



# Foreign Object Damage Reduction

Presented by  
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**Engine FOD Is a \$150 Million a year cost** for the United States Navy and United States Marine Corps

Cost is growing with the introduction of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF)



**Engine FOD is a \$2 Billion+ a year cost** for the civil aviation community.

This cost is assumed by the airlines and breaks down to approximately \$67 per movement (touch + go landing/takeoff)

PHASE 1:

# Augment Existing Engine FOD Mitigation Efforts

"Brute-force" methods



Process Review



Enhanced data collection  
and visualization



FOD Support Equipment  
& Personnel

PHASE 2:

# FOD Data Generation

Inform "Risk-Based" Operations  
Efforts in-progress through research



Airfield FOD Detection  
Radar Towers



Aircraft Engine Inlet Debris  
Monitoring System (IDMS)



Machine Learning &  
Analytic Development

PHASE 3:

# Informed, Autonomous FOD Remediation

Solutions achievable to mitigate  
Engine FOD in the future



Policy-Based Solutions



Airfield Solutions



Autonomous Solutions



# Main Site, Shore-Based Operations Approach

## Aircraft Inlet Debris Monitoring Systems (IDMS)

Technologies such as electrostatic, laser, RFMIMO, engine speed sensor, blade dynamics

## Airfield Debris Characterization

Such as millimeter wave radar, optical, drone, etc.

## Manual Debris Mediation

Technologies such as sweeper trucks, blower systems, crack sweepers, pad eye cleaners, etc.

## Contributory Factors

Sensor suites such as aircraft telemetry, wind/ temperature/ humidity data, bird migration, construction, etc.

## Analytics and Edge Computing

## Automated Debris Remediation

Informed by Analytics

## FOD Risk Coordinator

Empowered with machine learning and analytic tools to manage airfield FOD risks manually or autonomously

## Data Stream

Wired and wireless communications that conform to airfield and operator security requirements

# FOD Solutions





# FOD HEAT MAP: TARSIER RADAR

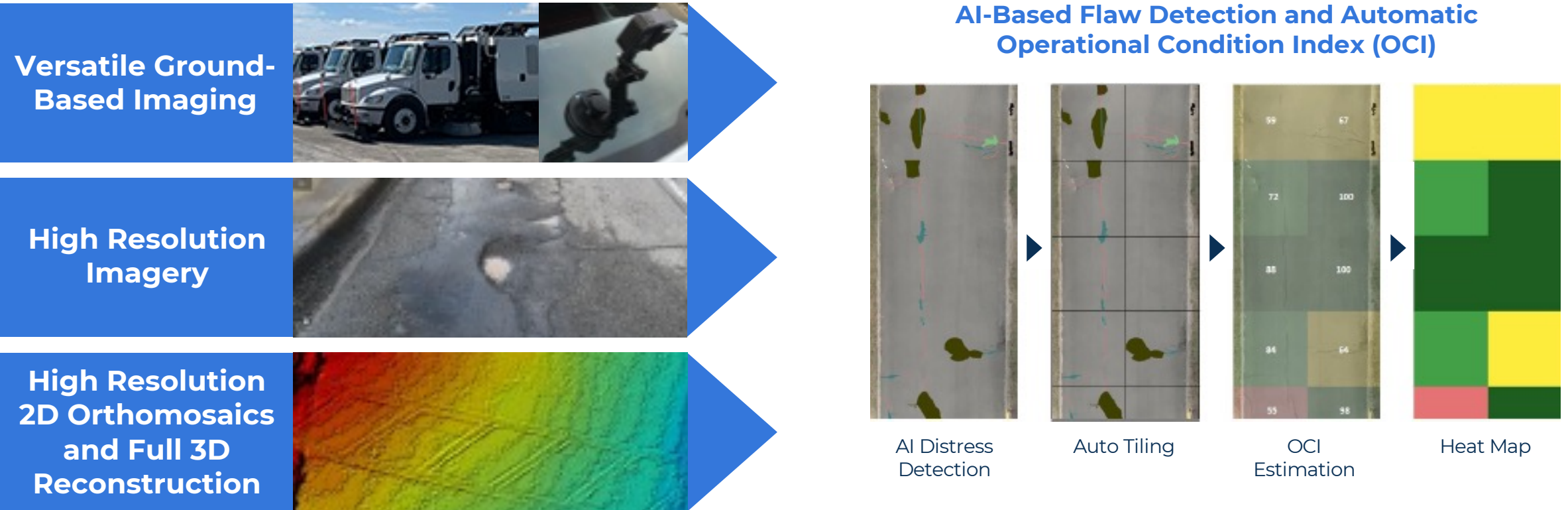
MCAS Yuma Sunday, 2 May 2021



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# Pavement Condition Vision AI:

Ground-based imaging coupled with AI-based detection for flaw identification



**\$3B per year is required to sustain USN/USMC airfield pavement**

*Source: Jacobs Engineering for Tri-Service Pavements Meeting 07 March 2019*

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# Implementation

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PHASE 1:

# Demonstrate U.S. Navy FOD Reduction Solution



"Brute-force" Methods



FOD Data Generation



Informed Autonomous FOD  
Remediation

PHASE 2:

# Establish Governance



DoD FOD Working Group



Civil Aviation FOD Working Group



Establish Joint Sponsors

PHASE 3:

# Acquisition and Scalability



Aircraft Solutions



Airfield Solutions



Policy Generation

# Integration with civil aviation is critical to the success of the FOD program

## FOD Exposure

- Military aircraft operate at civil airfields and civil aircraft operate at military airfields
- Proven and consistent FOD mitigation procedures must be universally implemented to reduce military FOD rates

## Rapid Development

- Scalable solutions incentivize industry to innovate and deploy
- FOD predictive modeling is improved with additional sites

## Policy Generation

- Policy for autonomous operation does not exist and will rely on the FAA for guidance and collaboration
- A joint program office will generate policy and procedures for the civil and military aviation communities

## Sustainment

- Military-specific solutions are not sustainable
- Industry supported commercial off the shelf (COTS) reduces cost and improves availability and readiness

# Establish Civil Aviation Community FOD Working Group

- Understand the civil aviation business case
  - Quantify FOD rates by carrier and location
  - Measure the cost of a FOD event and determine who pays the bill
- Brings common solutions to civil and military aviation communities
- Improve civil aviation readiness
- Interaction between airlines, airports, and regulatory organizations
- Jointly develop and implement FOD solutions
- Establish Civil Aviation Working Group Charter



Leverage existing industry meetings to establish charter and membership for Joint Aviation Community FOD Working Group