
OPPENHEIMER
ACCELERATION
Defense, National
Security and Public Safety
Acceleration Program

Introduction

It’s almost impossible for a defense tech startup to create a working product without testing it in real battlefield and not so many VCs are investing in this industry now.

Bring defense startups from your country to Ukraine to test the products and to Silicon Valley to raise capital.

About

Oppenheimer is an Acceleration Program in Silicon Valley and Ukraine for defence tech startups

- It gives investment, education and connections with the US and Ukrainian Defense Tech professionals
- The Program includes:
  - One month online program with lectures and workshops by industry professionals
  - One week in-person program in Silicon Valley
  - One week in-person program in Ukraine
  - Online Demo Day for International Investors
  - In-person Demo Day in Silicon Valley for local VCs

Online Program

The goal of online program is to meet professionals and speakers who are based in different parts of the world and can not participate in the program in person.

Period: Three Months

Number of meetings: 40+

ADVISORS AND SPEAKERS IN PREVIOUS PROGRAM

Aaron Rose
Expert in DoD Ecosystem, Advisor, Founder, Investor.

Peter Selfridge
Artificial Intelligence Expert and Advisor.

Rui Costa
Unleashing Naval Innovation | PMP | Navy Veteran & Naval Tech Trailblazer

Craig Miller
National Security Strategy | THF Alumni | Veteran | TS/SCI CI Poly

Christopher Coyle
Founder/CEO, Investor and Problem Solver. Leading Emerging Tech, Defense/National Security, Data and Funding Consultancy

Tom Case
Talent Advisor at DARPA

ADVISORS AND SPEAKERS IN PREVIOUS PROGRAM

Kashish Dhal

Robotics Engineer @ Apple | Expert in Autonomy & Motion Planning | Guidance Navigation & Controls

Graham Plaster

Director, Nautilus | Growing the National Security Technology Ecosystem | Bestselling Author

Jordan Wahbeh

Managing Partner at SV Venture Group

Janice Karcher

Strategic, impactful project management and collaboration. Supporting accelerated R&D and strengthened defense supply chains. Deputy Director at ERDCWERCX

Benjamin Wolba

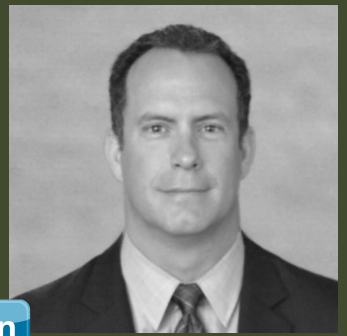
eurodefense.tech | Fostering Defense Innovation for European Sovereignty | Blogging at future-of-computing.com

Martin Jõesaar

EU Defence Innovation Office in Kyiv supports the cooperation of EU and Ukrainian Defence industry

ADVISORS AND SPEAKERS IN PREVIOUS PROGRAM

Vanessa Vohs
Security Politics & International Law
@UniBW + @IFHV



Ben Cipperley
Director, Chief of Naval Operations
Strategic Actions Group

Vitalii Cherniuk
Head of the Innovation Development Policy Expert Group, Directorate of Digital Transformation in the Defence Area, Ministry of Defence of Ukraine

Donough Tierney
International Business Development || MBA || Certified Board Director || Chartered Marketer || Business and Growth advisor for high growth companies || Interim Management || Board advisory || Fundraising.

Andrew Goldsmith
CEO, Investor, Board Member -- Publisher, Dual Use Investor Substack; Founder, AGX Marketing; Co-Founder, Mooring Partners

Luka Tomljenovic
Specialist early-stage investor in aerospace and related deep tech. Former fighter pilot.

Previous Topics

- Collaborating & Amp; Contracting with the U.S. Army ERDC (ERDC WERX)
- Funding Strategies for MilTech Startups in the U.S.
- Practical Case Studies on Business Development for MilTech Startups in the U.S
- Successful Fundraising Experience in the USA - Bavovna AI
- From Idea to Product: Innovation and Entrepreneurship in 2025+
- Tax and Financial Compliance for U.S. Corporations
- Legal Compliance for U.S. Corporations
- Winning at Sea in the Future Naval Battlespace: An overview of Emerging Disruptive Technologies (EDTs) in Modern Naval Warfare: Unmanned Assets, Emerging Tech and the key role of AI in the Naval Battlespace and the software-defined Warship Fleet.

Previous Topics

- **AI in MilTech - Autonomous Target Recognition in Low-Signal Environments**

  1. **Introduction:** The Challenge of Low-Signal Environments
  2. **Trend 1:** Deep Learning Evolution—From CNNs to Attention
  3. **Trend 2:** Sensor Fusion—Strength in Numbers
  4. **Trend 3:** Edge Intelligence—Lightweight and Lethal
  5. **Conclusion:** Where We're Heading

- **Cybersecurity for MilTech.** Securing military technology against cyber threats: AI-driven cyber defense, secure communications, and resilience in digital warfare.
- **Bring Your Pitch Deck to Life Through Storytelling.** Learn how to craft a compelling pitch by structuring your story around nine key investor expectations and using user personas to make your deck more engaging.

Previous Topics

- Investor 7 Tips for 7 Minute Pitches

Master the art of capturing investor attention in a short pitch with seven essential tips to keep your audience engaged and eager to hear more.

- How to Set Up MilTech Business in the EU
- Building Highly Effective Technology Teams: Lessons from the DARPA Experience
- Technological development on the battlefield through the eyes of a specialized combat unit (412 separate unmanned systems regiment)
- EU actions in support of the Defence Industry
- Developing Trustworthy AI for the European Defence Market

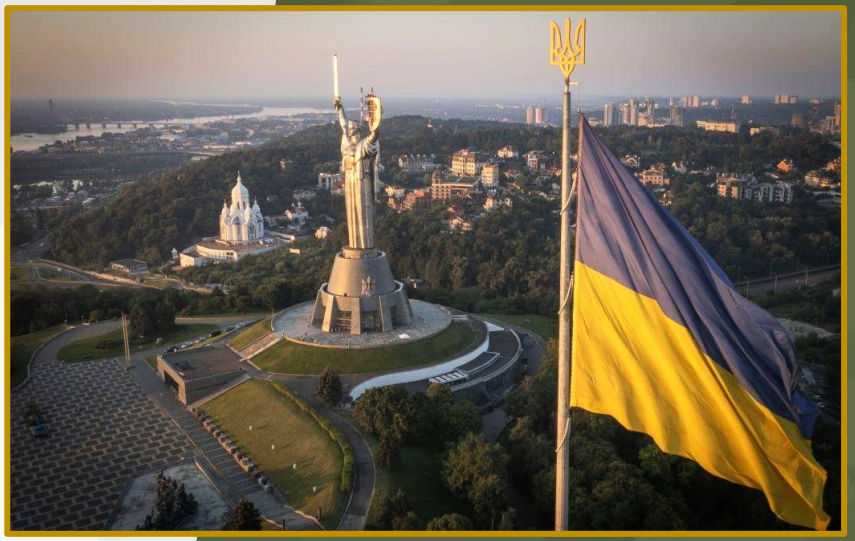
Previous Topics

- A new era of seapower - implications for the future of war at sea
- Current Trends and Needs in the Field of Defense Innovations for the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine
- Practical stories about setting up Dual Use / Defence Tech business in EU
- Providing Technology to the US Defense Community: Strategies and Tactics for Non-US Start Ups
- Deep Understanding the DoD Ecosystem: Opportunities for Defense Tech Startups
- How to raise money in Silicon Valley
- How venture funds choose startups to invest in

Program in Ukraine

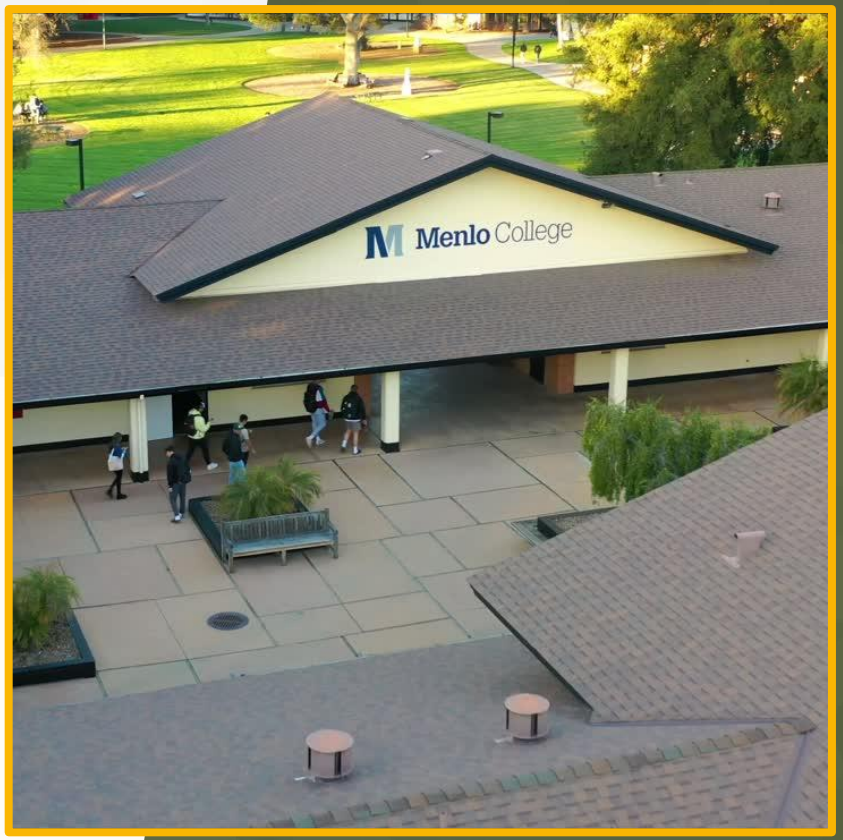
The goal of this part is to meet professionals from Ukrainian ecosystem, understand how the procurement works and what is the fastest way to test the products.

Number of meetings: 5+



Program in Silicon Valley

The in-person program is based in Menlo College, and at this stage, startups train and work with Silicon Valley-based VCs and Professionals.



Demo Days

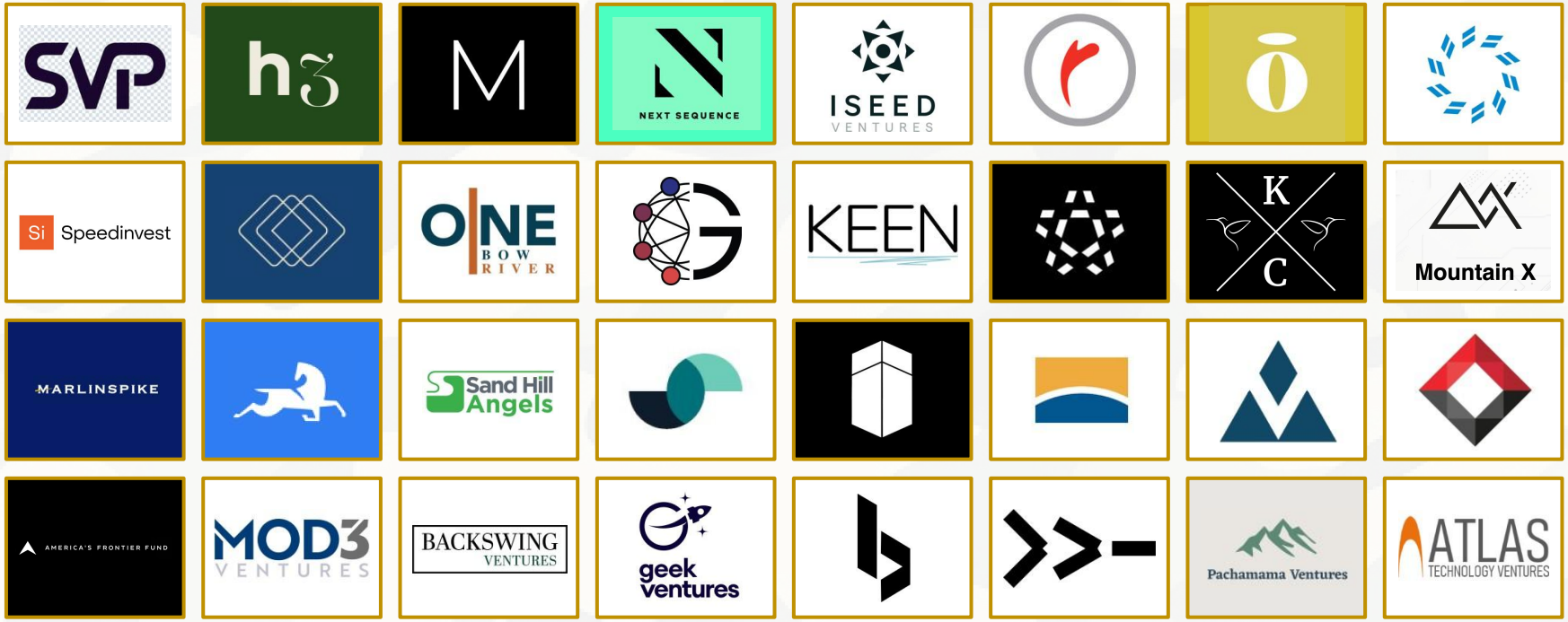
50+ VCs and **50+ Business Angels** have registered for Oppenheimer Demo Day in Silicon Valley, which took place at SRI (Stanford Research Institute) in Menlo Park.

100+ international VCs and **100+ Business Angels** have registered at our online Demo Day.

Previous Demo Days VCs

Previous Demo Days VCs

Previous Demo Days VCs



Previous Demo Photos

Appendix 1
About us

+ WHO WE ARE

Network VC is a venture capital firm founded in 2019, based in Silicon Valley which has **80 startups** in our funds. **90%** of the invested startups are located in the US.

In 2024 we invested in **3** defense tech startups and launched the **Oppenheimer Acceleration Fund.**

In 2025 we have already invested in **9** defense tech startups and are launching **Oppenheimer Acceleration Fund II.**

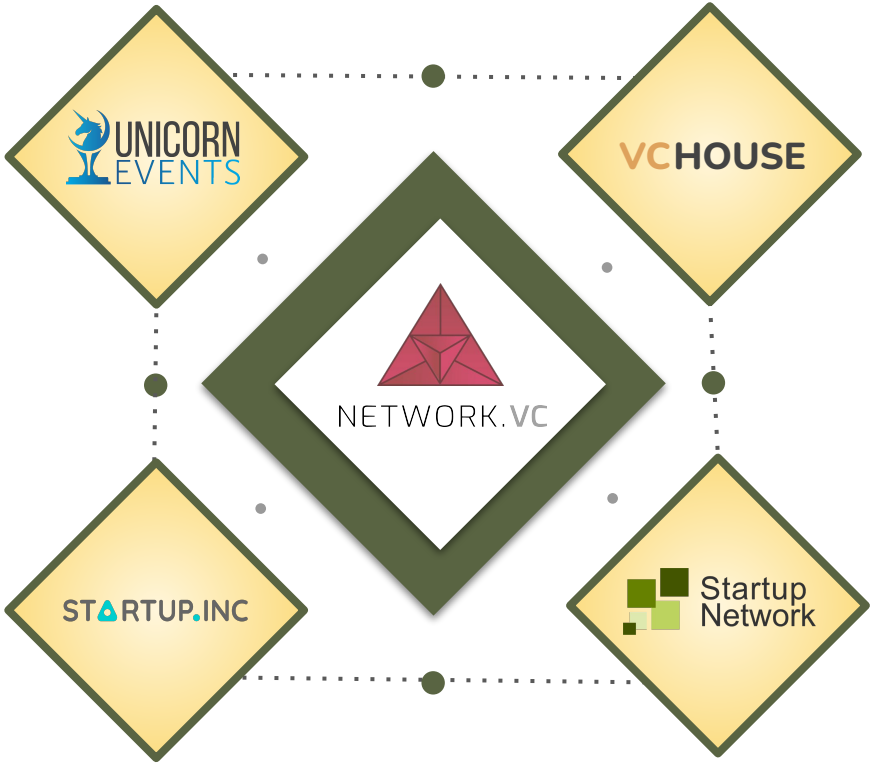
Disclaimer: Our organization is not associated with, affiliated with, or endorsed by Oppenheimer & Co. Inc.

NETWORK.VC

https://network.vc/

About

Network VC is the Management Company for the Oppenheimer Funds. It is based in Menlo Park, CA, and has four other brands in the ecosystem that help us do business effectively.



Startup Network

2015
Launch

50,000
Startup Applications

12
Countries

5

Public web-based service for the venture market participants that allows entrepreneurs to place their ideas, startups, or businesses to search for investments and allows investors to contact entrepreneurs directly

https://startup.network/

UNICORN EVENTS

Unique event platform to organize a pitch event in the city or country. It helps Professionals to find the best startups and create their network of investors in a region

15
years

55
countries

400+
pitch events organized

$1b+
raised by participants

3
3 events types

https://unicorn.events/

VC HOUSE

VC House is a closed community created exclusively for VCs. We use this tool to exchange deals with other VCs. Here you can see some of our members.

SoftBank Telecom America

LEGO ventures

Tech Ventures

M13

Unicorn India Ventures

Acrobator Ventures

Vickers Venture Partners

Fusion Fund

KPMG United States

mindset ventures

investible

PLUG AND PLAY

https://vc.house/

Onboarding Solution

STARTUP.INC

- Special tool that allows Partners easily onboard new investors and LPs into their Chapter
- LPs can get early liquidity trough digitized securities
- The platform use distributed ledger core to record, share and synchronize transactions
- It has an electronic agreements management solution to verify and hash all user data and store in the distributed file systems (IPFS)

https://startup.inc/

Appendix 2
Our Defence Tech Portfolio

Bavovna

BAVOVNA

Bavovna AI represents a cutting-edge solution designed for navigating **in environments where GPS signals are compromised** and electronic warfare poses a threat.

Its AI-enhanced Inertial Navigation system enables aircraft to achieve GPS-level flight precision **without relying on GPS** or any form of communication with the vehicle.

https://bavovna.ai/

Swarmer

swarmer

Swarmer AI specializes in software for managing drone swarm missions (when there are two or more UAVs in the sky, but they all have the same target).

This software can optimize various drone control missions using AI precision. In particular, it is about planning optimal routes, **supporting autonomous mode** in an environment **without GPS** and with **unstable communication**, as well as performing a mission in swarm mode.

https://getswarmer.com/

mara

Mara

Knock down killer drones for cheap

“the sound of an FPV drone hovering towards you is one of the most nightmarish things that exist in our universe”

Ukrainian Soldier. Eastern Front.
Interviewed by Nick Laidlaw (Battles & Beers) in 2024.

https://mara.inc/

Orbital Operations

High Thrust Space Vehicles for Satellite Defense

Orbital Operations is developing a high thrust, reusable space vehicle for satellite defense. We protect critical satellites, like GPS and Military communication satellites, from adversarial threats, like China and Russia.
Our vehicle will use the exact same propulsion systems that launch vehicles have used for decades by implementing a cryogenic management system. This will give us over 100x the thrust or current in-space propulsion.

https://www.orbitalops.tech/

CANDOR

Candor

We help companies win government funding with AI

Candor helps defense and deeptech companies navigate the government procurement process with AI. We inject agents into the procurement process - agents that not only surface opportunities but actively pursue them - giving anyone the same capabilities as large contractors.

https://www.usecandor.ai/

Maritime Fusion

Fusion reactors for ships

Maritime Fusion is building HTS (high-temperature superconducting) fusion reactors for defense and commercial shipping applications. Breakeven fusion is coming soon, but the first-of-a-kind (FOAK) reactors will be costly, high maintenance, and have low capacity factors, leading to 5–10x higher electricity cost on the grid. Maritime Fusion is pursuing the most widely accepted approach to fusion, the tokamak, but specifically designed for the marine environment where the challenges that arise between breakeven and a commercially viable energy source are alleviated.

https://maritimefusion.com/

Sierra Turbines

Technology: US Compact Turbo Engines built without Chinese components

Description:

The solution is a highly efficient small turbine engine platform for power generation and propulsion (UAVs), built using space-grade technology with a 100% US supply chain (ITAR compliant), designed to last 25 times longer between overhauls and cost 60% less than current thrust engines and 50% less than existing generators.

https://www.sierraturbines.com/

Rightspot

Technology: AI-powered GPS-free navigation system

Description: The solution is an AI-powered GPS-free navigation system that enables drones, missiles, and autonomous vehicles to navigate accurately without GPS, even in challenging environments and under electronic warfare. Using real-time visual input and multi-modal data (including thermal, radar, and LIDAR), it ensures reliable and cost-effective positioning, making it ideal for long-range drones and precision-strike munitions.

https://rightspot.ai/

Panoptes AI

Technology: AI-powered system of proactive control of air defense network of optical-electronic stations

Description: AI system, which combines a Mesh network of stationary, mobile, and aerial optoelectronic stations, as well as radio-electronic intelligence modules.

Using artificial intelligence, it identifies, tracks, and predicts the trajectories of flying objects. Providing continuous monitoring and access to real-time airspace data for services.

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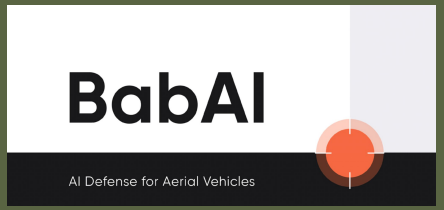
Anvarix

Technology: UAV Target Guidance Systems; UAV Secure Communication Systems

Description: The solution is an AI-powered UAV guidance and communication system that enhances target acquisition and video transmission under heavy electronic warfare (EW). It features a proprietary autopilot with AI/ML-enhanced computer vision for real-time motion tracking and target reacquisition, achieving a 0.5–1m hit radius and 8–9 out of 10 hit rates. Its advanced video communication protocol ensures high-quality, low-latency video that resists jamming and interception, making it a game-changer for military UAV operations in contested environments.



BabAI

Technology: AI Defence for big UAVs

Description: The solution is an AI-powered defense system designed to protect large, high-value drones from attacks by small interceptor drones. It uses advanced AI and real-time threat detection to identify and neutralize incoming threats with precision, ensuring that strategic UAV missions remain secure and operational even under active assault. This technology fills a critical gap in drone defense, providing a scalable and cost-effective solution for modern warfare.

Aetos Space Lab

Technology: Smart and fast drone interceptor with an AI-based drone identification system

Description: The solution is a smart and fast drone interceptor, equipped with an AI-based drone identification system that can quickly detect, track, and neutralize enemy drones with high precision. Its advanced AI algorithms allow for real-time target recognition and adaptive response, making it highly effective in complex and dynamic combat environments.

https://dronespacelabs.com/en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