



NASA's Impact in West Virginia: A Tech Transfer Perspective

You know that NASA studies our planet, our sun, the solar system, and the Universe. But did you know about the space program's economic impact here on Earth?



In 2011, NASA invested over **\$40 million** in the state of West Virginia. Since 2001, NASA's SBIR/STTR Program has invested over **\$3 million** in **3 West Virginia companies** and more than **\$1.2 billion** nationwide.

How NASA's SBIR/STTR Program Benefits West Virginia

NASA is committed to moving technologies and innovations into the mainstream of the U.S. economy, and the Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) program helps fulfill this goal.

SBIR/STTR stimulates technological innovation by encouraging small, high-tech companies—particularly minority and disadvantaged businesses—to partner with NASA to help meet its research and development needs in key technology areas. At the same time, this program strengthens small companies by enabling them to bring cutting-edge new products into the U.S. economy.

The list below highlights West Virginia businesses that received SBIR/STTR contracts from NASA since 2001. (Visit <http://sbir.nasa.gov> for more information on the SBIR/STTR program.)

NASA SBIR/STTR Companies in West Virginia	
FMW Composite Systems, Inc.....	Bridgeport
ProLogic, Inc.....	Fairmont
Touchstone Research Laboratory, Ltd.....	Triadelphia

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Featured Spinoff to West Virginia



Using Software to Predict Software Code Errors (Fairmont)

Integrated Software Metrics, Inc. studied NASA's vast database of software artifacts to produce a software product that analyzed and predicted defects in software code.

Prior to introducing the software suite to the market, the company tested it on large NASA software projects—over one million lines of code per project—to ensure its efficacy. Integrated Software Metrics' product predicted where errors would occur in the code, enabling programmers to correct them in the early stages of development when they are most cost-effective to fix. Identifying errors at a speed of 1,500 lines of code per second, the software suite delivered color-coded reports that highlighted risk areas. NASA used the product suite for critical code that supported several of its Earth-orbiting spacecraft.

NASA actively seeks partnerships with U.S. companies that can license NASA innovations and create "spinoffs" in areas such as health and medicine, consumer goods, transportation, renewable energy, and manufacturing. This activity benefits the regional economy and strengthens the nation's competitiveness in the global marketplace. NASA has helped 19 West Virginia companies develop revolutionary spinoff technologies.

Learn more about how NASA innovations benefit the public in *Spinoff*, which highlights NASA's technology transfer successes. (Available at: <http://www.sti.nasa.gov/tto>)

west virginia

