

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM - USA

contractors, is usually very different from the non-defence areas mentioned above. This requires a higher level of specialised knowledge, or in some cases needs to be worked in conjunction with DND. There are many other opportunities, too numerous to innumerate here.

For research organisations, working with US Government departments/agencies or laboratories, private NFP research organisations and companies – directly or through NSF/NSERC funding mechanisms and conferences – can prove fruitful. Canadian companies often work with Canadian Government Departments in US projects using Government-to-Government Agreements or agency-to-agency arrangements (usually Memoranda of Understanding “MOUs”) – of which there are boundless numbers between Canada and the US. This can be very complex and has numerous obstacles due to US Government restrictions on spending outside of the US, or security restrictions. The US is a very large country (geographically) and has a complex web of federal S&T departments, agencies, laboratories and other government associated organisations. In some cases there are US professional associations that allow Canadian members or have Canadian counterparts.

The US is taking steps to initiate commonality in its umbrella S&T Agreements with foreign countries, but those with its closest allies (e.g. Australia) are likely to have enhancements. There is no umbrella Government-to-Government S&T Agreement between the US and Canada. However, the US and Canada have numerous specialised agency-to-agency S&T arrangements or Memoranda of Understanding which can provide an enhanced level of working with the US. Opportunities will always be available for Canada (universities, labs and companies) to work with the major US federal funding departments and agencies – DOD, NIH, NASA, DOE – where Canada has leading edge or unique research capability. US Federal Departments and American industry have welcomed Canadians wishing to collaborate in R&D projects, outside the limits of projects with a high level of security. Recent US legislative changes have made Canadian bidding for, and collaborating in, US technology projects more difficult. A knowledge of how to deal with US Government and US prime contractors subsequent to these changes is essential for Canadian companies and research institutes to collaborate in the US in certain technology areas.

Canada has a number of offices in the US to provide assistance to Canadian companies and research organisations. More information can be found through <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/dfait/missions/menu-e.asp>. (USE [-f.asp](#) in French version)