

## Forward Edge-Al Awarded Phase II SBIR Contract with the Space Development Agency

*New SBIR technology will secure global strategic and tactical communication in contested space environments.* 

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This milestone is a testament to Forward Edge-Al's capabilities and highlights the visionary work of the Space Development Agency in transforming space-based defense." *Ross Coffman, President*  Development Agency (SDA) is focused on developing the Proliferated Warfighter Space Architecture (PWSA), a comprehensive initiative aimed at enhancing military sensing and data transport capabilities in LEO (pLEO). The overarching goal of PWSA is to establish a robust framework that supports national defense by enabling efficient data transfer and processing in space. Today Forward Edge-AI announced award of a Phase II Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) contract by SDA to develop a quantum-resistant, high-throughput space encryptor for pLEOs. The new space encryptor will work

alongside Forward Edge-AI's High-throughput Space Router which is currently under development under a separate Phase II SBIR with SDA.

This SBIR Direct to Phase II Research/Research and Development (R/R&D) project aims to produce a Technology Readiness Level 8 (TRL-8), low Size, Weight, and Power-Cost (SWaP-C) quantum-resistant encryption device and achieve National Security Agency (NSA) Type 1 certification. The new encryption device is based on Isidore Quantum<sup>®</sup> and will enable point-to-multipoint encryption and facilitate cross-domain operations, ensuring that classified military networks can operate securely alongside unclassified commercial networks.

Advantages include significantly enhanced security for space-based communication and data processing. The quantum-resistant nature of the encryption ensures that communications remain secure against future quantum computing threats, which traditional IPSec methods cannot withstand as implemented. This future-proofing is vital for maintaining data integrity and confidentiality, protecting sensitive information from sophisticated cyberattacks. Proposed modifications to Isidore Quantum<sup>®</sup> will ensure that classified and unclassified data streams can coexist without risking unauthorized access or data breaches, thereby enhancing the overall security posture of space communication networks.

About Forward Edge-AI

Forward Edge AI, Inc. founded in 2019, is becoming a dominant player in AI and is leading the revolution in augmenting edge technology with human intelligence. Forward Edge-AI's mission is to solve complex problems in the public safety, national security, and defense sectors.

Forward Edge-Al is headquartered in San Antonio, Texas.

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