



SUSTAINMENT

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR
3500 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3500

SEP 14 2026

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPARTMENT OF WAR MAINTENANCE AND
SUSTAINMENT LEADERS

SUBJECT: 2026 Department of War Maintenance Symposium

I am very excited to invite you and your staff to participate in this year's Department of War Maintenance Symposium. The 2026 Symposium will be held December 8-11, 2026, at the Broward County Convention Center in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This event is approved by the Department of War and meets departmental guidelines for attendance by all Military Service and Agency personnel.

The Department of War finds itself postured upon a wartime footing as we continue celebrating the 250th anniversary of our nation's birth. America's founding fathers knew that securing a lasting democracy would never be easy and each succeeding generation would be called upon to make consequential sacrifices. Our Department once again faces complex maintenance and logistics problems with significant national security ramifications. I encourage you to join other sustainment leaders from across the Military Services, government, allies, and international partners as we develop real solutions to those problems. We chose this year's theme of *Delivering Combat Power: Maintaining and Sustaining the Arsenal of Freedom* because it emphasizes the Secretary of War's call to action for a supercharged defense industrial base and ignites a revitalization of America's military. At the Symposium you will be immersed in impactful conversations and networking opportunities. Highlights of our technical program include:

- Keynote addresses from senior DoW and commercial industry leaders
- Plenary panels centered around Program Acquisition Executives, a Senior Logisticians Roundtable, and Supercharging the Defense Industrial Base
- Breakout sessions on software, Joint Forces readiness, workforce, organic industrial base, advanced manufacturing, supply chain management, maintenance data, plus much more
- Maintenance Innovation Challenge and return of the Maintenance Yard
- More than 20 Associated Meetings throughout the entire week

We will also recognize the best maintenance units in the Department at the annual Secretary of War Maintenance Awards banquet and ceremony. During the awards ceremony we will present the highest awards for maintenance within the Department and announce the 2026 winner of the prestigious Phoenix Award.

For additional details and to register, visit sac.org/dow. If you have specific questions, please contact Mr. Dana Sanford, (571) 256-7052, dana.j.sanford4.civ@mail.mil; or Mr. Chuck Field, charles.e.field4.ctr@mail.mil, (703) 459-0701. I look forward to seeing you and your staff in Fort Lauderdale this December.

Sincerely,

Patrick N. Kelleher
Deputy Assistant Secretary of War
for Materiel Readiness