



# 2026 Conference Agenda

## 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

Registration, Continental Breakfast & Exhibitor Showcase

## 8:30 AM – 9:00 AM

Welcome & Opening Remarks

## 9:00 AM – 9:30 AM

Opening Keynote – Jim Bridenstine, CEO of Quantum Space, former NASA Administrator, Member of Congress and U.S. Navy Pilot

## 9:35 AM – 10:20 AM

Session 1 – Concurrent Sessions - *"Demand Signal: Where Missions and Funding are Going"*

- Frontline (Defense): *"Wartime Demand & the New Defense Budget"*  
Rick Stone, ARCWERX; Thad Thome, US Army; Matthew Fetrow, Space Rapid Capabilities Office
- Flightline (AAM): *"From Aircraft to eVTOL: Arizona's Manufacturing and Maintenance Gateway"*  
Michelle Duquette, 3 MAD Air; Michael Robbins, AUVSI
- Orbitline (Space): *"Orbital and Cislunar Demand Surge: What Missions Need and Who Can Deliver?"*  
Kelli Kedis Ogborn, Commercial Space Federation; Adrian Mangiuca, Rational Futures (formerly NASA, SpaceX & Voyager Space)

## 10:20 AM – 10:50 AM

Networking Break & Exhibitor Showcase

## 10:50 AM – 11:35 AM

Session 2 – Concurrent Sessions - *"Reindustrialization: From Demand to Capacity, Building the Industrial Base"*

- Frontline (Defense): *"Reindustrialization at Speed: Arizona as a National Production Node"*  
Drew Trojanowski, SWMAC; Russell Varone, UNION; Cade Bradley, Raytheon; Todd Tuthill, Rincon Aerospace
- Flightline (AAM): *"National Programs & the eIPP: Aligning U.S. and Global Standards for Real-World Operations"*
- Orbitline (Space): *"Scaling Space Capacity: From Sensors and Systems to Human Performance"*  
Shawn Linam, Qwaltec; Christopher Edwards, NAU's Radiant Center for Remote Sensing; TBA-Mercury Systems

## 11:35 AM – 12:50 PM

Lunch

## 12:15 PM – 12:45 PM

Lunch Keynote - TBA



### 12:50 PM – 1:35 PM

#### Session 3 – Convergence Panel - *"Cross-Domain Technologies"*

Gen. Robin Rand, Kyl Institute of National Security; Kevin Suits, Honeywell; Ret. Rear Adm. Timothy Gallaudet, U.S. Navy and Former Acting Administrator of NOAA

### 1:40 PM – 2:25 PM

#### Session 4 – Concurrent Sessions - *"Build the Platform: Testbeds, Ranges & Cross-Border Infrastructure"*

- Frontline (Defense): *"Test Ranges, Training & Multi-Domain Environments"*  
Dustin Blanchard, FreeFall Aerospace; Col. Curtis Taylor, U.S. Army Fort Huachuca; Timothy Jobe, Tiberius Aerospace; Col. Seaberry, U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground
- Flightline (AAM): *"Welcoming Advanced Flight: Aircraft & Infrastructure"*  
Toni Drummond, Future Flight Global; Mark Gaspers, WISK; Phil Robinson, Honeywell; Marisa Walker, Arizona Commerce Authority
- Orbitline (Space): *"Planetary Proving Grounds: What Arizona Must Enable to Help Companies Build, Test & Operate"*  
Eric Miller, PADT; Lisa Morris, Solestial; Johnny Wilson, Sceye; Kjell Starsgardt, Intuitive Machines; Skip Williams, Rocket Lab

### 2:25 PM – 2:55 PM

Networking Break & Exhibitor Showcase

### 2:55 PM – 3:40 PM

#### Session 5 – Concurrent Sessions - *"State-Level Competition: Turning Demand, Capability and Platform into Industrial Scale"*

- Frontline (Defense): *"Scaling Through DoW: OTAs, Programs & Industrial Policy"*  
Dan Geraci, CII; LTC Hans Jagow, Defense Innovation Unit; Rick Stone, ARCWERX
- Flightline (AAM): *"Safe Skies: Arizona's role in Preparing for the Low Altitude Airspace Operations"*  
Nick Langolf, FlyUSI; Shane Conley, Zipline; Mike Canada, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University; Devin Patterson, SWMAC
- Orbitline (Space): *"Building the Space Industrial Base: How States Can Compete, Scale and Lead National Momentum"*  
Brett Mecum, AZ Space Commission; Gwen Griffin, TX Space Commission

### 3:45 PM – 4:30 PM

#### Convergence Panel - *"Closing Reflections: Key Insights and Next Steps"*

John Otto, Raytheon; Laurie Leshin, ASU

### 4:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Closing Remarks

### 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Reception & Exhibitor Showcase

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(Subject to Change)

