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DDC
DINÉ DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

SOLUTION ACCELERATOR

AppFactory

DDC STRATEGIC INNOVATIONS

Accelerating mission-ready application deployment through Human-Centered Design

Overview

AppFactory is a purpose-built platform that unites Human-Centered Design (HCD) methodology, model-agnostic LLM intelligence, and government-grade compliance tooling into a single, end-to-end workflow. From the first stakeholder interview to the final developer handover package, AppFactory keeps every team member working from the same structured, AI-augmented source of truth.
The platform operationalizes a seven-phase HCD lifecycle endorsed by the U.S. Digital Service, making HCD a repeatable, auditable, AI-accelerated process. Organizations using AppFactory compress discovery-to-handover timelines by 60-75%, reducing a typical twelve-week process to 3-4 weeks while embedding Section 508, WCAG 2.2 AA, NIST 800-53, and Zero Trust compliance at every phase.

Our Approach

Government organizations face a growing challenge: the demand for modern, mission-critical software is accelerating, yet delivery still relies on slow, compliance-heavy processes that are disconnected from end users. Development timelines stretch from months to years, and requirements become outdated. Accessibility and security reviews arrive late, forcing costly rework, and institutional knowledge captured in stakeholder interviews are lost before they shape the final product.

AppFactory solves this challenge by structuring the entire design and discovery lifecycle into seven AI-augmented phases: Discover, Define, Ideate, Prototype, Integrate, Validate, and Monitor. Each phase is supported by purpose-built tooling, model-agnostic AI Co-Pilot, and embedded compliance checkpoints, resulting in software that is shaped by user needs and delivered to developers as a structured, AI-ready handover package.

Features

AI-Augmented HCD Workflow
End-to-end lifecycle from discovery through continuous monitoring, mirroring U.S. Digital Service methodology

Model-Agnostic AI Co-Pilot
LLM-powered support at every phase from automated transcription and persona generation to journey mapping, requirements extraction, application mapping, and WCAG accessibility audits

Built-In Compliance
Section 508, WCAG 2.2 AA, NIST 800-53, and Zero Trust with automatic color contrast checks and security controls defined before prototyping begins

AppDNA Developer Handover
Production-ready export package with structured markdown documents, OpenAPI specification, data models, ICAM configuration, and governance records that feed AI-assisted development

Quality-Driven Governance
Automated scoring checks completeness and AI confidence, blocks low-quality exports with prioritized gap analysis, and maintains full version history, approvals, and traceability

Key Benefits

- **Rapid Discovery-to-Handover** AI-assisted transcription, synthesis, and generation compress a typical 12-week discovery phase to 3-4 weeks
- **Reduced Defect Remediation Cost** Shift-left compliance model catches accessibility and security defects during design when remediation is low-cost
- **Zero Knowledge Loss Across Team Transitions** Stakeholder interviews, design decisions, and artifacts are captured and retrievable through full traceability, enabling new team members to quickly gain context
- **AI-Native Development Readiness** AppDNA handover package equips AI coding agents with full context about personas, requirements, architecture, design system, and compliance posture prior to development
- **Portfolio Scalability** Project-centric data model supports multiple concurrent programs with isolated data, shared design tokens, single sign-on, and a compounding institutional knowledge base

Corporate Snapshot

- Navajo Nation tribally owned family of companies
- SBA certified 8(a) and Small Disadv. Businesses
- 700+ employees
- 130+ CONUS and OCONUS operating locations
- Federal, state, and tribal government markets
- 20-year history of proven performance

Innovation in Acquisition

- Non-protestable awards
- Streamlined procurement process
- Increased contract capacity
- SDB contracting credit
- Advanced mission priorities

AppFactory in Action

AppFactory structures the software design lifecycle into seven phases, each producing validated artifacts that seamlessly feed the next, ensuring continuity, reducing rework, and accelerating delivery from discovery to developer handover.

1. Discover - Capture and preserve stakeholder knowledge from day one

2. Define - Transform raw research into structured personas, journey maps, and traceable requirements

3. Ideate - Generate an accessible, validated design system and wireframes grounded in real user needs

4. Prototype - Produce high-fidelity screens and a complete application architecture map before development begins

5. Integrate - Define authentication, access control, and security architecture aligned to federal standards

6. Validate - Score every artifact for completeness and readiness, ensuring that gaps are identified and addressed early

7. Monitor - Continuously evaluate the delivered application for architectural drift, security posture, and evolving mission needs

Contact Us

Dale Ward
Chief AI and Innovation Officer
dale.ward@ddc-dine.com | 937.408.9709

Chakib Jaber (CJ)
Head of Digital Strategy and Innovation
chakib.jaber@ddc-dine.com | 703.665.9701