

Aerospace & Defense (A&D) Town Hall Agenda

April 15, 2026 | 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM EDT

9:00 – 9:15 AM | Opening & Theme Introduction (10 minutes)

Hosts:

David Shaw and **Dan Issacs**

Co-Chairs, DTC Aerospace and Defense Town Hall

9:15 – 10:00 AM | Keynote Address

Challenging the Status Quo

(30-minute presentation followed by 15-minute Q&A)

Daniel Hetteema

Director, Digital Engineering, Modeling & Simulation (DEMS)

Office of the Under Secretary of War for Research and Engineering (OUSD(R&E))

10:00 – 11:00 AM | Panel Discussion

Collaborate to Innovate

(Interactive Session – 60 minutes)

Moderator & Panelists:

- **Sue R. Nowicki**
Managing Director, Bridgeport Partners LLC
Digital Integration Strategy Lead, F-35 Joint Program Office (JPO)
External Advisor, McKinsey & Company
- **Dr. Michael Grieves**
Executive Director & Chief Scientist, Digital Twin Institute
Chief Scientist, Advanced Manufacturing
Professor, University of Central Florida
- **Adam Sherer**
Senior Technical Leader, Cadence

Focused on semiconductor design and defense-related applications, including the modernization of microelectronics development

- **Tom Alappat**

Associate, McKinsey & Company

Former FPGA Designer at Raytheon Technologies and Northrop Grumman

- **Dr. Mark Pflanz**

Director and Technical Engineer, Booz Allen Hamilton

Lead for engineering activities supporting the F-35 program, including Model-Based Systems Engineering (MBSE) initiatives

11:00 – 11:45 AM | Featured Speaker Session

Driving Interoperability

(30-minute presentation followed by 15-minute Q&A)

Mohammad Zoualfaghari, PhD, MEng

Global Head of Emerging Technologies, AWS and AWS Telecom

11:45 AM – 12:00 PM | Wrap-Up & Closing Remarks (15 minutes)

Aerospace & Defense (A&D) Town Hall

April 16, 2026 | 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM (EDT)

9:00 – 9:15 AM | Opening & Theme Introduction

(10 minutes)

Hosts:

David Shaw and **Dan Issacs**

Co-Chairs, DTC Aerospace and Defense Town Hall

9:15 – 10:00 AM | Keynote Address

Overcoming Barriers to Adoption

(30-minute presentation followed by 15-minute Q&A)

Dr. Yadunath B. Zambre

Chief Microelectronics Technology Officer (Emeritus)

Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL)

10:00 – 11:00 AM | Panel Discussion

Shaping the Future of Defense Digital Engineering

(Interactive Session – 60 minutes)

Panelists:

- **Dr. Antonios Kotsos**
Henry M. Rowan Foundation Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Rowan University
Director, Digital Engineering Hub (DEHub)
- **Eman Kawas**
Independent Advisor
Decision Assurance (AI and Digital Twins)
- **Marlon Rogers**
Software Architect / Engineer and Digital Twin Project Lead, Lockheed Martin
Focus on AI-Driven Digital Transformation

- **Dan Issacs**
General Manager and Chief Technology Officer, Digital Twin Consortium
 - **Ian Levitt**
Founder & CEO, Tapestry RDI
Senior Research Scientist, NASA Langley Research Center
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11:00 – 11:45 AM | Closing Keynote Address

Securing the AI Digital Engineering Ecosystem

(30-minute presentation followed by 15-minute Q&A)

Chuck Brooks

Adjunct Professor, Georgetown University

School of Professional Studies

Applied Intelligence Program and Graduate Cybersecurity Programs

11:45 AM – 12:00 PM | Wrap-Up & Closing Remarks

(15 minutes)