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Beavercreek nonprofit's nearly \$100M contract to have 'substantial economic ripple effect'

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A nearly \$100 million contract awarded to a local nonprofit is expected to have a significant economic effect on the Dayton region and state of Ohio, officials say.

Parallax Advanced Research, a Beavercreek-based organization that aims to accelerate innovation and develop technology and solutions through strategic partnerships with government, industry and academia, recently received a \$97.5 million contract with the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), which is headquartered at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.



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A Beavercreek-based nonprofit recently received a \$97.5 million contract with the Air Force Research Laboratory, which is headquartered at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

The deal is for AFRL's Mission Analytics Technology and Research for Innovative eXploitation (MATRIX) initiative. The MATRIX program is focused on conducting basic, applied and advanced scientific and technical research in human-machine teaming, human performance, psychological processes and physiological indicators.

"This is an incredible opportunity for Parallax to support future warfighters and the mission," Parallax President and CEO Dennis Andersh said. "Parallax research scientists and engineers understand that the human mind is a rigorous analytical tool that, when paired with world-class technology and innovation, can become revolutionary. We look forward to seeing how our research improves the lives of airmen and guardians."

The seven-year project is expected to bring approximately \$87 million in payroll to Ohio. Parallax plans to hire more than 35 employees and contractors with expertise in human-machine teaming, cognitive psychology, artificial intelligence, software development, software architecture, intelligence processing, software design and human-machine interfaces. Parallax's hiring priorities are to attract talent throughout the state, with a focus on southwest Ohio. The nonprofit offers a salary range from \$55,000 to \$200,000 to new hires supporting the MATRIX contract.

"This contract will result in \$87 million in payroll over the next seven years," Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Chris Kershner said, adding the economic impact of the MATRIX contract is 'a significant investment being infused into our local and state economy that will have a substantial economic ripple effect.' "Parallax is carving a path for the next frontier of aerospace innovation, and they are doing it from right here in Beavercreek, Ohio."

Aligning with MATRIX objectives, Parallax aims to conduct research and development in three technical areas — multi-source analytics, joint all-domain systems analytics and machine learning analytics. This effort will include cognitive systems engineering and agile software development methods to envision enhanced workflows, develop and transition rapid software prototypes, and conduct scientific research and experimentation. The goal is to improve

analytic reasoning, insight, and meaning-making from complex and uncertain data in a variety of operational domains.

"Dayton continues to be a leader in development of our nation's military defense and capabilities," U.S. Rep. Mike Turner (R-Dayton) said. "This contract will help Parallax Advanced Research advance their operations so they can improve technologies and research, all while ensuring our military heroes are safer and better equipped to protect our country."

Parallax's research efforts also will apply human factors and data science principles to research foundational knowledge, and will develop and assess airman-centric analytics that support all mission phases in distributed, dynamic, contested and degraded operational environments.

At Parallax, the human performance program merges principles from cognitive systems engineering, human factors and neuroscience with operational subject matter to design and develop solutions for current issues and future challenges. These solutions aim to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of human and machine systems in commercial, industrial and defense environments.

"The retention and expansion of Ohio's military and federal installations, and their critical missions, are vital to the economic health of our state, as well as our national security," said Joe Zeis, Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine's senior advisor for aerospace and defense. "The MATRIX contract awarded to Parallax will result in leading-edge research in analytical reasoning within complex military operational domains. This can potentially bring high-quality defense-focused job opportunities to Ohio that advance our state's infrastructure and quality of life."

The Parallax team will collaborate with small and large businesses and academic institutions across the nation, including 361 Interactive, AIS, Azimuth, Barbaricum, Basis Technologies, Black River Systems, CFD Research, Intuidex, Kevadiya, Kitware, The Ohio State University, Radiance Technologies, RCS, Redpoint AI, Tenet3, University of Cincinnati and University of Dayton Research Institute.

"The development of industry-academia partnerships cultivate innovation across the state and strengthen our region's technical capabilities," Dayton Development Coalition President and CEO Jeff Hoagland said. "As Parallax adds the Air Force Research Laboratory-funded MATRIX project to its portfolio, the coalition stands ready to support this important work."

Parallax Advanced Research is a nonprofit whose mission is to tackle global challenges by accelerating innovation and developing technology and solutions through strategic partnerships with government, industry and academia across Ohio and the nation. Parallax looks to accelerate innovation through its academic partnerships, tackle global challenges with government partners and develop groundbreaking ideas with businesses.

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