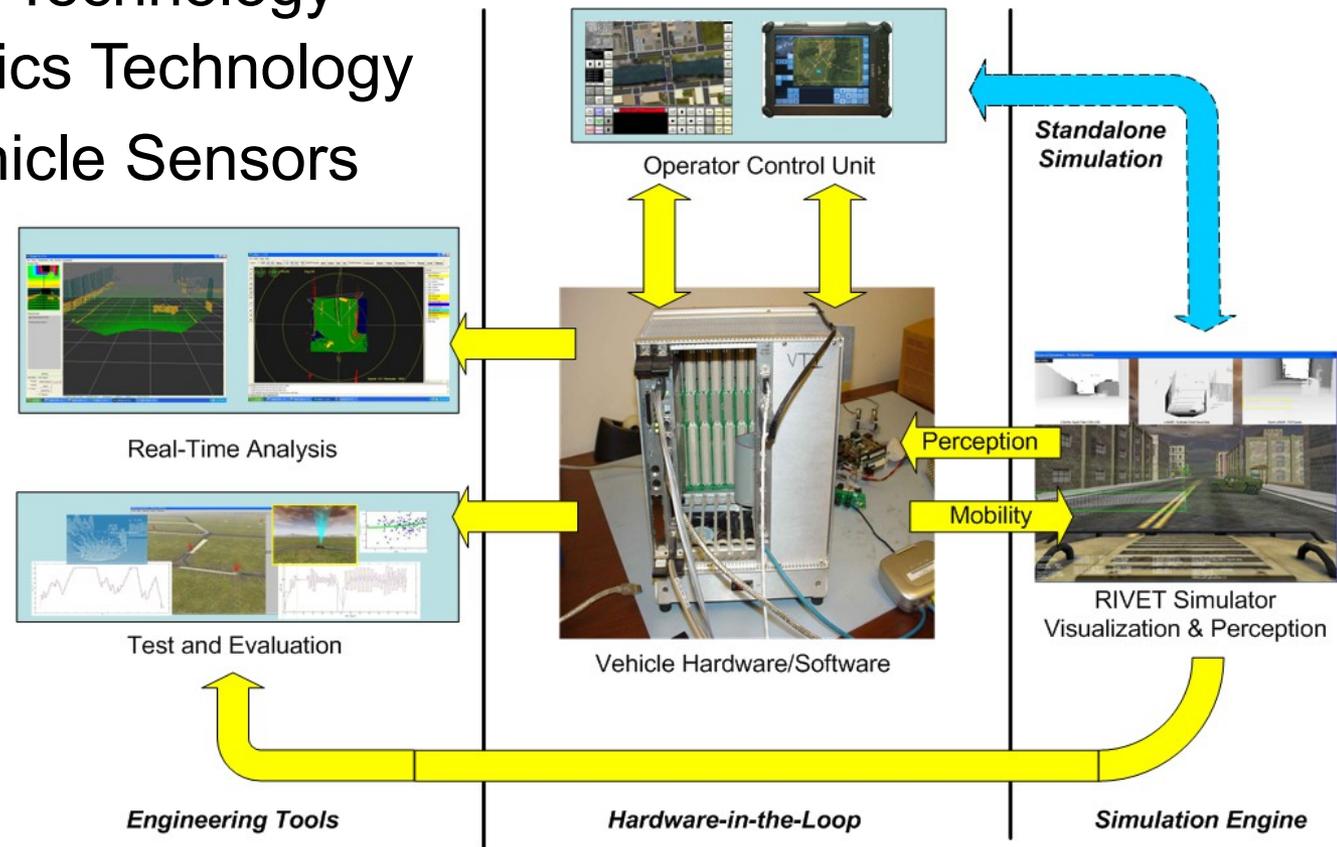


### Integration and Testing in Realistic Environments

New technology is integrated and tested on the Demo III XUV and commercial vehicles in various terrains including rolling and forested terrain, as well as a MOUT environment at Fort Indiantown Gap.



- Capability Developed in FY 2007
- Leverages Visualization Technology from COTS Gaming Technology
- Exploits Graphics Technology to Emulate Vehicle Sensors

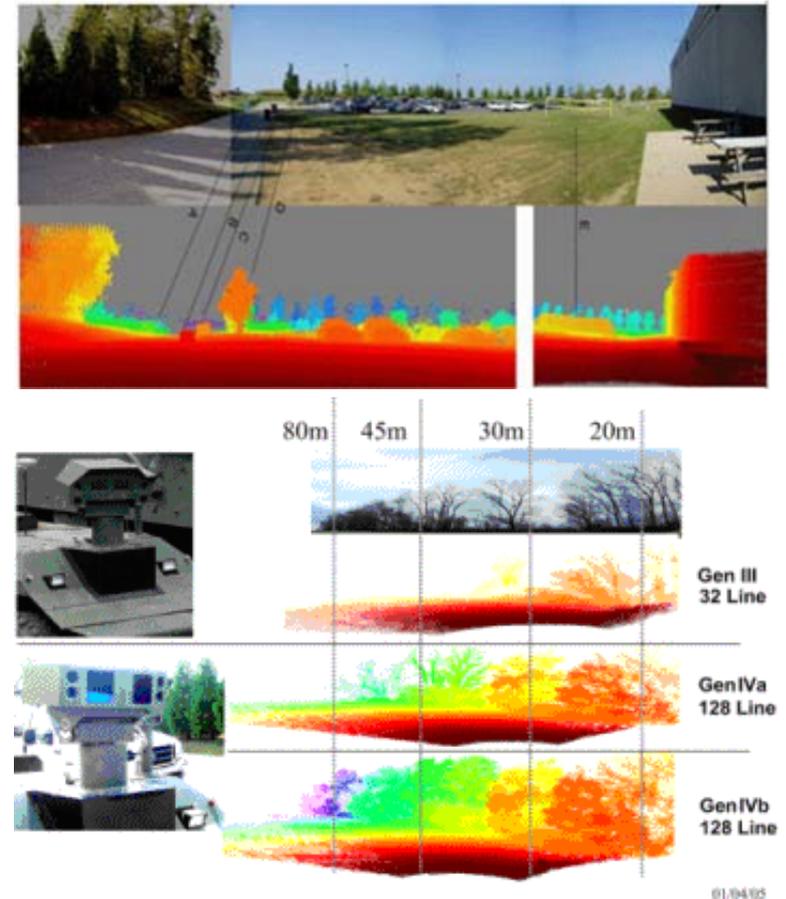




<b>Robotics Collaborative Technology Alliance Metrics FY07</b>		
<b>Metric</b>	<b>FY02-06</b>	<b>FY07</b>
Scholarly Papers	182	26
Invention Disclosures	2	2
Patent Applications Filed	5	1
Masters Degrees Awarded	12	9
Ph.Ds. Awarded	10	4
Graduate Students Supported	88	14



- Provided the technical foundation for FCS-ANS and the demonstration in 2003 that was instrumental in funding FCS unmanned ground systems
  - Field-tested LADAR hardware
  - LADAR processing algorithms for obstacle detection, classification algorithms for obstacle detection, and terrain classification
  - Engineering visualization tools for LADAR and vehicle planner development
  - Field-tested robotic testbed platforms (with interfaces to navigation sensors), capable of data collection and archiving in realistic tactical environments
  - LADAR optics, TX/RX electronics and processing firmware (FFT, multi-pulse, ranging, etc.)
  - Passive perception system algorithms; stereo correlator, rectification and pyramid algorithms





# *RCTA Transitions to TARDEC VTI Advanced Development Programs*



- Hardware and software perception sensors
- Sensor processing algorithms, including pedestrian detection algorithms
- Vehicle planners
- Planning algorithms via Terrain Reasoner
- Selected tactical and cooperative behavior algorithms
- Perception technologies from the 3500-pound XUV testbed to the 18-ton Stryker vehicle
- SMI related components



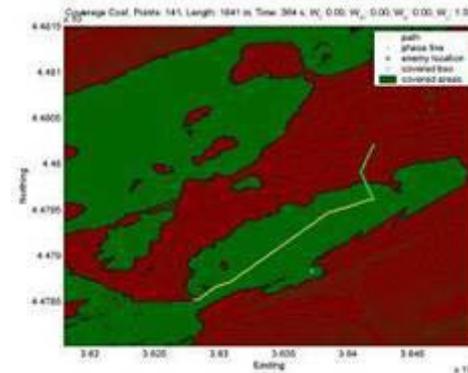
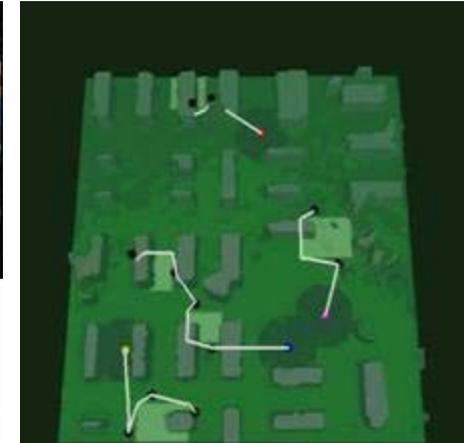
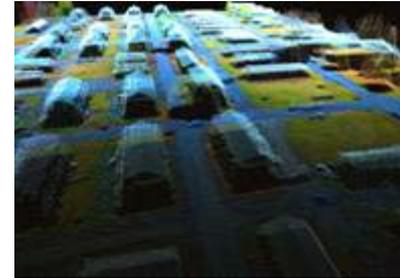


- Perception Sensors (LADAR and EO/IR)
- Sensor processing algorithms
- Vehicle planners and OA Planning algorithms
- LADAR optics and TX/RX electronics
- LADAR processing firmware (FFT, multi-pulse, ranging, etc.)
- Acadia Vision Processor





- UGV Perception Sensors and Demonstration Platforms
- UGV and LADAR Sensor Processing Algorithms
- Vehicle planners and OA planning algorithms
- Market-Based Collaborative Tasking Algorithms
- SMI Interface, Decision Support System, and Terrain Reasoner
- Air / Ground Cooperative C2
- Test and Demo Facilities





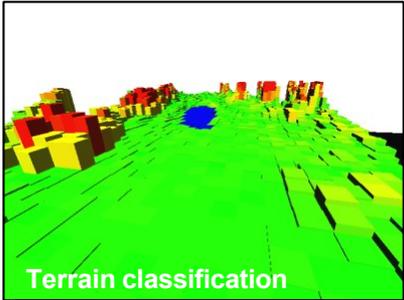
## *Entered Low Rate Initial Production in December 2007*

- Perception Sensors (LADAR and EO/IR)
- Sensor processing algorithms
- Vehicle planners and OA planning algorithms
- LADAR optics and TX/RX electronics
- LADAR processing firmware (FFT, multi-pulse, ranging, etc.)
- Acadia Vision Processor

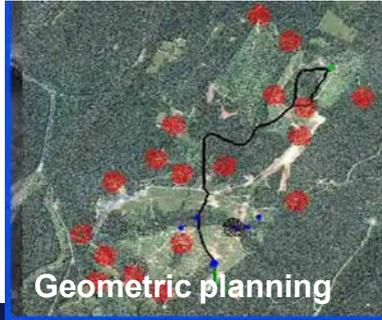




# Robotics CTA



Terrain classification

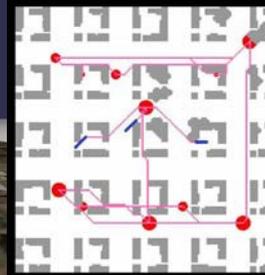


Geometric planning

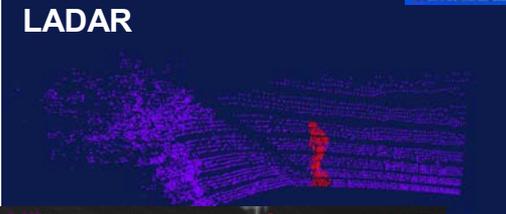


Planning for dynamic environments

Collaborating robots



Scalable interfaces



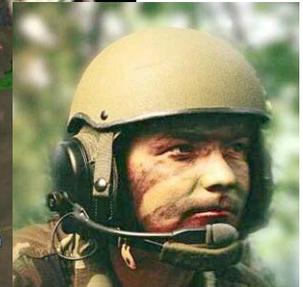
LADAR



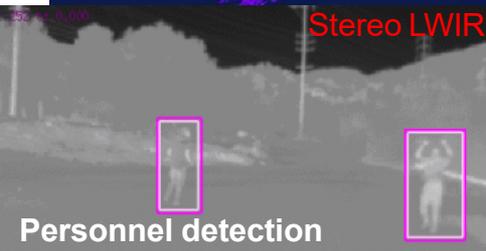
Planning with adversaries



Best information planning

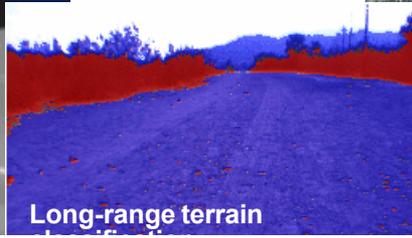


Multi-modal interfaces



Stereo LWIR

Personnel detection



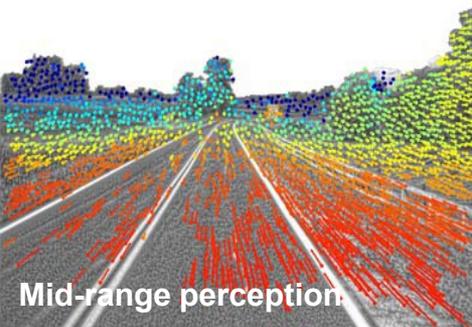
Long-range terrain



Control for difficult terrain



Video



Mid-range perception

**Providing key technology for future Army unmanned systems**

**TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN. WARFIGHTER FOCUSED.**