# Oliver F. Tannheiser

AI Innovation Lead | Enterprise AI, Defense & National Security | TS/SCI
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## SUMMARY

AI product leader with an active TS/SCI clearance and 5+ years of developing and scaling enterprise products across defense, transit, and federal sectors. Built and delivered the U.S. Space Force's first enterprise AI platform to the Total Force in 60 days.

## CLEARANCE & CORE COMPETENCIES

**Security Clearance:** TS/SCI (active, last adjudicated 12/2024)

**AI & Product:** Enterprise AI Strategy, Product Roadmapping, AI Governance & Adoption, LLM Platform Delivery, MVP-to-Scale, & User Research.

**Defense**: DoD Acquisition, Mission Systems Integration, Edge Computing & Tactical Systems, Wargaming, Cross-Command Coordination, Cleared Environments (SIPR/JWICS), & Platform One / Iron Bank.

**Technical:** Python, SQL, AWS GovCloud, Azure Government, Kubernetes, Jira, Figma, & GitHub.

**Languages:** English (native), Italian (native), Spanish, & French.

## EXPERIENCE

**AI Innovation Lead** *August 2023 – Present*
United States Space Force, Deputy Chief of Space Operations for Cyber & Data *Washington, D.C.*

*SpaceGPT – USSF Enterprise AI Platform:*

- Launched SpaceGPT, the first force-wide enterprise AI platform in the U.S. Space Force, taking the product from kickoff to live in 2 months (roughly 3x faster than the standard DoD software delivery baseline) and scaling to 1/3 of the Total Force within 90 days of launch.
- Owned full product lifecycle (vision, roadmap, MVP, launch, & post-launch scaling) under a ~$1M program, coordinating 50+ engineers, designers, data scientists, and stakeholders across government, prime contractor, and vendor teams.
- Drove measurable mission impact by saving the DAF 1.5 million+ man hours per year and 15 to 25% operational efficiency gains, validated through usage analytics and user research across operational and staff functions.
- Ran the full DoD acquisition process end-to-end, including requirements, contract vehicle, vendor selection, and AI governance and responsible-use approvals, clearing the path for follow-on enterprise AI capabilities across the Space Force.

*AI Governance & Workforce Enablement:*

- Designed the USSF's enterprise AI governance and adoption framework, covering responsible-use policy, AI literacy standards, and workforce enablement, and drove alignment across legal, security, and senior leadership through 5+ executive working sessions.
- Launched a force-wide AI education program reaching 10,000+ Guardians, raising baseline AI fluency and unlocking adoption of SpaceGPT and other enterprise AI tools.
- Represented USSF AI strategy at SSC Cyber Expo, DAFITC, and other major DoD and industry conferences, presenting platform strategy and live demonstrations to 5,000+ attendees.

*Additional Projects:*

- **HRIT Modernization (SAF/MR Detail):** Selected for a 90-day detail to SAF/MR to support stand-up of the new SAF/MRLA directorate; authored the foundational SOP defining mission, leadership, and operational processes for HRIT modernization across the DAF.
- **ASCEND Platform:** Led cross-functional delivery of ASCEND, an AI-supported position-matching platform for 160+ DAF civilian senior executives, including an automated pipeline that generated standardized SES review

materials and saved hundreds of manual labor hours, effectively cutting down the Talent Management Board process from 2 weeks to 2 days.
- **Guardian One & USSF Portal:** Oversaw product experience for the Guardian One mobile app and USSF Portal serving 15,000+ active Guardians, driving user research, feature delivery, and adoption metrics across platforms.

**Technical Product Owner** *June 2021 – September 2023*
Cubic Corporation *Washington, D.C.*
- Owned product strategy and roadmap for WMATA's (DC Area Metro) back-office fare collection systems, including SmarTrip and fare evasion modules, serving 430,000+ daily riders across 98 Metro stations and 126 bus routes.
- Led rollout of credit-card tap-to-pay across the full Metro and bus network, eliminating the SmarTrip purchase requirement and significantly reducing fare-payment friction for first-time and visiting riders.
- Directed requirements intake and release prioritization with a 30-person engineering team, translating WMATA operational needs into shippable specs and reducing requirement-related rework across releases.
- Coordinated cross-vendor incident response (Cubic engineering, WMATA operations, third-party vendors) on production issues spanning hardware, back-office, and rail and bus fare systems, minimizing service impact for riders.

**Quality Assurance Software Engineer** *October 2020 – June 2021*
Cubic Corporation *Austin, TX*
- Validated OMNY contactless fare payment for the MTA (largest transit system in the U.S.) during the full NYC system rollout, covering card-reader and gate-validator interactions across multiple scenarios.
- Caught and documented 20+ pre-production defects in OMNY's payment flow that would have caused inaccurate fare charges, preventing rider-impacting billing issues at scale.
- Designed regression and functional test suites in Python and Selenium for GRIDSMART, a video-based traffic detection platform, alongside Postman-based API tests for OMNY back-office financial systems.

**Software Quality Assurance Analyst** *August 2020 – October 2020*
Cubic Corporation *Austin, TX*
- Authored end-user documentation and defined acceptance criteria for 150+ features of the ULTRA Scenario Editor, the synthetic wargaming environment within DARPA's PROTEUS program, deployed on edge compute infrastructure and transitioned to the Marine Corps Warfighting Lab (Quantico) in support of Force Design 2030 experimentation.
- Partnered with PROTEUS engineering, USMC SMEs, and UX designers to refine simulation gameplay and training materials supporting Marine commander decision-making across multi-domain wargaming scenarios.

**Training & Testing Coordinator** *March 2019 – August 2020*
FAST Enterprises *Salem, OR*
- Supported Oregon DMV's statewide modernization to FAST DS/VS, replacing a decades-old legacy system on time and on budget alongside a 30-person consultant team.
- Delivered training to 500+ end-users (counter staff, supervisors, and IT administrators) across 59 DMV field offices on driver licensing, vehicle titling, and registration workflows.

## EDUCATION

**B.A., Global Studies (Major), Computer Science (Minor)** *2018*
University of Vermont *Burlington, VT*

## AWARDS & ADDITIONAL

**Panelist, K-12 Education & National Security —** STEM Teacher Leadership Academy, 2025

**AI Rising Star Flywheel Award Winner —** GovCIO Media & Research, 2026

**Podcast Guest, "Flipping the Script on AI Adoption at Space Force" —** GovCIO Media, 2026