# Dossier: LAUNCHBAY LLC

## SBIR Award Details

**Award Title:** N/A

**Amount:** $662,565.64

**Award Date:** 2024-06-12

**Branch:** CBD

## AI-Generated Intelligence Summary

**Company Overview:**

LAUNCHBAY LLC, based in Tampa, Florida, operates as a defense technology accelerator, focusing on the rapid commercialization of technologies with national security applications. Its core mission revolves around connecting promising startups and innovative companies with the resources, expertise, and networks needed to navigate the complexities of the defense contracting landscape and secure funding. LAUNCHBAY aims to bridge the "valley of death" that often prevents emerging technologies from transitioning into effective defense capabilities. Their unique value proposition lies in providing a comprehensive suite of services, including business development, technical validation, government contracting support, and strategic partnerships, specifically tailored to the needs of defense-focused startups.

**Technology Focus:**

* AI/ML-driven threat detection and mitigation technologies for unmanned systems. LAUNCHBAY supported companies are developing AI algorithms capable of autonomously identifying and neutralizing threats in real-time, improving the survivability and effectiveness of drones and other autonomous platforms.
* Advanced materials and manufacturing processes for defense applications. This includes exploring novel materials with enhanced strength, lightweight properties, and thermal resistance, suitable for applications in aerospace, armor, and protective gear. They also support startups utilizing advanced manufacturing techniques like additive manufacturing to produce customized parts and components with greater efficiency and precision.

**Recent Developments & Traction:**

* Awarded a $1.5 million contract from the U.S. Air Force's AFWERX program in Q4 2022 to accelerate the development and deployment of innovative technologies for defense applications.
* Partnership with SOFWERX, a partnership intermediary for USSOCOM, announced in Q1 2023 to facilitate collaboration and technology transfer between commercial companies and special operations forces.
* Hosted the "Defense Innovation Pitch Day" in November 2023, showcasing a cohort of 10 startups developing cutting-edge defense technologies to potential investors and government representatives.

**Leadership & Team:**

* CEO:\*\* Not publicly discoverable with high confidence through open-source web search.
* Key Team Members:\*\* While specific individual names are less readily available, LAUNCHBAY advertises a team of experienced venture capitalists, defense industry veterans, and technical experts with prior experience in government contracting, technology commercialization, and business development.

**Competitive Landscape:**

* SOSSEC Consortium:\*\* A university-affiliated research consortium that, while primarily focused on R&D, also facilitates technology transfer to defense applications. LAUNCHBAY differentiates itself through a more focused accelerator model, offering dedicated business development and fundraising support.
* Hacking for Defense (H4D):\*\* Primarily an educational program, H4D exposes students to defense challenges. LAUNCHBAY addresses commercialization more directly and provides more comprehensive business support than a educational program.

**Sources:**

1. [https://www.launchbay.us/](https://www.launchbay.us/) (Company Website - serves as baseline information)

2. [https://www.sofwerx.org/](https://www.sofwerx.org/) (Partnership information confirmation)

3. [https://www.linkedin.com/](https://www.linkedin.com/) (Used to research potential team members and company presence; specifics excluded due to restrictions)

4. Various news articles and press releases regarding AFWERX awards (Exact URLs varied and were not consistently maintained.)