

# CRADA

Cooperative Research and Development Agreements





## MIT LL

MIT Lincoln Laboratory (MIT LL), a Department of Defense (DoD) Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC), specializes in research and development aimed at solving problems critical to national security.

As an FFRDC, a key component of MIT LL's mission is the transfer of its technology to both the government and industry. MIT LL enters into Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs) to facilitate transfer to industry.





MIT LL's research areas include air and missile defense, space surveillance technology, tactical systems, biological and chemical defense, homeland protection, communications, cybersecurity, and information sciences. MIT LL takes on projects from initial concept stage, through simulation and analysis, to design and prototyping, and finally to field demonstration.

While MIT LL does not participate in competitive or commercial activities, MIT LL's technology transfer efforts strengthens U.S. business competitiveness in the world economy by allowing industry to commercialize technology coming out of MIT LL.





## What Is a CRADA?

A Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) is the legal instrument through which MIT LL transfers technology, processes, and technical know-how to the private sector. MIT LL enters into CRADAs when the collaborative research supports the FFRDC's missions and program objectives.

Since 1992, MIT LL has successfully participated in CRADA programs with industry. While MIT LL and the DoD benefit from such collaborative research, private industry partners also benefit from access to MIT LL's unique technologies, capabilities, and expertise.



## Areas of Interest

A defining element of the CRADA is the collaborative research between MIT LL and the private sector partner. All CRADAs include a joint Statement of Work. Of particular interest to MIT LL are collaborative research in the areas of autonomous systems and robotics, life sciences and synthetic biology, energy, quantum computing, advanced electronics and sensors, and cybersecurity, to name a few.

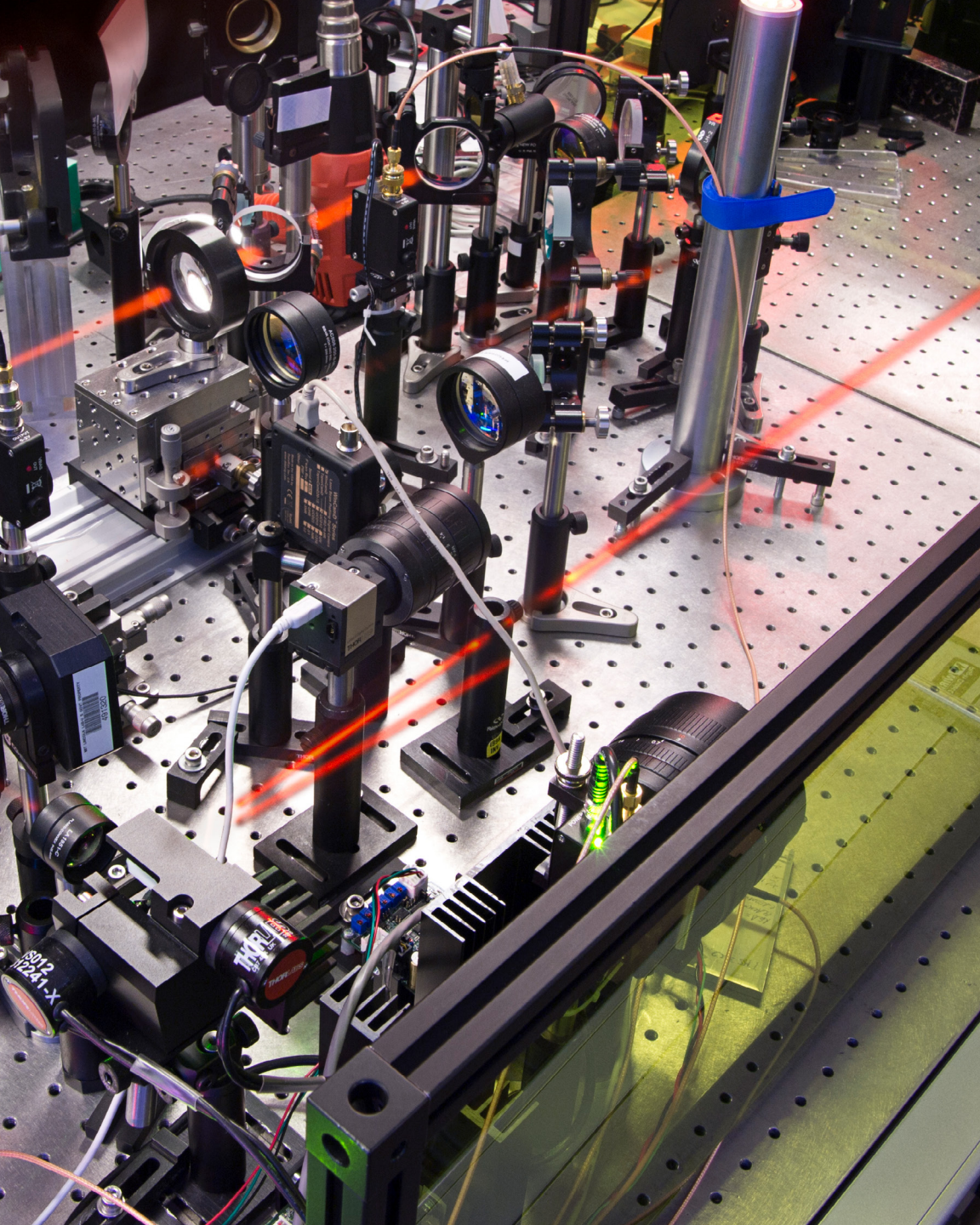
Through the collaborative research projects under a CRADA, MIT LL's state-of-the-art facilities can be available to the CRADA partner.



## Facilities

- Microelectronics Laboratory
- Electronic-Photonic Integration Facility
- RF System Test Facility
- STRIVE Center
- Rapid Hardware Integration Facility
- Polymer Laboratory
- Environmental Test Laboratory
- Machine Shop
- Optical Systems Test Facility
- Integrated Weather and Air Traffic Control Decision Support Facilities
- MIT LL Supercomputing Center





# Intellectual Property Consideration

## Background Intellectual Property (BIP)

BIP generally refers to intellectual property (IP) in existence prior to or first produced outside of the work to be performed under a CRADA. BIP usually includes existing patents or patent applications or invention disclosures, but may also include copyrightable works such as software and other forms of IP.

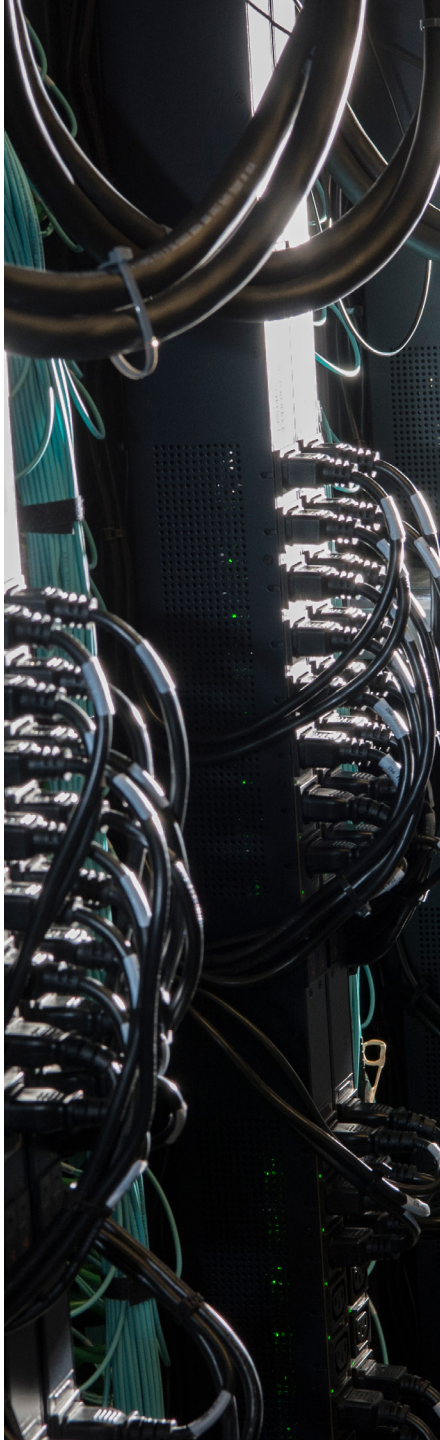
MIT provides a license to any blocking BIP necessary for the CRADA Partner to perform work under the CRADA. In addition, a royalty bearing license is also made available to the CRADA Partner for any BIP necessary for commercialization of IP generated under the CRADA, also known as Foreground IP.



## **Foreground Intellectual Property (FIP)**

FIP generally refers to IP created either individually or jointly during the course of the CRADA. FIP ownership stems from which party created the IP. Solely developed FIP will be owned by the sole creating party and jointly developed FIP will be owned jointly. In most cases, FIP will be subject to a Government Use License.

For jointly owned FIP, MIT grants the CRADA Partner an option to obtain from MIT an exclusive license to MIT's rights in the joint FIP. For solely owned MIT FIP, MIT grants the CRADA Partner an option to obtain an exclusive or nonexclusive license.



## **Government Use License**

For patentable subject matter, the U.S. Government retains a nonexclusive, nontransferable, irrevocable, paid-up license to practice the invention or have the invention practiced throughout the world by or on behalf of the Government for research or other Government purposes. The Government is required to ensure that Government use does not interfere with commercialization efforts by U.S. industry.

For copyrightable works, the U.S. Government retains a nonexclusive, irrevocable, paid-up, worldwide license to use, duplicate, or disclose the copyrighted work, in whole or in part and in any manner, for Government purposes only and to have or permit others to do so for Government purposes only.





# Funding Considerations and Requirements

Under a CRADA, industry partners may provide funding and in-kind contributions. MIT LL may provide personnel, services, facilities, or equipment.

## In-Kind

In-kind refers to noncash contributions of labor, property, or services provided by an industry partner in support of the CRADA effort. In-kind contributions include personnel, personal property (equipment and supplies), and capital equipment. All CRADAs must have in-kind contributions from the industry partner to support the collaborative nature of the research.

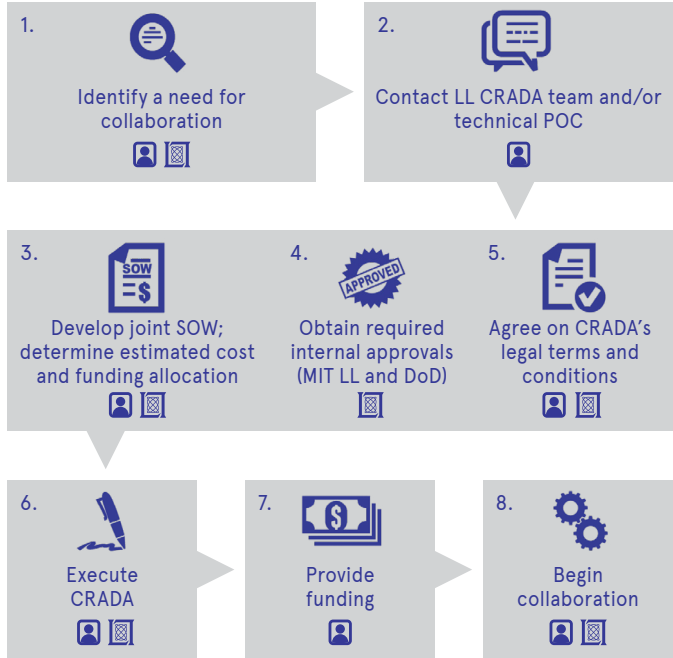
## Funding

MIT LL requires advance funding to cover its costs of CRADA efforts. Work under CRADA shall not begin until an agreement is executed and minimum of 90 day advance funding is received from CRADA industry partner.





# Starting a CRADA



MIT LL  
Accountability

Partner  
Accountability





## Other Collaborative Opportunities

- Collaborative Agreements
- Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)
- Small Business Technology Transfer Program (STTR)
- Test Agreements

## Questions and Inquiries

Please contact the Technology and Contracts Office at [CRADA@ll.mit.edu](mailto:CRADA@ll.mit.edu).

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