The Future of the Defense Industry
How Communities Can Partner to Improve Their Defense Industrial Base
Presenters

- **Moderator**
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- **Curtis Burnett**
  - John Deere & Company, Inc.

- **Chris Vanslager**
  - Executive Vice President, Defense, AM General, Inc.

- **Corbin Evans,**
  - Director Regulatory Policy, National Defense Industry Association
Introduction:
Organic Industrial Base

- The Defense Communities represented by the ADC are central to maintaining the country’s competitive edge in defense manufacturing, the key to transitioning to a more digital, advanced manufacturing future.
- Renewed emphasis on domestic sourcing of critical manufacturing technologies, the ADC communities seek to support this critical foundation upon which our defense depends.
- The annual Industrial Capabilities report, quietly released May 17 by the Pentagon’s Office of Manufacturing and Industrial Base Policy, found that America’s defense industry continued to outperform other industrial sectors in fiscal 2017.
  - Long-term trends “continue to threaten the health of the industrial base, limit innovation, and reduce U.S. competitiveness in the global markets,”
  - Only 39 percent of the current workforce is under the age of 45. And while jobs in the aerospace and defense sectors are seen positively by the majority of young professionals, only 1.3 percent of 25- to 34-year-olds in the U.S. have a science degree.
  - According to Assistant to the President for Trade and Manufacturing Policy Peter Navarro: “the President is also directing the secretary of labor to more precisely target occupations for current and future growth (e.g., systems engineers, high-skilled tool operators), expand worker training and education programs, and ensure appropriate incentives to recruit and retain workers.
Neal Orringer – ASTRO America

Naval Submarine Base New London

SUBASE NLON Synergies among:
• The Submarine School,
• Sub. Dev. Squadron 12,
• General Dynamics / Electric Boat,
• Naval Undersea Medical Institute
• Naval Undersea Warfare Center,
• Surface Warfare Officers School
• Naval War College

ARL Open Campus links govt assets w/ global R&D community, Mutual scientific interest/investment:
• side-by-side research scientists & engineers,
• share ARL’s specialized research facilities,
• bring ARL researchers to their institutions
• become part of the broader DoD network.
Curtis Burnett, John Deere, Inc.

- **Context**
  - Quad Cities Manufacturing Innovation Hub Operational
  - High Density of Metals Manufacturing in Small/Medium Manufacturers (SMM)
  - History of severe swings in agricultural and defense industries

- **Case for Action**
  - Tsunami of technology headed to the factory floor
  - Lack of technical workforce and little history of SMM leveraging those skills

- **Goal**
  - Help SMM and the DoD supply chain grow, diversify and stay competitive
Curtis Burnett, John Deere, Inc.

- **Strategy**
  - Develop regional Tech Roadmap tool to identify opportunity
  - Create communities to reduce the learning curve
  - Align the ecosystem (academia, suppliers, etc) to needs
  - Form partnerships and promote existing programs

- **Tactics**
  - Utilize a Supply Chain Mapping Tool to find DoD supply chain opportunities
  - Facilitate Hub Huddles to develop marketing, HR and Lean expertise
  - Create Playbooks and user groups to solve technical problems together
  - Scholarships and project support for qualifying companies
Chris Vanslager, EVP, Defense, AM General, Inc.

- Executive Vice President, Defense. AM General.
Corbin Evans,  
Director Regulatory Policy, NDIA

NDIA, comprised of its affiliates, chapters, divisions, and 1,600 corporate and 85,000 individual members, is a non-partisan, non-profit, educational association that has been designated by the IRS as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization - not a lobby firm - and was founded to educate its constituencies on all aspects of national security.

- Workforce: from STEM workers to welders
- Lockstep with the Defense Industrial Base:
  - Mitigate common risks
  - Collaborate for tech development
  - Identify & capitalize on synergies
- Follow up study to the 13806 Report
- Emphasize importance of budget stability
Recommendations & Discussion

Corbin Evans
- Increase communication & coordination with DIB
- Focus on workforce
  - High-skilled & skilled labor
- Ensure budget stability

Chris Vanderslager

Curtis Burnett
- Develop a regional technology roadmap
- Align the ecosystem
- Reduce the technology learning curve/friction
- Think labor efficiencies
## Recommendations & Discussion

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<th>Neal Orringer</th>
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| **Base of Sub Base New London:**  
  - The base community has doubled down on its competitive advantage— not only homeporting ships, but also serving as the submarine R&D, schooling, supply chain center of excellence  
  - Army Research Laboratory  
  - Broadening access to its material, process, and expertise through Open Campus initiative, encouraging re-location and collaboration on R&D and co-location of resources and personnel.  | **Section 846 Funding**  
  **Successful Models:**  
  - Westgate Crane Battery Innovation Center, NSC Crane  
  - Rock Island Arsenal Center of Excellence, Quad Cities IL/IA  
  - Navy Marine Mammal Foundation, NMMP San Diego, CA | |

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