# Dossier: QNECT LLC

## SBIR Award Details

**Award Title:** N/A

**Amount:** $1,860,233.75

**Award Date:** 2024-09-04

**Branch:** ARMY

## AI-Generated Intelligence Summary

**Company Overview:**

Qnect LLC, based in Hadley, MA, specializes in connection design software and services for structural steel. Their primary business is providing software that automates and optimizes the design and detailing of steel connections, reducing man-hours, material waste, and project timelines. Their core mission is to revolutionize steel connection design through automation, making it faster, more efficient, and more cost-effective. They aim to solve the problems of manual, time-consuming connection design processes, which often lead to errors, over-design, and increased project costs. Qnect's unique value proposition lies in its ability to rapidly generate and optimize connection designs, leveraging cloud-based computing and proprietary algorithms to achieve significant time and material savings compared to traditional methods.

**Technology Focus:**

* Qnect offers a cloud-based software platform that utilizes proprietary algorithms to automatically design and optimize steel connections based on project specifications, loads, and code requirements. It integrates with popular BIM (Building Information Modeling) platforms like Tekla Structures and Revit.
* The software can analyze and design various connection types, including shear connections, moment connections, and bracing connections, aiming for designs that minimize material usage and fabrication costs. They claim to reduce steel costs by 3-10% and engineering hours by up to 90%.

**Recent Developments & Traction:**

* Partnership with AISC (American Institute of Steel Construction):\*\* Qnect announced a partnership with AISC to provide educational resources and training on automated connection design. (Date not explicitly stated, but implied to be within last 2 years through news mentions.)
* Software Updates & Enhancements:\*\* Qnect continues to release updated versions of its software with improved features and performance. Publicly available release notes indicate regular updates focusing on algorithm improvements and integration enhancements.

**Leadership & Team:**

* Jef Sharp (CEO):\*\* Extensive experience in the steel fabrication and construction industries. Details regarding previous companies were not found in the top search results.
* The team also includes engineers with expertise in structural steel design, software development, and cloud computing.\*\* Individual names beyond the CEO weren't readily available through the primary search results.

**Competitive Landscape:**

* IDEA StatiCa:\*\* A major competitor offering comprehensive steel connection design software. Qnect differentiates itself through its specific focus on automation and optimization, with a claim of quicker design times and superior material savings in certain scenarios compared to the broader capabilities of IDEA StatiCa.
* Other competitors include smaller companies and traditional engineering service providers offering manual connection design services.

**Sources:**

1. [https://qnect.com/](https://qnect.com/)

2. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s7qHwB18t-M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s7qHwB18t-M)

3. [https://www.aisc.org/](https://www.aisc.org/) (Accessed to verify AISC partnership)