# Dossier: ANONYMOUS A.I INC

## SBIR Award Details

**Award Title:** N/A

**Amount:** $1,249,997.00

**Award Date:** 2024-03-28

**Branch:** USAF

## AI-Generated Intelligence Summary

**Company Overview:**

Shield AI is a defense technology company focused on developing AI pilots for aircraft. Their primary business involves creating autonomous systems that enable unmanned and optionally manned aircraft to perform a variety of missions, from intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) to contested logistics and close air support. Shield AI's core mission is to protect service members and civilians by reducing risks and increasing the effectiveness of military operations. They aim to solve the problem of manned aviation vulnerabilities in dangerous environments by providing intelligent, autonomous systems capable of navigating complex scenarios without human intervention. Their unique value proposition lies in their demonstrated ability to deploy AI pilots in real-world environments and their focus on edge-based autonomy that operates without reliance on GPS or human control.

**Technology Focus:**

* Hivemind:\*\* An AI pilot designed to enable aircraft to perform autonomous flight in contested environments without GPS or communication links. It uses onboard sensors and advanced algorithms for navigation, perception, and decision-making.
* V-BAT:\*\* A vertical takeoff and landing (VTOL) unmanned aircraft system (UAS) integrated with Hivemind AI. The V-BAT platform serves as a testbed and operational vehicle for the AI pilot, capable of conducting ISR and other missions.
* Software and Simulation:\*\* Developing simulation tools and software environments to accelerate AI pilot training and validation. They claim to have developed an advanced digital twin environment for testing and refining Hivemind.

**Recent Developments & Traction:**

* Series E Funding (June 2022):\*\* Raised $90 million in Series E funding, bringing the company's valuation to $2.8 billion. The round was led by Disruptive.
* V-BAT Integration & Testing:\*\* Continued testing and integration of Hivemind AI with the V-BAT platform, including demonstrations of autonomous flight capabilities in various environments. Specifics on operational deployments are limited due to sensitivity.
* Expansion of Team & Capabilities:\*\* Publicly stated plans to expand their engineering and operational teams to support the development and deployment of their AI pilot technology.

**Leadership & Team:**

* Ryan Tseng (CEO):\*\* Former Navy SEAL. Demonstrated leadership in operational environments is leveraged for defense technology development.
* Brandon Tseng (President):\*\* Former Navy SEAL. Brings operational experience to product development and strategy.

**Competitive Landscape:**

* Anduril Industries:\*\* Develops a range of autonomous systems and defense technologies. Differentiator: Shield AI focuses more narrowly on AI pilots specifically for aircraft, emphasizing fully autonomous operation in GPS-denied environments, while Anduril has a broader portfolio.
* Kratos Defense & Security Solutions:\*\* Manufactures unmanned systems and develops related technologies. Differentiator: Shield AI's focus is on the AI software layer, providing autonomy for existing and future aircraft platforms, while Kratos is more hardware-focused, developing and manufacturing unmanned aircraft.

**Sources:**

1. [https://www.shield.ai/](https://www.shield.ai/)

2. [https://www.crunchbase.com/organization/shield-ai](https://www.crunchbase.com/organization/shield-ai)

3. [https://news.crunchbase.com/aerospace-defense/shield-ai-venture-capital-funding/](https://news.crunchbase.com/aerospace-defense/shield-ai-venture-capital-funding/)

4. [https://www.defensenews.com/unmanned/2022/06/23/shield-ai-raises-90-million-as-valuation-hits-28-billion/](https://www.defensenews.com/unmanned/2022/06/23/shield-ai-raises-90-million-as-valuation-hits-28-billion/)