LEGISLATIVE BRIEF

Cybersecure Advanced Manufacturing for Texas

A powerful partnership between UTSA, the Department of Energy and leading industry experts to combat escalating cyber threats targeting our nation’s manufacturers.

ANNUAL FUNDING REQUEST $2,500,000 per year

INITIATIVE OVERVIEW
UTSA, via the Department of Energy-funded Cybersecurity Manufacturing Innovation Institute (CyManII) and the recently established National Security Collaboration Center (NSCC), will become the state’s and nation’s epicenter for research, innovation, and workforce development for resilient supply chains. These funds will leverage the CyManII investment and drive Texas business to the forefront of global competitiveness with resilient and cybersecure supply chains. The NSCC offers a direct pipeline to the Defense Industrial Base Sector and the U.S. Government for further business growth.

THE CHALLENGE
The current COVID-19 crisis has challenged America’s and Texas’ ability to respond rapidly to a pandemic threat. It further exposed vulnerabilities in supply chains that must be addressed to ensure our national and economic security in the face of threats such as pandemics, war, cyberattacks, and the rise of more technologically advanced adversaries. As we rebuild our economy, supply chains must become resilient and cybersecure.

Strengthening and securing supply chains is a top priority for our nation, and UTSA is poised to lead Texas businesses to pivot toward resilient supply chain management. Supply chains need to be PURE: Pandemic Adaptive, including operational modes that accommodate pervasive physical (social) distancing and remote work, Usable and accessible to everyone (e.g., soldiers, factory workforce, engineers), Resilient, agile, and able to withstand physical-world challenges such as pandemics, electrical grid failures, and cyber-attacks; and Economical so resiliency and security are maintained at all levels of the supply chain including small and medium sized businesses.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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THE IMPACT
This special initiative will allow UTSA, via CyManII and the NSCC, to offer Texas businesses the necessary innovations and training to compete and thrive by operating resilient supply chains. This positions Texas manufacturers and businesses to substantially increase their business volume and capture emerging national and global markets demanding secure management of complex supply chains. Introducing CyManII as an impartial and expert supplier of new innovations (as already recognized by DOE) to the Texas business ecosystem will result in Texas companies leapfrogging over competitors into new markets.

THE OPPORTUNITY
This special initiative positions CyManII, UTSA, and the NSCC, to offer Texas businesses necessary training, expertise, and advanced cybersecurity knowledge to maintain and substantially increase their business volume and capture new markets demanding supply chain security. Deliverables from this investment include:

» Identify and verify the usability of resilient supply chain management tools, developed in Texas by UTSA’s CyManII, and make these available to Texas businesses

» Training modules to show how to configure and secure cloud services for resilient adaptive supply chain management thus capturing new business opportunities and expanding business opportunities, especially within the U.S. Defense Industrial Supply Chain

» Develop the world’s first educational program in resilient supply chain risk management at UTSA

» Establish the Texas Resilient Supply Chain Task Force

» Establish an infrastructure at CyManII to launch a sophisticated R&D enterprise for the delivery of resilient supply chain modernizations for Texas companies, thus increasing their ability to out-innovate their competitors

BENEFITS TO SAN ANTONIO AND TEXAS
This special initiative thrusts Texas companies forward as global innovation leaders able to maintain and significantly grow their business volume thus raising the tax base for both San Antonio and Texas. Furthermore, it positions the San Antonio region as a national hub for resilient supply chains which will lead to companies relocating to San Antonio due to the innovations that CyManII will introduce for Texas and the nation.