A Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) is a legal document that permits the transfer of Sandia National Laboratories' technologies, processes, research and development capabilities, and technical know-how to the private sector. Such technology transfer is authorized by the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980. Sandia and the Department of Energy (DOE) benefit from collaborative research supporting DOE missions and program objectives. The Participant benefits from access to Sandia’s unique technologies, capabilities and expertise.

What distinguishes a CRADA from other partnership mechanisms is the collaborative nature of the work. Through a CRADA, you and Sandia will work together as partners. For guidance with regard to the appropriate partnership mechanism contact CRADA@sandia.gov.

WHAT IS A CRADA?

The DOE/Sandia Scaled Wind Farm Technology (SWiFT) facility allows for rapid, cost-efficient testing and development of transformative wind energy technology, with specific emphasis on improving wind plant performance. For more information visit swift.sandia.gov.
Goodyear’s strategic partnership with Sandia helps them bring innovative products to market more quickly, making the company more competitive.

CRADA BENEFITS

Executing a CRADA with Sandia Corporation can allow industry partners to:

• Access Sandia’s unique technologies, processes, capabilities, and technical know-how
• Potentially obtain up to an exclusive license to Sandia-developed intellectual property
• Stretch R&D money to accomplish R&D objectives
• Protect commercially valuable information developed jointly under a CRADA
• Access Sandia’s unique technologies, processes, industry partners to:

GETTING STARTED

Requirements:

To work with Sandia under a CRADA, the following is required:

• A written statement of work and related supporting documentation
• Acceptance of the CRADA’s legal terms and conditions
• Review and approval of the project by DOE

Contact Sandia’s CRADA team as soon as collaborative work is being considered.

FUNDING

Funds for Cash payments made by the partner to pay for CRADA work.

DOE requires that the Partner maintain a 60-day funding reserve. This funding reserve cannot be used to pay Sandia’s costs for CRADA work until the Participant’s total funds-in-kind contribution has been received. Since Sandia can perform work only when funding is received in advance, the Partner shall also provide a minimum of 30 days of advance funding. Sandia shall not begin work under the CRADA until the agreement is executed and both the 60-day funding reserve and the 30-day minimum advance funding are received.

DOE also requires a 3% Federal Administrative Charge (FAC) be added to Partner funds-in-kind unless the Partner is eligible for an exception to full-cost recovery (i.e., small businesses, institutes of higher education, state and local governments).

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

In most circumstances, both the industry partner and Sandia will be utilizing existing intellectual property (Background Intellectual Property or BIP) that they have already created. Each party will identify its BIP prior to the execution of the CRADA in order to avoid any confusion during the course of the CRADA relative to ownership of the BIP. BIP typically includes:

• Existing inventions,
• Existing patents or patent applications,
• Existing software code/copyrights,
• Existing engineering designs/blueprints.

Identified BIP will be incorporated into an appendix of the CRADA document.

INFORMATION EXCHANGE

A Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) should be completed and signed by both parties before any proprietary information is disclosed to Sandia or received from Sandia. Once a CRADA is executed information exchanged by Sandia and the industry partner is protected according to the terms of the CRADA.

CRADA EXECUTION PROCESS

1. Identify a need for collaboration.
2. Contact Sandia’s CRADA Team at CRADA@sandia.gov.
3. Determine Estimated Costs and Potential Funding Sources.
5. Agree on the CRADA’s legal terms and conditions.
6. Sign CRADA.
7. Provide payment, if applicable.

NOTE: Steps 3, 4 and 5 happen in parallel.

For a current listing of collaborative opportunities visit our website. Interested in collaborating with Sandia in a technical area but don’t yet have a specific project in mind? Contact CRADA@sandia.gov.

“Working with Sandia allows each company to focus on what we do best. Sandia designs cutting-edge microfabricated components and Rockwell Collins can integrate them to demonstrate new radio capabilities.”

Jim Loutzy, Senior Engineering Manager Advanced Radio Systems

Rockwell Collins Advanced Technology Center

Rockwell Collins has partnered with Sandia since 2008 and licensed the patented microresonator technology in 2010. Ken Wojciechowski and Troy Olsson, Sandia Principal Electronics Engineers, hold waivers of microresonator filters.