Special Notice
Plan X Proposers’ Day Workshop
DARPA-SN-12-51
August 17, 2012
The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) Information Innovation Office (I2O) will host a Proposers’ Day in support of the anticipated Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) for the Plan X program.

The Proposers’ Day Workshop will be held on 27 September at the DARPA Conference Center, 675 N. Randolph Street, Arlington, VA from 0900 to 1600 EDT. There will be an unclassified session in the morning and a classified SECRET session in the afternoon. Attendance at the afternoon session is limited to individuals with US DOD SECRET clearances or higher. Neither session is open to the general public or members of the media. It is anticipated that the Plan X BAA will be released by the end of September 2012.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVE AND DESCRIPTION

The objective of the Plan X program is to create revolutionary technologies for understanding, planning, and managing cyberwarfare in real-time, large-scale, and dynamic network environments. Plan X will also conduct novel research into the nature of cyberwarfare and support development of fundamental strategies and tactics needed to dominate the cyber battlespace. The Plan X program is explicitly not funding research and development efforts in vulnerability analysis or cyberweapon generation.

DARPA seeks innovative research in four key areas in support of Plan X:

- **Understanding the cyber battlespace:** This area focuses on developing automated analysis techniques to assist human operators in planning cyber operations. Specifically, analyzing large-scale logical network topology characteristics of nodes (i.e., edge count, dynamic vs. static links, usage) and edges (i.e. latency, bandwidth, periodicity).

- **Automatically constructing verifiable and quantifiable cyber operations:** This area focuses on developing high-level mission plans and automatically synthesizing a mission script that is executed through a human-on-the-loop interface, similar to the auto-pilot function in modern aircraft. This process will leverage formal methods to provably quantify the potential battle damage from each synthesized mission plan.

- **Developing operating systems and platforms designed to operate in dynamic, contested, and hostile network environments:** This area focuses on building hardened “battle units” that can perform cyberwarfare functions such as battle damage monitoring, communication relay, weapon deployment, and adaptive defense.

- **Visualizing and interacting with large-scale cyber battlespaces:** This area focuses on developing intuitive views and overall user experience. Coordinated views of the cyber battlespace will provide cyberwarfare functions of planning, operation, situational awareness, and war gaming.

A system architecture team is also sought to lead the end-to-end Plan X system development. This will include working with Plan X performers to develop the standard system application programming interfaces, data format specifications, and performer integration schedule. The system architecture team will also be responsible for purchasing Plan X system infrastructure and hardware.

The Plan X program is structured around an on-site DARPA cyberwar laboratory where performers will continuously integrate developing technologies into the end-to-end Plan X system. It is fully expected
that performers have off-site development facilities, with key integration personnel at the on-site laboratory. The Plan X development approach and schedule will use agile development principles. **The goals of the Proposers’ Day Workshop are:** 1) to educate proposers and government partners on Plan X concepts and key technology areas, 2) to demonstrate key Plan X concepts to attendees using interactive technology prototypes, and 3) to encourage and promote teaming arrangements among interested organizations. The Proposers’ Day Workshop will include program overview presentations, in-depth technical area briefs, and an interactive prototype session of DARPA funded concepts.

**TENTATIVE AGENDA**

**Thursday, 27 September 2012**
Registration: 0900 – 1000 EDT
Presentations/Discussions: 1000 – 1200 EDT and 1300 – 1600 EDT

**Friday, 28 September 2012**
Scheduled one-on-one meetings with the Program Manager: 1000 – 1200 EDT and 1300 – 1600 EDT

* You must register at the Proposers’ Day Workshop. Slots are on a first come first serve basis.

These one-on-one meetings will be held at 675 N. Randolph Street, Arlington, VA.

**REGISTRATION INFORMATION**
The afternoon session will be classified and therefore attendance is limited to individuals with US DOD SECRET clearances or higher. Participants MUST register no later than 1200 ET on 18 September 2012 on the Plan X registration website: [https://www.schafertmd.com/darpa/i2o/planx/proposerday/](https://www.schafertmd.com/darpa/i2o/planx/proposerday/).

Attendance will be limited to a maximum of 3 individuals per organization. All attendees will be required to present government-issued photo identification upon entry to the event. Attendance at the afternoon session requires one of the attendees to be a security representative. All other attendees MUST be technical.

Attendance at the Plan X Proposers’ Day is voluntary and is not required to propose to subsequent solicitations on this topic. The Proposers’ Day does not constitute a formal solicitation for proposals or abstracts. DARPA will not provide reimbursement for costs incurred to participate in this Industry Day. Interested parties to this notice are cautioned that nothing herein obligates the Government to issue a solicitation.

For attendees wishing to take part in the classified afternoon session, a Visit Request must be submitted no later than 1200 EDT on 18 September 2012 to:

DARPA
Attn: Plan X Proposers’ Day Workshop
675 N. Randolph Street
Arlington, VA 22203
Visitor Control Center Phone #: 703-528-3902
Fax to: 703-528-3655 OR JPAS to SMO Code DDAAUS4
Purpose of Meeting: Plan X Proposers’ Day Workshop

**POINT OF CONTACT:** All questions regarding the Proposers’ Day Workshop should be sent to planx@darpa.mil.