|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | | |
|  |  | |
| **The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) & Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Program Interagency Policy Committee**  **Report to Congress** | | |
|  | |  |
| **Office of Science and Technology**  **Small Business Administration**  **Participating Agencies**  **Department of Defense**  **Department of Health & Human Services**  **Department of Energy**  **National Aeronautics & Space Administration**  **National Science Foundation**  **Department of Agriculture**  **Department of Homeland Security**  **Department of Education**  **Department of Commerce**  **Environmental Protection Agency**  **Department of Transportation** | | **SBIR/STTR**  **TechNet Public & Government Databases**  ***September 15, 2014*** |
| **SBIR/STTR Interagency Policy Committee www.SBIR.gov** | | |

*This page is left intentionally blank.*

Contents

[1. Executive Summary 4](#_Toc398119132)

[2. Introduction 5](#_Toc398119133)

[a. Background 5](#_Toc398119134)

[b. Program Objectives 5](#_Toc398119135)

[c. SBIR/STTR Process 6](#_Toc398119136)

[d. Background on Databases & Key Points of Consideration 7](#_Toc398119137)

[3. Recommendations / Next Steps 9](#_Toc398119138)

# Executive Summary

**Purpose**.

This report responds to the statutory requirement in the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) / Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Reauthorization Act of 2011 (Reauthorization Act), which was included in the [2012 Defense Authorization Act (P.L.112-81)[[1]](#footnote-1).](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-112publ81/pdf/PLAW-112publ81.pdf) The Reauthorization Act requires the Interagency Policy Committee (IPC) to review the issues and ways to improve program effectiveness and efficiency regarding the SBIR/STTR public and government databases (referred to as TechNet).

**Key Issues**.

The key issues that need to be addressed in this TechNet public and government databases report include: (1) understanding the different databases used by the 11 SBIR/STTR federal agencies and how they work with TechNet[[2]](#footnote-2); (2) ensuring maximum utilization of databases (TechNet) by all stakeholders for all reporting requirements; (3) determining ways to streamline the reporting process using TechNet by ensuring the build and maintenance of the system; and, (4) measuring the value of the SBIR / STTR programs effectively through the use of TechNet.

**Key Recommendations**.

* Implement all of the reporting requirements set forth in the Policy Directive using TechNet, with an emphasis on implementing a majority of the technical capabilities by the end of the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2014.[[3]](#footnote-3)
* Have SBA work with the agencies to define the necessary interdatabase functionalities. Agencies should continue to find means of funding their own database requirements. The Interagency Policy Committee realizes that the agencies are responsible for collecting and maintaining information throughout the award lifecycle. Agencies’ systems are responsible for transmitting information to SBA’s systems. Agencies can continue to maintain flexibility in their applications and processes while they share information to make the SBIR/STTR programs more efficient and transparent.
* Have SBA, with the support of the SBIR/STTR agencies, explore options for providing resources for building and maintaining databases and other systems to support SBIR/STTR program requirements. Options for resources could include a direct request for appropriations to perform these functions to be managed by SBA, use of interagency funding agreements between SBIR/STTR agencies and SBA, or other funding mechanisms.

# Introduction

The Reauthorization Act created the SBIR/STTR Interagency Policy Committee (IPC) to review certain issues and make policy recommendations to Congress on ways to improve SBIR/STTR program effectiveness and efficiency. The IPC is co-chaired by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) and the Small Business Administration (SBA) and includes representatives from Federal agencies that participate in the SBIR and STTR programs.

## Background

Congress established the SBIR program in 1982 and the STTR program ten years later to assist small business concerns (SBCs) in obtaining Federal research and development (R&D) funds to build a strong economy and support technological innovation as discussed below:

* **SBIR**: Requires federal agencies with extramural R&D budgets over $100 million to set aside a percentage of their annual extramural R&D budget for small businesses. This percentage was 2.5% prior to FY 2012, and increased to 2.6% in FY 2012 and will continue to increase by 0.1% each year until it reaches a base requirement of 3.2% in FY 2017.
* **STTR**: Modeled after the SBIR program, STTR requires federal agencies with extramural budgets exceeding $1 billion to set aside a percentage of their annual extramural R&D budget for SBCs that work in cooperation with universities, federally funded research and development centers, and other non-profit scientific and educational institutions. This percentage was 0.3% in FYs 2004-2011, and legislation increased this minimum to 0.35% for FYs 2012 and 2013, with continued increases through 2016. The goal is to facilitate transfer of technology and research from these institutions to commercial use and encourage innovation.

## Program Objectives

The Small Business Act indicates that “assistance” provided by the SBIR and STTR programs “be given to small-business concerns to enable them to undertake and to obtain the benefits of research and development in order *to maintain and strengthen the competitive free enterprise system and the national economy*.”[[4]](#footnote-4)

The [SBIR Policy Directive](http://www.sbir.gov/about/sbir-policy-directive) identifies the following primary objectives:

* Stimulate technological innovation;
* Meet Federal R&D needs;
* Foster and encourage participation in innovation and entrepreneurship by socially and economically disadvantaged persons and women-owned small businesses; and,
* Increase private-sector commercialization of innovations derived from Federal research and development funding.

In addition, the Reauthorization Act added several new initiatives including:

* Permitting agencies to direct some SBIR funds to firms that are owned by multiple venture capital operating companies (VCOCs), hedge funds, and/or private equity firms;
* Allowing agencies to provide one additional Phase II award to small businesses to extend a study;
* Providing for a Commercialization Readiness Program at DOD and pilot programs at civilian agencies;
* Reducing processing times;
* Allowing agencies to use 3% of program budgets for administration and oversight;
* Reducing vulnerability of Fraud, Waste and Abuse (FWA);
* Improving program evaluation; and,
* Increasing commercialization and outreach.

##### In general, the SBIR/STTR reauthorization legislation underscored the need for improved commercialization, outreach, and program evaluation. In December 2013 the lead SBIR/STTR Program Managers in conjunction with White House Office of Science & Technology Policy (OSTP) facilitated the creation of five sub-working groups that fall under the “Fueling Small Business Innovation” component of the President’s Lab to Market Commercialization Agenda. These five groups are:

##### Outreach & Communications

##### Commercialization Pathways

##### Awards Efficiency & Efficacy

##### Databases & Interagency Exchange of Information

##### Asset Mapping

Going forward these five groups are tasked with various short-term and long-term projects that fall within scope of various facets covered in the President’s Lab to Market Commercialization Agenda. They will seek to identify issues, challenges, and provide further recommendations for consideration amongst the various SBIR/STTR program managers as well for SBA and OSTP consideration as it relates to the SBIR/STTR program.

## SBIR/STTR Process

To bring technology from ideas to commercialization, both programs utilize a three phase approach:

* ***Phase I – Feasibility/Proof of Concept*.** Using a competitive process, federal agencies award up to $150,000 to a small business to perform research/research and development (R/R&D) for up to 6-12 months on a specific topic in order to establish its technical merit, feasibility, and commercial potential. During this phase, federal agencies assess both the performance of the small business and the potential of the technology prior to providing further Federal support in Phase II.
* ***Phase II – Full Research and Development.*** Based on the results achieved in Phase I, federal agencies will decide whether to continue R/R&D efforts into Phase II based on the scientific, technical, and commercial merit and feasibility of the idea. If the federal agency decides to continue into Phase II, they will award up to $1 million to the small business to continue R/R&D efforts for up to 2 years.
* ***Phase III – Commercialization***. No specific SBIR funding is associated with Phase III. The objective of Phase III, is for the small business to pursue commercialization objectives resulting from the Phase I/II activities. The Small Business Act defines commercialization as:
* “the process of developing products, processes, technologies, or services; and”
* “the production and delivery (whether by the originating party or by others) of products, processes, technologies, or services for sale to or use by the Federal Government or commercial markets. ”[[5]](#footnote-5)

A significant advantage to Phase I/II award winners is that federal agencies may pursue sole source contracts to utilize technology developed through prior SBIR/STTR awards which automatically qualify as a Phase III activity.

## Background on Databases & Key Points of Consideration

In the past, the SBIR and STTR programs classified data collection into two categories and databases – publicly accessible data (public database) and government-only accessible data (government database), which were both historically housed in SBA’s TechNet database. TechNet’s database capabilities have been migrated to a new and improved SBIR.gov website, hosted by the SBA.

The public database contains basic award and awardee information, including name, address, abstract, amount, and awarding agency. The public data is housed on SBIR.gov and is indexed and searchable. However the data being uploaded and shared by the agencies will adhere to strict measures of IT security and follow all rules pertaining to privacy related issues in ensuring the utmost security standards are implemented and followed.

Only agency personnel working directly within the SBIR and STTR programs, such as the program managers, can access business sensitive information about applicants and awardees on the government database. Agency personnel can register for an agency user account on SBIR.gov, and SBA personnel will authorize agency users’ access upon completion of their registration.

The Reauthorization Act increased the reporting requirements by agencies and small businesses in the SBIR/STTR programs. As a result, the policy directive sets forth seven databases that will be used to collect this information, and to be housed in the overall database still known as TechNet. The databases described in Table 1 show how the databases have been sorted into smaller groups, or modules, in an effort to better collect company information and evaluate the SBIR program. The last column of Table 1 describes the viewing privileges of the data – public or government. SBA and the agencies may have to create more distinctions than the limited public and government database categories to describe the data and reporting structure within the SBIR program.

This report provides a summary of the IPC’s review of the databases for the SBIR/STTR programs. In conducting its review, the IPC considered the updated requirements for the SBIR/STTR programs included in the 2011 Reauthorization Act and/or also derived from the SBIR/STTR Policy Directives issued by SBA. This report also provides recommendations on database implementation for long-term funding sustainability and functionality of the programs. The major updated requirements considered are as follows:

* Agencies have the option to allow firms that are majority-owned by multiple venture capital operating companies (VCOCs), hedge funds and/or private equity firms to receive SBIR awards.
* All SBIR applicant firms must register at a Company Registry Database at SBIR.gov;
  + Small businesses that are majority owned by multiple firms (i.e. Venture Capital, Hedge Fund, and/or Private Equity) must identify that they have this ownership structure;
* Agencies must reduce time gaps between close of solicitation and notification of awards;
* Agencies must support awardees in their efforts to commercialize SBIR/STTR work via Phase I & II funding;
* Commercialization Readiness Pilot programs are authorized to allow civilian agencies to invest up to 10% of SBIR/STTR funds in commercialization;
* Increased technical assistance available to small businesses, increasing the amount permitted per award from $4,000 to $5,000 per year; and,
* The integration of SBA’s Integrated TechNet system will include additional databases, such as the Commercialization Database, Award Information Database, and Application Information Database.

We note that the issues, challenges, and recommendations laid out in this report are also being currently researched and addressed by our newly created working groups in the President’s Lab to Market Commercialization Agenda under the Fueling Small Business Innovation Research section. The group will research the issues to determine how the program can improve overall participation rates among stakeholders and understand where and how gaps can be minimized. The working group is currently reviewing the best practices and metrics to provide feedback and a path forward from the technology development perspective for the OSTP and SBA co-led IPC meetings.

# Recommendations / Next Steps

**Accomplishments and Progress to Date**

Over the last 24 months, SBA and the agencies improved the public and government databases’ data and reporting mechanisms, including:

* Re-launched SBIR.gov to bring information about the program to one central website as a “one-stop shop” for small businesses;
* Unified a portal for solicitations across the 11 agencies on SBIR.gov to provide a searchable site for both the agencies and small business concerns (SBCs);
* Reconciled differences in award data collected across agencies and across years in the legacy TechNet system into company-centric profile information;
* Agencies submitted their annual report electronically to SBA through SBIR.gov to prevent duplicate submissions; and,
* Translated the Reauthorization Act language into a proposed information architecture and detailed data structure framework for reporting and collection. [See Appendix A.]

**The Reauthorization and Proposed Architecture of the Databases**

SBA has reorganized the databases into several smaller modules, where the needed data is easier to understand and comprehend for all stakeholders. In Figure 1, the modules are identified as:

* Company Registry
* Application Information Database
* Award Information Database
* Commercialization Database
* Annual Report data
* Performance Management System and Metrics Dashboard

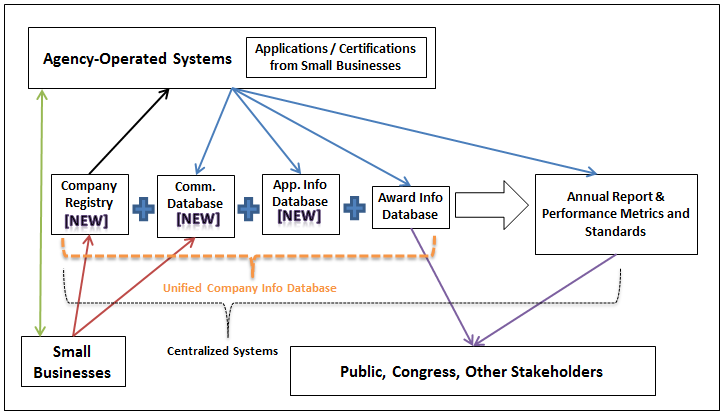
Below, Table 1 provides a basic overview of the different modules. The SBIR program has the following key principles in mind for the implementation of this new data reporting/gathering structure:

* Ability to update data electronically;
* Maintain a phased approach towards implementation;
* Centralize and share certain data through secure interfaces, which only authorized government personnel have access to;
* Reduce as much as possible a small business’ burden of entering the data; and,
* Provide standardized procedures.

**Table 1. Description of SBIR Program Databases and Reports**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Database** | **Reporting Mechanism** | **Collection/Reporting Frequency** | **Public or Government** |
| Solicitations | Agency XML or manual upload to <http://SBIR.gov> | Within 5 business days of solicitation open date | Public |
| Company Registry | SBC reports data to TechNet. Agency receives .pdf files from company | Register or reconfirm at time of application | Government |
| Application Information | Agency provides XML or manual upload to TechNet | Quarterly | Government |
| Award Information | XML or manual upload to TechNet | Quarterly | Public |
| Commercialization | Agencies & companies report to TechNet | Agencies update in real time  SBC updates prior to subsequent award application and voluntarily thereafter | Government |
| Annual Report | Agency XML or manual upload to TechNet | Annually | Public |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Reports** | **Reporting Mechanism** | **Collection/Reporting Frequency** | **Public or Government** |
| Performance metrics dashboard | Consolidated from information in other databases | Real-time | Government |
| Other Reports | As set forth in the directive | As set forth in the directive | Public |

**Figure 1. Systems Diagram for SBIR Program Databases and Reports**



In Figure 1, above, the relationship between the modules is detailed with arrows and boxes to show the input and output of data from their respective sources. Below, each module is further described and reviewed. The diagram does not include:

* Solicitations, as they are not critical to the diagram’s exchange of awardee data;
* One-off reports, or special reports that are only submitted once, as they are not likely to be collected electronically; and,
* Interagency Policy Committee reports, as they are not likely to be collected electronically.

One purpose of these databases is to collect information on the program for its evaluation and to use that information to create a more easily understandable Performance Management Dashboard. The purpose of the Performance Management Dashboard is to identify metrics and goals to assist SBA in evaluating and reporting on the progress achieved by the agencies in improving the SBIR Program. As part of the agency’s work plans, which are submitted pursuant to § 9(e) of the SBIR Policy Directive, SBA will set performance criteria that will measure each agency’s accomplishments in meeting certain performance areas against the agency’s goals. The Small Business Act establishes broad performance areas for the program, including commercialization, streamlining, outreach, etc. The specific metrics used to measure the agency’s accomplishments in these performance areas will be set with input from the SBIR agency. Agencies must report their progress on the performance criteria at the end of the fiscal year as part of their annual report.

Many of the agencies are already collecting the additional data points that the SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act of 2011 required (e.g., whether an awardee has venture capital, hedge fund, or private equity firm investment; the amount of such investment received as of the date of the award; the amount of additional capital invested in the SBIR technology; any individual who is not a citizen of the United States or a lawful permanent resident, etc.). This additional performance data will give the agencies the ability to compare more detailed company information across the program as well as against other agencies to see how effective the program is and how small businesses are utilizing the program.

The Company Registry database will contain basic information about SBIR and STTR applicants, including name, address, ownership information, etc. Small businesses that submit an offer for an SBIR or STTR solicitation will be required to first submit basic company information to the Company Registry. The information submitted to the Company Registry allows: (1) small businesses to determine whether they meet the required transition rates for Phase I to Phase II and Phase II to Phase III; (2) agencies to comply with the 15 or 25 percent limit on distributing SBIR funds to companies that are majority-owned by venture capital operating companies, hedge funds, or private equity firms.[[6]](#footnote-6) The Company Registry will be operated and maintained by SBA. The public will not have access to most of the information on the Company Registry. Agency personnel, on the other hand, will be able to access information in the Company Registry about the nature of a small business applicant’s majority ownership.

In a two-phased approach, the Company Registry database’s initial launch in early FY 2013 focused on a basic transmission of information to agencies, and a second release and update is currently underway in early FY 2014. This update will focus on streamlining customer service issues to make it easier for small businesses to get answers to their questions about the Company Registry since each issue is currently handled manually in an email system. In addition, SBA will analyze whether it is possible and practical to modify the Company Registry so that SBC applicants can automatically populate the agency application system with their company specific information as previously entered into the Company Registry. Right now, in an effort to minimize burdens on small businesses and increase efficiency, the Company Registry will be synced on a nightly basis with the System for Award Management (SAM), where similar data is collected on government contractors and can be validated against the Company Registry’s data.

The Application Information Database will contain basic identifying information on applications to the SBIR program, including name, address, ownership/principal investigator demographics, and abstract. Agencies will transmit this information to SBA on a quarterly basis through SBIR.gov if it is not in the Company Registry. SBA will operate and maintain the Application Information Database and agencies will have access to it. Working through SBA and federal agencies, state-level economic development organizations may request access to company information, if applicants authorize that access. If granted by applicants, states should then request and work with SBA and the appropriate agencies to gain the desired access. State-level economic development organizations could use the information to better train small businesses on how to prepare and submit proposals for future SBIR and STTR solicitations. The initial release of the Application Information Database is slated for early to mid FY 2014.

The Award Information Database is an existing module of the databases currently maintained for the SBIR program. The Award Information Database collects information on awards, including principal investigator information, award phase, funding level, etc. Agencies are expected to update information on a quarterly basis. The public will have access to most of this award information. Agencies will be able to use this information to evaluate the SBIR program awardees, such as the gender and ethnic diversity of awardees. The Award Information Database is operated and maintained by SBA. Enhancements to the Award Information Database are planned for an early to mid FY 2014 release.

The Commercialization Information Database is a new module to systematically collect the commercialization outcomes of SBIR awards across different agencies. There are three key points that need to be clarified before the Commercialization Information Database can be implemented. First, agencies need to define how they will upload their awardees’ commercialization information. There are two options: (1) agencies may operate and maintain their own commercialization information databases, but they must also update the centralized commercialization database managed by SBA in real-time; or (2) agencies can request that awardees directly update their information on the SBA-managed and centralized Commercialization Information Database. Second, commercialization outcomes must be collected at two points from past awardees: at the time of application for future awards and up to five years after the end of a Phase II award. Third, SBA will work with the Agencies to further define the periodic data collection intervals in more detail. Finally, SBA will be responsible for the implementation of the centralized Commercialization Information Database. Agencies will have access to the information for evaluation purposes. The Commercialization Information Database is planned for an early to mid FY 2014 release.

The Annual Report is an existing module for the Public and Government Databases, but it will be updated to be consistent with the requirements of the SBIR/STTR Reauthorization Act. The annual reports cover a number of SBIR program details, including the number of solicitations each agency received, the number of Phase I and Phase II awards granted, and demographic data such as the number of awards granted to woman or minority-owned businesses. Last year, SBA piloted an effort to collect annual report information electronically, rather than by hardcopy, as in past years. The Annual Report database is operated and maintained by SBA. All published annual report information will be publicly accessible. SBA will publish data collection improvement recommendations, if any, by late-FY 2013. In subsequent years, the annual report will be continually refined and improved to provide for more transparency and better analysis of the SBIR program’s impact.

The Performance Management Dashboard (Dashboard) is not a database but a new module that will display basic metrics for each agency’s SBIR/STTR program on SBIR.gov. The data is available through the Annual Report, but the data’s impact will be wider once it is publicly available through SBIR.gov. Metrics and goals include timeline information, aggregated commercialization outcomes of awards (§ 10(g) of the 2012 SBIR policy directive), and participation of underrepresented groups. These are collected through the Annual Report and the administrative funding pilot. 77 Fed. Reg. 46811 (Aug. 6, 2012). The initial release of the Dashboard with buildouts is currently scheduled for FY 2014.

**Benefits of This Approach**

SBA’s proposed plan lays out a path for the program to comply with the requirements for data and reporting set out in the statute. The committee’s proposal and recommendations include the following benefits for SBA, agencies, small businesses, and other stakeholders:

* Decreased transactional costs to small businesses – enter information once, while also retaining information over time with the ability to update that information;
* Phased implementation approach for all stakeholders in order to provide an opportunity to explain the process and answer questions;
* Increased availability of all data across all agencies in a timely manner,
* Increased accessibility of data to public and government users,
* Better ability to report to other stakeholders on a timely basis, and
* Centralized storage of data on the programs for better accountability and reduction in costs.

**Challenges of Implementation**

Regardless of approach, there are challenges to implementation of changes for the data and reporting structure. To overcome these challenges, the SBIR & STTR programs will need the high-level support from agency leadership, the Executive Office of the President, and Congress. These challenges include:

* Accessibility to administrative pilot funding for the agencies’ SBIR programs given the FY 2014 budget uncertainty,
* Funding features through a centralized, multi-agency approach that can be implemented in a timely manner, and
* Issues with updating and integrating the modules with existing systems at agencies.

**Recommendations**

After consultation with the agencies, small businesses, and SBA, the SBIR Interagency Policy Committee has created the following recommendations. If adopted, these recommendations will chart a path forward for the public and government databases’ sustainable funding and positive impact.

*Recommendation 1: Agencies should implement the SBIR and STTR Policy Directives with emphasis on implementing a majority of the technical capabilities by the end of the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2014.[[7]](#footnote-7)*

The modules in the new data reporting structure are logically structured to mirror the lifecycle of an SBIR award. The modules will collect basic company data at the company registration stage, monitor awardee data, and follow up on company commercialization efforts at several potential points after Phase II awards have been awarded. These modules all build towards a comprehensive performance management dashboard available to agencies to constantly improve the program’s performance. The Interagency Policy Committee supports this approach.

In Appendix A, the table shows the respective SBA and agency responsibilities for implementation of each module. For the agencies, these responsibilities include technical implementation and business processes development for application evaluation and award processing.

In Appendix B, the tables show a proposed timeline for implementation of the databases.

*Recommendation 2: SBA should work with the agencies to define the necessary interdatabase functionalities to ensure timely reporting of data and consistency of data across all agencies.*

Agencies should continue to find means of funding their own database requirements. The Interagency Policy Committee realizes that the agencies are responsible for collecting and maintaining information throughout the award lifecycle. Agencies’ systems are responsible for transmitting information to SBA’s systems. Agencies can continue to maintain flexibility in their applications and processes while they share information to make the SBIR program more efficient and transparent.

*Recommendation 3[[8]](#footnote-8): Working with agencies, the SBA should explore various options for providing resources for building and maintaining databases and other systems that support SBIR/STTR program requirements.*

Options for resources could possibly include a direct request for appropriations to perform these functions to be managed by SBA, via the use of an interagency funding agreement between SBIR/STTR agencies and SBA, and/or other potential funding mechanisms.

**Appendix A – Data Reporting - Responsibilities of Agencies and SBA**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Module | Agency Responsibilities | Interconnection | Centrally-Operated |
| Solicitation Database | * Publish solicitation topics | * Manually input into SBIR.gov * Later, build automated way to take in solicitation topics from agency systems (optional) | * Maintain all solicitation topics in one place |
| Company Registry | * Take in applicant information/certification into agency evaluation processes | * Ask applicants to print PDF and attach to applications * Later, build automated functionality to feed into application process | * Maintain all information on applicants' ownership information |
| Applicant Information Database | * Create/maintain agency database of applications * Publish application information to central database quarterly | * Manually or thru XML doc, upload to central database * Later, build automated functionality to take in application information | * Maintain all applicant information |
| Award Information Database | * Update/maintain award agency database of award information * Publish award information to central database quarterly | * Manually or thru XML doc, upload to central database - Later, build automated functionality to take in application information | * Maintain all applicant information |
| Commercialization Information Database | * Create/maintain commercialization information on awardees AND build survey tool OR, * Redirect awardees to central database - Build information into evaluation processes | * Read/write commercialization information in "real-time" subject to agency review of information inputted. | * Maintain all commercialization information |
| Annual Report | * No responsibilities in terms of maintaining information |  | * Update/maintain electronic tool to allow agencies to upload/publish their Annual Reports |
| Performance Management Tool | * No responsibilities in terms of maintaining information | * Build method to pull information in an automated way for evaluation processes (optional) | * Create/maintain database of performance management plan metrics and commercialization benchmark calculations |

**Appendix B: Timeline for Implementation**

|  | **FY 2011** | **FY 2013** | | | **FY 2014** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **1-Aug** | **1-Jan** | **1-Apr** | **1-Jul** | **1-Oct** |
| **Solicitations Database** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Company Registry**  **Release 1 (Basic)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Release 2 Advanced** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Application Information Database** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Award Information Database** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Increase frequency of reporting** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Calculate Commercialization Benchmark (P1 --> P2)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Add New Fields** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Commercialization Database** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Annual Report & Performance Metrics** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Other Reporting Requirements** |  |  |  |  |  |

1. http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-112publ81/pdf/PLAW-112publ81.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://tech-net.sba.gov/tech-net/public/dsp_search.cfm> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Technical capabilities include a vast array of user-friendly capabilities that are accessible by the public at no charge such as the Award Information Database, the Application Information Database, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. 15 U.S.C. § 638(a). [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. 15 U.S.C. § 638(e)(10). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. The National Institute of Health (NIH), Department of Energy (DOE), and the National Science Foundation (NSF) may award not more than 25% of their SBIR funds to small businesses. All other SBIR agencies may award not more than 15% of their SBIR funds to small businesses. <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-08-06/pdf/2012-18119.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Technical capabilities include a vast array of user-friendly capabilities that are accessible by the public at no charge such as the Award Information Database, the Application Information Database, etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. DOD supports collaboration whenever practical, however as stated previously the agency does not support the use of interagency/joint funding outside the DOD community. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)