



RESEARCH
AND ENGINEERING

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3030 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3030

MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR ACQUISITION AND
SUSTAINMENT
UNDER SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
UNDER SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
UNDER SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR CRITICAL
TECHNOLOGIES
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR MISSION
CAPABILITIES
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS
AGENCY
DIRECTOR, MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY

SUBJECT: Approval of the 2024 Defense Manufacturing Conference

I approve the 2024 Defense Manufacturing Conference (DMC) as a recurring DoD-hosted conference, consistent with the Deputy Chief Management Officer's DoD Conference Guidance, Version 4.0, issued June 26, 2016. I additionally waive the conference guidance requirement that a conference not exceed \$500,000. While the Military Services or Defense Agencies may place additional controls, this approval covers attendance for all DoD participants. This annual event is the Department's principal mechanism for broad dissemination of advanced manufacturing technology priorities, investments, and solutions, and I encourage your support.

Under the theme "Accelerating America's Manufacturing Advantage to Win the Great Power Competition," DMC 2024 will focus on the alignment of manufacturing technologies and capabilities with the 2022 National Defense Strategy and USD(R&E) Critical Technology Areas. Innovative solutions to complex manufacturing challenges are essential for arming, supplying, and sustaining the joint force using the entirety of the U.S. industrial base, and a key narrative at this year's event will be harnessing the innovative and disruptive capabilities of non-traditional small and medium manufacturers to supplement the Nation's powerful defense industrial base.

The Joint Defense Manufacturing Technology Panel will host the 2024 DMC in Austin, Texas, from December 2nd – 5th, 2024, bringing together engineers, managers, technology leaders, scientists, and policymakers across the defense innovation community. The agenda will include general sessions, technical sessions, an exhibit hall, and the presentation of the Defense Manufacturing Achievement Awards.

Heidi Shyu