



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3500

JAN 15 2020

SUSTAINMENT

MEMORANDUM FOR 2020 COMMERCIAL TECHNOLOGIES FOR MAINTENANCE  
ACTIVITIES (CTMA) PARTNERS MEETING – SAVE THE DATE

The National Defense Strategy (NDS) requires the generation of a more lethal, resilient, and rapidly innovating Joint Force. As noted in the NDS, until recently, the United States has enjoyed a technological advantage, and operated in an uncontested and dominant environment in every operating domain. We are now challenged by near-peer adversaries and a changing character of war. We must retain the advantage that will allow us to fight and win conflicts now and in the future. Sustainment innovation and technology insertion, at scale, is critical to our success. Our CTMA program is DoD's venue to collaborate with commercial industry and accelerate sustainment innovation, address materiel readiness challenges, and modernize our organic industrial base.

In keeping with the theme of the 2019 DoD Maintenance Symposium "Ready Systems @ the Speed of Relevance," the tagline for this year's CTMA Partners Meeting is "CTMA – DoD's Sustainment Innovation Accelerator." This annual National Center for Manufacturing Sciences (NCMS) hosted event brings DoD, industry and academia together to highlight weapon system sustainment challenges, frame potential solutions, develop partnerships and share lessons learned during over 500 CTMA initiatives executed. The DoD-NCMS team also provides detailed tutorials on how to leverage this streamlined venue where ideas become contracted action in 45-60 days, and is a fantastic opportunity to continue and expand sustainment innovation for current CTMA partners.

Also for the third year, we will be executing the CTMA Technology Competition and awarding the winning activity with \$100K in technology demonstration resources. For more information regarding the CTMA program, the 2020 Partners Meeting and registration, and the CTMA Technology Competition, visit <https://www.ncms.org/ctma/about-ctma>.

Today's readiness challenges are daunting. We need to rapidly transform the way we tackle innovation across our vast sustainment enterprise. CTMA is designed and operated to meet that objective and I encourage the community to utilize CTMA to the fullest extent. The upcoming CTMA Partners' Meeting is scheduled for May 5-7, 2020 at The Clubs at Quantico. Hope to see you there!

My point of contact for CTMA is Mr. Gregory Kilchenstein,  
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Sincerely,

Steven J. Morani  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense  
Materiel Readiness