



# News Release

## Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

*“Providing technological innovation for national security for over 40 years.”*

3701 North Fairfax Drive  
Arlington, VA 22203-1714

IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 2, 2004

Contact: Thomas G. Goodwin  
(703) 560-7875

### **DARPA *Grand Challenge* 2005 Preliminary Rules Are Issued**

#### *Agency Welcomes Public Comment through September 1*

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) today issued preliminary rules for the DARPA *Grand Challenge* 2005 field test. The rules can be downloaded from the website [www.darpa.mil/grandchallenge](http://www.darpa.mil/grandchallenge).

The DARPA *Grand Challenge* 2005 is a field test of robotic vehicles designed to accelerate autonomous ground vehicle research and development that will help save lives on the battlefield. Because of the complex technologies associated with the event, DARPA is requesting public comment on the rules through September 1, 2004.

Program Manager Ron Kurjanowicz explained, “DARPA is committed to establishing rules that are easy to understand. Feedback from the community is an important part of this process.” Comments can be forwarded to DARPA at [grandchallenge@darpa.mil](mailto:grandchallenge@darpa.mil).

- DARPA *Grand Challenge* 2005 rules, procedures, and milestones will be discussed at an informational meeting August 14, 2004, in Anaheim, Calif. The Participants Conference is an essential meeting for serious participants, interested sponsors, and groups looking for others to complete their teams.

DARPA *Grand Challenge* 2005 will be held on October 8, 2005. Autonomous vehicles that have passed a series of preliminary tests will attempt to navigate a challenging course of varied terrain. The team that completes the course the fastest within a specified time will receive a \$2 million prize.

The DARPA *Grand Challenge* 2005 web site – [www.darpa.mil/grandchallenge](http://www.darpa.mil/grandchallenge) – is the primary resource for information about the Grand Challenge.

-END-

*DARPA is the central research and development organization for the US Department of Defense (DoD). The Agency manages basic and applied research and development projects for the DoD, and pursues research in technology areas where the risk and payoff are both very high and where success may provide dramatic advances for traditional military roles and missions.*