

## 2021 DON IT Excellence Awards Nomination Criteria

Award Category	MODERNIZE Modernize our Infrastructures	INNOVATE Innovate and Deploy New Capabilities	DEFEND Defend our Information	DATA Leverage Data to Drive Advantage	WORKFORCE Empower the Digital Workforce	DON IT Person of the Year & Rising Star of the Year
	1-2 Teams or Individuals	1-2 Teams or Individuals	1-2 Teams or Individuals	1-2 Teams or Individuals	1-2 Teams or Individuals	1 Person of the Year 1 Rising Star of the Year
<b>Eligibility</b>	Team or individual that meets one or more of the criteria below (government civilian or military)	Team or individual that meets one or more of the criteria below (government civilian or military)	Team or individual that meets one or more of the criteria below (government civilian or military)	Team or individual that meets one or more of the criteria below (government civilian or military)	Team or individual that meets one or more of the criteria below (government civilian or military)	Individual who meets one or more of the criteria below (government civilian or military)
<b>Criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modernize networks &amp; transport, to include naval IT facilities, data centers, and enterprise or excepted networks, in order to improve the end-user experience and enhance ability to manage and defend the network</li> <li>• Deliver Cloud Services, including Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS), Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS), Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) cloud service offerings, as well as improved ability to consume, manage, and procure cloud services for multiple communities of interest.</li> <li>• Optimize, identity and access, creating reusable digital identities, advancing zero-trust strategies, and enabling broadened access to IT from a variety of devices and locations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institutionalizing naval enterprise collaboration and productivity services to deliver reliable and flexible access to people, information, applications, and processes.</li> <li>• Consolidate IT portfolios while enhancing future portfolio development, mission accomplishment, and system consolidation.</li> <li>• Leverage 5G to support IT modernization efforts and Fleet readiness through enterprise and tactical network implementation.</li> <li>• Apply innovative concepts and/or challenged conventional thinking resulting in deploying AI capabilities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actions resulted in significant improvements in cybersecurity culture with demonstrated impact. Examples include:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Developed and implemented innovative ways to promote cybersecurity culture change.</li> <li>○ Instituted novel methods to ensure “personal commitment to cybersecurity” is a determining factor in granting individuals access to the network.</li> <li>○ Using an original approach, improved organization’s recognition and commitment to cybersecurity and resiliency across all mission areas in order to enable success in future battles.</li> <li>○ Promoted and demonstrated inventive behaviors that allow for greater agility across the entire cybersecurity production chain.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Impact or improvement due to the initiative were measurable (provide metrics).</li> <li>• Action reinforced and promoted the Defend Discipline of “every Sailor, Marine, and civilian is a Cyberspace Sentry.”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Significant contributions that resulted in enabling visibility and availability of data to consumers and decision-makers.</li> <li>• Exhibited superior leadership skills or high performing team, demonstrating a commitment to enhancing awareness and understanding of leveraging data and increasing the data acumen of the workforce.</li> <li>• Enhanced the trustworthiness of data through quality control, curation and other techniques that advanced the effectiveness of data-driven decision making.</li> <li>• Significant contributions to promoting data interoperability across the naval forces, Joint forces, and public sector.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cyber Workforce Program Management. Made innovative and significant contributions in the management and qualification of the military and civilian cyber workforce aligned to mission priorities.</li> <li>• Identified and closed capability and knowledge gaps in the digital workforce.</li> <li>• Establish a program to recruit, train and retain a diverse digital workforce (reskilling, mentorships, and apprenticeships).</li> <li>• Drove digital modernization of workforce talent in emergent capabilities focus areas to include AI, DevSecOps, and data science.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Person of the Year:</b> GS13/O4/W-1/E-7 and above</li> <li>• <b>Rising Star of the Year:</b> GS-12/O3/E-6 and below</li> <li>• Exhibited superior leadership or contributed significant value to the organization in one or more areas outlined in the award criteria.</li> </ul>