



LOGISTICS AND
MATERIEL READINESS

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3500 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3500

October 10, 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Approval of the 2012 Department of Defense Maintenance Symposium and Exhibition

On October 9, 2012, the 2012 DoD Maintenance Symposium and Exhibition was officially approved by the Department of Defense (DoD) consistent with the recently issued Deputy Secretary of Defense (DepSecDef) guidance. This approval was based on an estimated Government attendance of approximately 400 personnel. Consistent with DepSecDef guidance, this approval covers attendance and participation from across the Department. Although the Services or Commands may choose to place appropriate additional controls on attendance, I do not anticipate violating the approved level of attendance, even with the most optimistic level of projected attendance. In establishing any additional controls, I would ask all to consider despite recent constraints on conferences, we must continue our important business and this Symposium is a key enabler. I encourage all of you to support a robust, yet prudent, level of attendance and participation. The success of our Symposium and our ability to shape our path forward in a critical time depends on it.

The DoD Maintenance Symposium and Exhibition is the preeminent meeting event focused solely on the maintenance of DoD weapon systems and equipment. It is the **only** forum sponsored and conducted by the Office of the Secretary of Defense that addresses maintenance. Additionally, the Symposium provides the platform to annually present the Secretary of Defense Maintenance Awards, the highest awards for maintenance within the Department, to selected field-level and depot-level military units.

The Symposium will be held at the DeVos Place Convention Center in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on November 13-16, 2012. This year's theme will be "Leadership in Producing Readiness and Shaping the Industrial Base." The DoD maintenance community, along with our Nation, is in a new era – an era shaped as much by economic realities as by national defense requirements. How we, as a community, respond to the emergent threats, evolving scenarios and strategies, and economic constraints of this era will determine our success in the future. As each and every attendee at this year's Maintenance Symposium has the ability to affect how our community does business, this is also an opportunity to make a contribution directly to our national defense. Our agenda is structured to frame the key policy, resourcing, process and technology issues that affect our business. I encourage all to take advantage of this unique opportunity to shape our future.

For additional details, please visit <http://www.sae.org/events/dod/> or contact Ms. Corey Battistoni at 703-614-9329 or corey.battistoni@osd.mil.

John B Johns
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Maintenance)

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Deputy Chief of Staff, G4, U.S. Army

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