

SOF WEEK IN REVIEW

2023-2025

ABOUT THE EVENT

Co-sponsored by U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) and Global SOF (GSOF), SOF Week is the annual convention for the international special operations community. This report provides a snapshot of the past three years of SOF Week—highlighting the event’s growth, impacts, and challenges.

PARTICIPATION



Attendance has grown annually since the former SOF Industry Conference transitioned to SOF Week in 2023. “Even years” (i.e. 2022, 2024) are typically more heavily attended due to their historical designation as an “international year” that includes a popular Capabilities Demonstration (CAPE Demo). **The growth from 2024 to 2025 is especially meaningful as it didn’t include an international CAPE Demo and it battled challenges from U.S. Government budget restrictions.**

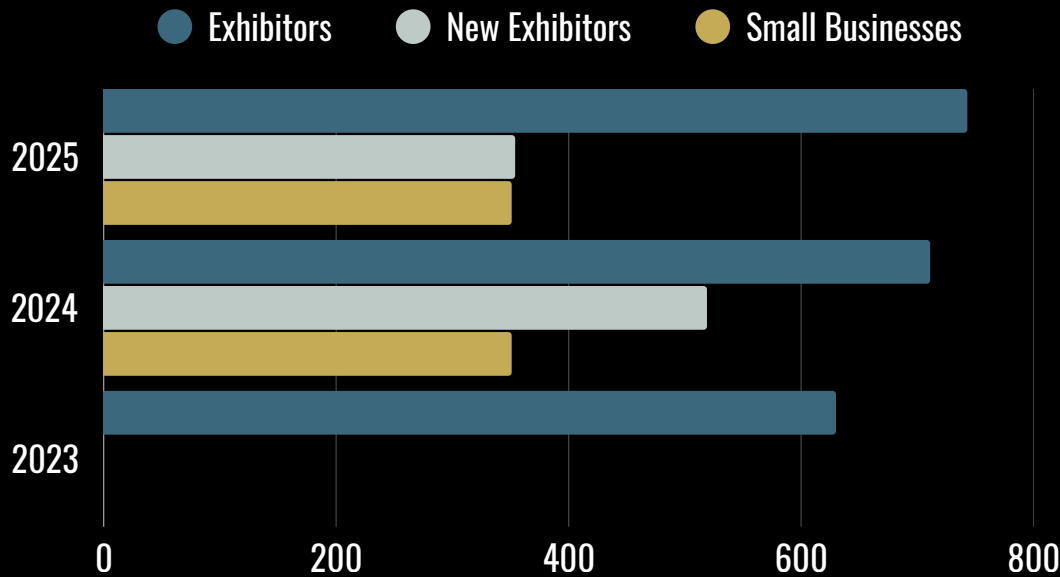
FINANCIAL IMPACT

2023	2024	2025
● \$15M ECONOMIC IMPACT ON CITY OF TAMPA	● \$17.2M ECONOMIC IMPACT ON CITY OF TAMPA	● \$18.07M ECONOMIC IMPACT ON CITY OF TAMPA
● 11,201 HOTEL ROOMS	● 16,266 HOTEL ROOMS	● 15,818 HOTEL ROOMS
● \$355K* GSOF INVESTMENT BEYOND MOA REQUIREMENTS	● \$904K* GSOF INVESTMENT BEYOND MOA REQUIREMENTS	● \$1.06M* GSOF INVESTMENT BEYOND MOA REQUIREMENTS

Since 2023, SOF Week has had a growing impact on the local Tampa and global special operations communities. The financial impact for the host city increases year over year, and local hotels continue to support the requirement for per diem and industry rate rooms for the nearly 20,000 attendees of SOF Week. **Additionally, GSOF continues to increase its investment in SOF Week beyond what is required per our MOA, specifically toward increased U.S. and international government participation.**

**The investment numbers presented are estimates; there may be variables that could lead to slight inaccuracies.*

EXHIBITION



INDUSTRY DEMOS

4 2023 Exhibition Demonstrations
10 2024 Exhibition Demonstrations
39 2025 Exhibition Demonstrations

EXHIBIT ZONES

10 2023
10 2024
12 2025

GSOE manages the SOF Week Exhibition, prioritizing exhibit space, demonstrations, and sponsorships for organizations whose capabilities align with USSOCOM’s operational needs. To ensure the exhibition remains fresh and competitive each year, GSOE incorporates a lottery system and provides dedicated pathways for small businesses and companies with dual-use technologies to get involved.

INDUSTRY TO GOVERNMENT 1:1 MEETINGS

MEETINGS BOOKED: USSOCOM 1:1 & GSOE CNECT MEETINGS

2023
216

2024
458

2025
392

A key tenet of SOF Week is the opportunities for industry and government to engage with each other.

USSOCOM has long supported this through curated 1:1 meetings between SOF Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (SOF AT&L) program managers and relevant industry.

Since 2024, GSOE has expanded upon this by inviting other U.S. and international government defense organizations with buying power to take these curated meetings with industry through its CNECT program. **On average, this has doubled the amount of industry to government meetings.**

Meetings are subject to government participant availability, which can vary year-to-year.



PARTNER NATION ENGAGEMENT

PARTNER NATIONS WITH OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION AT SOF WEEK



SOF Week is THE international event for special operations. The United States invites allied and partner nations to send representatives to participate in special government-only sessions, capabilities demonstrations, and focused meetings. 2025 saw a reduction in attending nations due to U.S. Government limitations on sponsoring partner nation travel, although **GSOFF offset that reduction by funding travel for 13 Nations.**

Hundreds of thousands of dollars and hundreds of man hours are saved through SOF Week's multitude of bi-lateral and multi-lateral meetings. **The convergence of the global SOF community in Tampa during SOF Week is a critical component to strengthening the global SOF network.**

SPEAKERS & SESSIONS

SPEAKERS

SESSIONS



SOF Week is intended to be representative of the entire special operations community, so there is programming for every facet: from current operators to non-profits to retiring service members to solution providers. **Experts and stakeholders come to speak and engage with the community to share their experiences and find solutions to shared problems.**

SPECIAL EVENTS & PROGRAMS

Special events are part of what makes SOF Week unique and fosters collaboration within the community. These opportunities drive engagement and encourage attendees to go beyond the exhibits and sessions, creating a well-rounded and impactful experience.

- **USSOCOM Awards Ceremony and Dinner**
Honors achievements of current and former SOF operators
- **SOF Week Welcome Reception**
Kicks-off SOF Week in a casual networking environment
- **JROTC / ROTC Field Trip**
Tours and speakers in support of recruiting future SOF
- **SOF Showcase**
A self-guided tour through the U.S. SOF Enterprise, history, and mission sets
- **SOF Week Exhibition Athletic Training (S.W.E.A.T.)**
A guided early morning workout open to all SOF Week attendees

RELIVE THE PAST 3 YEARS

2023



PHOTOS



2024



PHOTOS



VIDEO



2025



PHOTOS



VIDEO

