7Q: What is the definition of “significant extent”?
   7A: Significant participation isn't defined by dollar value, but by whether the NDC/nonprofit research institution or university will supply a new key technology, product or process; supply a novel application or approach to an existing technology, product or process; provide a material increase in the performance, efficiency, quality or versatility of a key technology, product or process; accomplish a significant amount of the prototype project; cause a material reduction in the cost or schedule of the prototype project; or, provide for a material increase in performance of the prototype project.

▲▲▲▲ New Questions and Answers ▲▲▲▲

6Q: Who should we contact regarding questions about upcoming AIE topics? Can we have a brief conversation to provide clarity?
   6A: Future AIE Opportunities will be published as Pre-Solicitation Notices on FedBizOpps issued under Program Announcement (PA) DARPA-PA-18-02. The AIE Opportunity will list a POC.

5Q: Are foreign individuals/organizations eligible to propose to DARPA-PA-18-02?
   5A: Yes, as stated in DARPA-PA-18-02, all responsible sources capable of satisfying the Government's needs may submit a proposal that shall be considered by DARPA. Proposers must meet the eligibility criteria in both DARPA-PA-18-02 (Section 4) and the AIE Opportunity to which they are applying. Per DARPA-PA-18-02, “non-U.S. organizations and/or individuals may participate to the extent that such participants comply with any necessary nondisclosure agreements, security regulations, export control laws, and other governing statutes applicable under the circumstances.” However, the AIE Opportunity to which you are applying may detail additional eligibility requirements limiting foreign participation.

4Q: Can private companies apply for AIE opportunities under DARPA-PA-18-02?
   4A: Yes, private companies may propose to AIE opportunities. DARPA encourages all eligible organizations to submit proposals. With the passing of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of 2018, an update to the statutory language under section 2371b(d)(1) permits DARPA’s OT authority to be used only when one of the following conditions are met:
   (A) There is at least one nontraditional defense contractor or nonprofit research institution participating to a significant extent in the prototype project.
   (B) All significant participants in the transaction other than the Federal Government are small businesses (including small businesses participating in a program described under section H. R. 2810—213 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638)) or nontraditional defense contractors.
   (C) At least one third of the total cost of the prototype project is to be paid out of funds provided by sources other than the Federal Government.
(D) The senior procurement executive for the agency determines in writing that exceptional circumstances justify the use of a transaction that provides for innovative business arrangements or structures that would not be feasible or appropriate under a contract, or would provide an opportunity to expand the defense supply base in a manner that would not be practical or feasible under a contract.

Please refer to Appendix A: Other Transactions Authority in DARPA-PA-18-02 for additional information.

3Q: Will there be a Proposer's Day for the program solicitation, and if so, when/where it will be held?
   3A: No, DARPA will not hold a Proposer’s Day.

2Q: Is there a particular DARPA Program office(s) involved?
   2A: Multiple DARPA offices will be involved. AIE Opportunities will list a specific DARPA Program Office and POC.

1Q: Are you interested in hearing about potential research ideas at this point, or do we need to wait for a specific announcement to be made? What is the anticipated date of the first AIE program solicitation and name of the associated program manager?
   1A: Per DARPA-PA-18-02 Section 2.2 “Future AIE Opportunities will be published as Pre-Solicitation Notices on FedBizOpps issued under Program Announcement (PA) DARPA-PA-18-02. These AIE Opportunities will solicit proposals and will be open for at least 30 days from publication at https://www.fbo.gov/.”