SPARK Bringing tomorrow's tools to the Warfighter today

a product of AFWERX

Mission

Empower Airmen intrapreneurs to bring tomorrow's tools to the Warfighter today

Vision

Ignite the most innovative culture in the Military

Spark is a grassroots innovation program that empowers Airmen to bring tomorrow's tools to the Warfighter today. By leveraging the ingenuity of Air Force intrapreneurs and non-traditional partners, Spark creates unique opportunities for cross-functional collaboration between the military's operational experts and the top problem solvers in industry, academia, and the government. Spark derives its problem sets directly from operational use-cases and takes an iterative user-centric approach to delivering solutions rapidly to the field.

With the support AFWERX, Spark is building a decentralized network of Spark Cells on Air Force bases around the world. Each Spark Cell operates semi-autonomously in pursuit of locally generated ideas and projects. Through collaboration platforms, any Airmen intrapreneur can leverage the people and resources across the global innovation network and organically integrate a diverse group of stakeholders in pursuit of any one project. As local projects prove successful, the AFWERX network enables rapid communication and scaling across the enterprise.

Spark Goals:

- Provide Airmen intrapreneurs with the pathways and resources to solve tactical-level pain-points
- Inspire a culture of innovation within the Air Force
- Create a robust symbiotic network of experts from industry, academia, and the government

Types of activities:

- **Widgets for the Warfighter**: Creating hardware and/or software solutions for operational use
- **Collaborative Research**: Developing hypotheses, theses, or problem statements for analysis by an academic institute or consultant group
- **Education and Training**: Providing academic or practical opportunities for individual or organizational learning

General areas of interest include but are not limited to:

- Software and app development
- Big data, machine learning, and artificial intelligence
- Tools/Studies for logistics management and operations research
- Organizational and managerial research and studies
- Corporate visits to exchange managerial best practices
- Automation and robotics
- Manufacturing technologies to include additive and subtractive technologies
- Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality
- Blockchain technologies

If interested, please contact
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