

NDIA Manufacturing Division Workshop (10/6/22): READ-AHEAD

Unleashing commercial manufacturing to ensure both economic and national security.

Today's defense supply chains are comprised of a significant number of commercial "dual-use" suppliers who are essential to both national security (supporting DoD) and economic security (employing people). In America, a strong commercial industrial base is critical to the DoD's mission.

DoD-procured defense systems have a heavy reliance on commercially produced parts and many of the challenges to defense supply chains are caused by the realities of commercial supply chains; meaning they are outside of the control of the DoD.

NDIA's Manufacturing Division is mobilizing a coalition of advisors to talk about solutions. Our first objective is to define actions that lead to an enduring dialogue between USG and defense supply chain stakeholders who see the value of unleashing commercial enterprise in pursuit of economic and national security.

For the morning session, presentations will focus on the current challenges facing the US and allies industrial based and ideas of what it would ideally look like. In advance, it will be helpful for attendees to refresh their awareness of the state of America's industrial base.

The following reports provide some recent thinking on American supply chains. We encourage folks to review the Executive Summaries and to dive into sections that pique their interests.

- [Rebuild: Toolkit for a New American Industrial Policy](#). Center for a New American Security (CNAS) report on an intellectual framework for a uniquely American industrial policy. SEP-2022.
- [Building a Trusted ICT Supply Chain](#). Cyberspace Solarium Commission proposing a whole-of-government strategy for building trusted supply chains for Information and Communications Technologies (ICT). OCT-2022.
- [Securing Defense-Critical Supply Chains](#). Action plan in response to Executive Order 14017. FEB-2022.
- [DoD FY20 Industrial Capabilities Report](#): Annual DoD report to Congress. JAN-2021.

For the afternoon session, we will break into smaller working groups for a round-table discussion to start identifying a framework leading to recommendations to resolve defense supply chain challenges at all levels: from commercial supplies that influence defense, critical minerals to complete systems.

Attendees should consider their awareness and solution ideas for the following major challenges of doing business with the DoD. BONUS points for direct experiences and relevant stories!

1. How do we determine both defense and commercial **supply chain risks** and criticality (of need) down to the raw materials level?
2. How can we develop **an innovative and flexible US/Allied industrial base** that can quickly surge/contract with US/Allies defense needs?
 - a. How can we support highly specialized small businesses to upgrade manufacturing technology & facilities?
 - b. How can we sustainably provide energy security needed to power US/Allied manufacturing capabilities?



3. How can we provide the **technically diverse and highly specialized workforce** that is needed to empower industrial base domestic manufacturing?
4. How can we **attract and retain more companies** to pursue defense and other government business?

We look forward to a productive workshop!