U.S. Navy's Project Reduces Ship Maintenance Times and Expedites Deployments

Fiscal Years: FY 2020 and FY 2021

Location: Norfolk, Virginia

Company: ITA International (ITA)

Value: $200 million

Office: U.S. Navy Mid-Atlantic Region

Project: Logistics Common Operational Picture (LOGCOP)

The Challenge:

The U.S. Navy Mid-Atlantic Regional Maintenance Center (MARMC) is responsible for monitoring all ship availabilities in private shipyards in the Hampton Roads, Virginia, area. MARMC has an annual budget of $1.5 billion but had only a 30% success rate of getting ships out of scheduled availabilities on time. These delays disrupted the ship deployment cycle of the entire fleet. MARMC had a significant amount of data but was unable to effectively use it to manage ship availabilities.

The Solution:

The Navy awarded a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase III contract to ITA to extend their Phase II LOGCOP tool from ship logistics to ship maintenance. In addition to this Navy Phase III contract, ITA has two Phase III contracts with GSA that have a combined value of approximately $200 million. Under those contracts, ITA is extending the LOGCOP tool, building an entire toolkit of applications called ARENA, and applying the toolkit across the Department of Defense (DOD). The ARENA toolkit will transform data into a high-level information decision support system that will help man, train, and equip DOD forces.

![GSA logo]

> The vendor created a toolkit to transform data into a high-level information decision support system that will help DOD forces.

The Impact:

The Navy estimates that every extra day a ship stays in the yard costs taxpayers an additional $150,000. The Navy's Phase III project with ITA has more than paid for itself by reducing the number of days required for maintenance, getting ships back to the fleet ahead of schedule, and eliminating disruptions to ship deployment cycles. The effort was so successful that the House Committee on Armed Services noted its success by name in the FY 2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Specifically, the NDAA stated: "The committee is particularly impressed with how MARMC has leveraged previous Department of Defense SBIR investments in Data Analytics to drive improved performance in the ship maintenance process. By extending the Expeditionary Logistics (EXLOG)/LOGCOP tool created under the SBIR program, the command has increased the speed and quality of decisions which is resulting in improved performance during maintenance periods. The committee believes the Navy should leverage this SBIR technology to improve the tool and expand this best practice to other Regional Maintenance Centers. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of the Navy, by February 1, 2022, to prepare a brief to the House Committee on Armed Services as to the Secretary's intent to expand these data analytic tools and techniques throughout the ship maintenance enterprise."