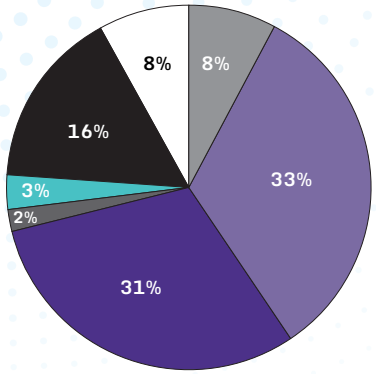
CHEM-BIO THREAT DETECTION INNOVATION CHALLENGE

ATI HORIZONS

The Chem-Bio Threat Detection Innovation Challenge sourced innovative technologies that strengthen detection, characterization, protection, and response across the full spectrum of chemical and biological threats. Top applicants represented scalable, dual-use solutions that improve preparedness, accelerate operational decision-making, and enhance resilience across defense, homeland security, public health, and emergency response missions.

SOLUTION TOPICS



- Biosurveillance and Agent-Agnostic Detection (33%)
- Integrated Detection, Sensors, and Situational Awareness (31%)
- Protective Materials and Decontamination (16%)
- Synthetic Biology, Biosecurity, and Biomanufacturing (8%)
- Artificial Intelligence and Bioinformatics (8%)
- Other Innovative Solutions (3%)
- Medical Countermeasures (2%)

CHALLENGE SNAPSHOT

APPLICATION PERIOD
July 16 - August 12, 2026

LIVE FINALIST PRESENTATIONS
September 23 at Defense TechConnect Innovation Summit

LONG-TERM ENGAGEMENT
Innovator tracking and KPI monitoring through 2028

PRIZE POOL

$50,000

total awards across three winners

EXPERT EVALUATION PANEL

Deborah Hemingway, Managing Partner, *Ecphora Capital*
Jay Reckard, President, *Reckard Consulting*
Mike Stebbins, Senior Vice President, Medical and Threat Countermeasures Division, *Advanced Technology International*
Brannan Villee, Division Director, Science and Technology Directorate, *U.S. Department of Homeland Security*
Justin Yang, Co-Founder, *DMV Bio*

IMPACT

The challenge identified breakthrough solutions in chemical and biological threat detection, increasing visibility for innovators, and connecting solution providers with government, industry, and investment stakeholders.

By combining technology scouting, expert evaluation, live pitching, and ecosystem engagement, ATI Horizons surfaced innovative approaches with the potential to strengthen threat detection, improve preparedness and operational decision-making, and advance resilience against evolving chemical and biological threats.

average readiness **TRL 5**

5 countries represented

22 U.S. states represented

10 finalists pitched live

64 qualified applications

83% non-traditional innovators

OUR ROLE

ATI Horizons designed and managed the complete challenge lifecycle, including:

- Challenge development and administration
- Innovation outreach and recruitment
- Application management
- Review panel coordination
- Pitch event production
- Finalist showcase execution
- KPI tracking and post-challenge engagement
- Virtual semifinalist pitch coordination