

xTech INSIGHTS

QUARTERLY SNAPSHOT

Q3 FY26





A MESSAGE FROM PROGRAM MANAGER JESSICA STILLMAN

Since its inception, the **Army FUZE xTech Program** has evolved into an **innovative powerhouse**, transforming how the Army seeks, evaluates, and implements new technologies developed by industry innovators, academia, and small businesses.

A year ago, we introduced a brand-new competition format with **xTech|Live**, giving participants the chance to pitch their technologies in front of Army stakeholders at high-profile venues—an unprecedented initiative aimed at delivering real-time collaboration between innovators and decision-makers. Now, we are thrilled to already be preparing for our **sixth live competition**, demonstrating the growing demand and success of this format.

Equally exciting is the program’s commitment to **direct Soldier collaboration**. Today, almost **every xTech competition culminates with a Soldier exercise or demonstration**, enabling feedback from the end-users who will ultimately rely on these innovations in the field. This hands-on approach ensures technology is tested and refined to meet real operational needs.

Additionally, xTech is **reshaping innovation dynamics** with the launch of **xTech|Inversion**. While the Army has historically solicited ideas and intellectual property **from** industry, xTech|Inversion flips that model by sharing **Army-developed intellectual property with industry**, opening doors to co-creation, commercialization, and tech transition in ways never seen before. It’s not just a competition—it’s a transformational partnership model.

Through relentless evolution, collaboration, and problem-solving, xTech is empowering the innovators who will shape the future of Army modernization while creating tangible opportunities for technology transitions that benefit the warfighter. We’re building something extraordinary, and this quarter’s milestone-packed achievements are just the beginning.

RECORD METRICS

Since 2018, xTech has grown in both scale and impact. The metrics below highlight the program’s cumulative metrics to date.

56	61,655	\$36M	\$355M	36%
Competitions launched	Evaluations completed across all competitions.	In cash prizes disbursed.	In follow-on Army SBIR contracts awarded.	Of participants are new to the Army ecosystem, with our competitions bringing fresh innovators into the fold.

A Soldier from the 2nd Cavalry guides a UGV to tow a disabled service vehicle as part of a demonstration during the Distinguished Visitors Day of the **xTech|Edge Strike: Ground finals**.

XTECH MILESTONES: HIGHLIGHTS TO DATE

The last several months have been a game-changing period for the **Army FUZE xTech Program**. Recently the program has completed seven prize competitions, with another six still active in FY26.

RECENTLY COMPLETED COMPETITIONS

xTech Disrupt ■ Partner: U.S. Army Directorate for Strategy & Transformation ■ \$500k in Cash Prizes ■ Topic Areas: Electronic Warfare; Power Generation/Management/Storage; UAS, C-UAS	xTech Counter Strike ■ Partner: U.S. Army Europe and Africa and Global Tactical Acquisition Directorate ■ \$2.5M in Cash Prizes ■ Topic Areas: Passive UAS Detection; Active UAS Detection; Defeat of UAS; Threat-simulated UAS
xTech Overwatch ■ Partner: Army Transformation and Training Command (T2COM) ■ \$1M in Cash Prizes ■ \$40M in Direct to Phase II SBIR Contracts ■ Topic Areas: UAV; UGV; Sensors	xTech Soldier Fire ■ Partner: PAE Maneuver Ground (formally PEO Soldier) ■ \$300k in Cash Prizes ■ \$5M in Follow-on Contracts ■ Topic Area: Next Generation Squad Weapon Fire Control Module-x (NGSW-FC-M-X)
xTech Edge Strike: Ground ■ Partners: U.S. Army Europe and Africa and Global Tactical Acquisition Directorate ■ \$2M in Cash Prizes ■ Topic Areas: Ground Payload Delivery System; Uncrewed, automated, modular ground platform; Containerized Ground Launched Effect System; Autonomous Minefield System; Autonomous Entrenching & Obstacle System	xTech National Security Hackathon ■ Partners: U.S. Navy, U.S. Space Force, Cerebral Valley, and Shield Capital ■ \$50k in Cash Prizes ■ Topic Areas: Sensor Analysis and Integration; Edge Deployments and Drone Operation; Mission Command and Control; Digital Defense and Cybersecurity; General National Security
xTech Live at eMerge Americas 2026 ■ Partners: U.S. Army 101st Airborne Division and the Joint Innovation Outpost ■ \$600k in Cash Prizes ■ Topic Areas: Counter-sUAS for Dismounted Forces; Stratospheric Effects; Reconnaissance and Security for Reduced Formations; Rear Area Security	

ACTIVE FY26 COMPETITIONS

U.S. ARMY TECH HUMANOID Partner: Humanoid Community of Collaboration \$490k in Cash Prizes \$1.25M in Follow-on Contracts Topic Areas: Baseline Humanoid System; Advanced Humanoid Subsystems	ARMY FUZE TECH INVERSION Partner: Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of the Army \$1M in Cash Prizes \$1.5M in Phase I SBIR Contracts Topic Areas: 16 Diverse Army IP Sets
ARMY FUZE TECH ADAPTIVE STRIKE Partners: U.S. Army 3rd Infantry Division and the MARNE Innovation Center \$1.5M in Cash Prizes Topic Areas: Extended On-Station Time and Range for MRR; Affordable Drones and Loitering Munitions for Scaled Operations; Power Generation for Ground Units with sUAS; C-UAS for Soldier Operations	ARMY FUZE TECH KINETIC REACH Partners: U.S. Army Europe and Africa and Global Tactical Acquisition Directorate \$1.5 in Cash Prizes \$12.7M in Follow-on Contracts Topic Areas: Autonomous Container Handling/Movement System; Future Power Generation; Autonomous UAV/UGV Forward Arming and Refueling Point (FARP) System; Uncrewed Aerial Payload Transportation
ARMY FUZE TECH PHANTUM Partner: Army Directorate for Strategy & Transformation \$200k in Cash Prizes \$2.4M in Phase I SBIR Contracts Topic Areas: Quantum Sensors and Quantum Clocks for Position, Navigation, and Timing (PNT); Quantum Radio Frequency Sensors; Quantum Electromagnetic Sensors; Photonics	ARMY FUZE TECH APEX INTERCEPT Partners: Capability Program Executive Defensive Fires \$8M in Cash Prizes Topic Areas: Low-Cost Interceptor AUR and Fire Control; Low-Cost Solid Rocket Motor; Low-Cost Seeker; Fire Control and Flight Guidance Implementation



FROM THE GROUND UP: SOLDIER COLLABORATION DRIVING RESULTS

"IN THE DIRT" WITH SOLDIERS— WHERE INNOVATION MEETS ACTION

Direct Soldier engagement has become a central component of the xTech program, helping ensure technologies meet the needs of the warfighter. This commitment is evident in the inclusion of live Soldier feedback at every stage, making demonstrations and field exercises a hallmark of almost all xTech competitions.



Forterra Technology during demonstration with 1st Brigade Soldiers at the xTech|Overwatch Finals event.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS THIS QUARTER INCLUDE:

- **XTECH|EDGE STRIKE: GROUND (March 26, Grafenwöhr, Germany):** Army stakeholders collaborated with V Corps, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, and Global Tactical Edge Acquisition Directorate (G-TEAD) to evaluate autonomy solutions tailored to logistics, maneuver support, and contested environments.
Results: 14 technologies tested, 10 Master Business Agreements secured, and 8 kits left for further assessments.
- **XTECH|ADAPTIVE STRIKE SEMIFINALS (June 1-19, National Training Center, Ft. Irwin, CA):** Seventeen semifinalist teams demonstrated emerging technologies alongside Soldier units and Army stakeholders, including the **U.S. Army 3rd Infantry Division** and **C2 Trail Boss**—setting the stage for Soldier-driven feedback on breakthrough technologies designed for tactical edge operations.
Results: 10 finalists selected to advance to Phase 3: Final Soldier Exercise and awarded \$50k each to support continued technology maturation.

Future xTech competitions will continue to bring cutting-edge technology directly to Soldiers and their decision-makers, ensuring tech transition aligns with operational demands—from the field to the battlefield.



xTech|Disrupt winner Mesodyne works with Soldiers at JPMRC experimentation event in Hawaii to demonstrate its fuel-agnostic, ultra-portable power generator.

INSIDE XTECH|INVERSION: SHARING ARMY IP WITH INDUSTRY

REDEFINING TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION AND TRANSITION

One of the most significant milestones of the past quarter was the launch of xTech|Inversion, a competition designed to enable industry to innovate using Army-developed intellectual property (IP).

Historically, the Army relied on industry to bring IP forward for consideration—but now we're pioneering an entirely novel approach. xTech|Inversion flips the model, allowing industry innovators to enhance Army-created technologies, explore commercialization pathways, and accelerate defense capability transitions.

This new paradigm breaks with tradition, fostering radically new avenues for collaboration and co-creation—and delivering bold solutions to tomorrow's battlefield challenges faster than ever before.

Opportunity Meets Impact: xTech|Inversion Finals at Fed Supernova (Aug. 18-20, Austin, TX)

- 12 Finalists compete for **\$1M in cash prizes** and up to **\$1.5M in Phase I SBIR contracts**.

FROM COMPETITION TO ACQUISITION VEHICLE

As the Army seeks to rapidly address emerging operational challenges, xTech is increasingly being leveraged as more than a technology discovery platform. During a June Industry Day focused on low-cost interceptor technologies, Secretary of the Army Hon. Daniel Driscoll and the Army Acquisition Executive (AAE) Hon. Brent G. Ingraham joined industry leaders to discuss the need for innovative, cost-effective solutions capable of augmenting existing air and missile defense capabilities. The event also served as an early introduction to an upcoming xTech competition aligned to this demand signal, underscoring xTech's role as a critical pathway for accelerating capability development, acquisition, and transition.

This role extends beyond competition awards alone. Within the PIT portfolio, xTech's partnership with G-TEAD on Accelerated Capability Events (ACEs) pairs xTech competitions with Soldier exercises to evaluate and test promising technologies in theater-relevant environments. Through this partnership, innovators gain potential follow-on opportunities including Other Transaction (OT) agreements, while outcomes such as leave-behind kits enable continued evaluation by Army stakeholders.

Together, these efforts demonstrate how xTech is reshaping the path from requirement to Soldier-tested and deployed capability across the Army modernization enterprise.

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS: INNOVATORS TRANSFORMING DEFENSE CELEBRATING BREAKTHROUGHS FUELED BY XTECH



ICARUS: Winner of xTech|Live at SOF Week 2025, Icarus is thriving within the Army innovation ecosystem, advancing their APOLLO platform from a TRL 2-3 to TRL 6 in less than a year. Their technology is already playing a key role in Project Convergence and Multi-Domain Task Force operations.



GSI TECHNOLOGY, INC.: As a winner of xTech|Search 8 for its Gemini APU2 AI accelerator technology, GSI Technology has continued advancing the platform through development of its next-generation Gemini-II processor for edge computing and in April 2026, recently secured a U.S. Army Phase I SBIR contract supporting tactical defense applications.



R2 WIRELESS: Following its selection as an xTech|Disrupt C-UAS winner, R2 Wireless has secured new defense partnerships and raised more than \$5 million in new funding. Today, its ODIN adaptive spectrum dominance platform is being deployed with the DoW, and the Department of Homeland Security, reflecting the company's growing defense partnerships.

LOOK AHEAD: UPCOMING COMPETITIONS & EVENTS

THE FUTURE OF XTECH COMPETITIONS		
xTech Apex Intercept	xTech Search 10	xTech Disrupt 2
Featuring the largest cash prize pool in xTech competition history, the competition represents a significant investment in accelerating the identification, demonstration, and transition of low-cost air and missile defense solutions.	The tenth iteration of xTech’s iconic open-topic competition provides innovators with a unique chance to showcase solutions that might not align with specific Army requirements but nonetheless hold potential for wide-ranging defense applications.	Returning to the Association of the United States Army Annual Meeting and Exposition (AUSA) this fall, xTech Disrupt will once again bring innovators face-to-face with Army and DoW stakeholders through its live competition format. The event provides a unique opportunity for rapid technology engagement, real-time feedback, and direct access to the perspectives and priorities of potential Army end users.
Why Participate? \$8M in total cash prizes, potential invitation to Army exercise, and direct feedback from Army and DoW experts.	Why Participate? Cash prizes, Phase I SBIR contracts, and tailored mentorship via the Accelerator Program.	Why Participate? Live pitching, cash prizes, direct Army engagement, potential invitation to Army exercise, and real-time feedback from Army and DoW stakeholders.

UPCOMING FINALIST EVENTS TIMELINE

REMAINDER OF FY26

JUL	AUG	SEP
July 21-24 xTech Phantom Finals Phoenix, AZ Partner: DAMI-ST Finalists: 16 Awards: \$200k cash, up to \$2.4M Phase I SBIR contracts	Aug 18-20 xTech Inversion Finals Austin, TX Partner: DUSA Finalists: 12 Awards: \$1M cash, up to \$1.5M Phase I SBIR contracts	Sep 9-11 xTech Humanoid Finals Stafford, VA Partner: Humanoid Community of Collaboration Finalists: 10 Awards: \$490k cash, up to \$1.25M in potential contract awards

PLANNED NEXT FY

NOV

November 2026: xTech Adaptive Strike Finals Ft. Irwin, CA Partner: 3ID Finalists: 10 Awards: \$100k cash	November 2026: xTech Kinetic Reach Finals Grafenwöhr, Germany Partners: USAREUR-AF; G-TEAD Finalists: 15 Awards: \$150k cash, up to \$10 M Phase I SBIR contracts, up to \$2.7M in OTAs	November 2026: xTech Apex Intercept Finals Location TBA Partner: PAE Defensive Fires Finalists: 18 Awards: \$8M cash
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To learn more about the xTech program and to stay up to date on upcoming and active competitions, follow us on social media and visit our website.

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