



News Release

United States Air Force

Ogden Air Logistics Center

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Attention assignment editors, reporters, & correspondents:

Please contact Public Affairs Office at the above phone numbers to arrange coverage for this event and/or request telephone interviews with speakers.

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, UTAH – Six military and aerospace industry leaders will be keynote speakers at the 27th annual Focus on Defense Symposium June 21.

More than 350 military and aerospace industry representatives are expected to attend the symposium, which is sponsored by the Utah Air Force Association and the Ogden Air Logistics Center at Hill Air Force Base. The event will be held at the Davis Conference Center in Layton, Utah.

Military presenters include: Gen. Bruce Carlson, commander of Air Force Materiel Command; Gen. Duncan J. McNabb, commander, Air Mobility Command; Lt. Gen. Donald J. Wetekam, deputy chief of staff for Logistics, Installations and Mission Support, Air Force headquarters; and Brig. Gen. S. Taco Gilbert III, director of Air Force Smart Operations 21 at the Pentagon.

Representing the aerospace industry will be Peter J. Hennessey, vice president and manager, Air Force Market Sector, Battelle National Security Division and Harry Schulte, vice president, Strike Weapons for Raytheon Missile Systems. Air Force Association representatives, Pat Condon, Chairman of the Board and Don Peterson, Executive Director, will also present remarks.

Maj. Gen. Kevin J. Sullivan, commander, Ogden ALC, will host the symposium that will follow the theme "Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century: Enabling the Future Total Force." Air Force Materiel Command has been a forerunner in implementing many of the process improvement concepts that make up the AFSSO 21 initiative, the general said. He also said that the symposium is one of the leading military logistics events and provides a forum for military and industry leaders to discuss ways to improve the logistics system.

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"As an Air Force, we need to think past the way we've always done business and look at how we can deploy proven management techniques across the entire spectrum of what we do. That's what AFSO21 is all about." said General Sullivan. "With industry and the military teaming together, we can accelerate our efforts to eliminate waste, and work smarter and more efficiently. Facilitating that teaming is what this year's Symposium is all about"

"For example, much of industry and all three air logistics centers have produced outstanding results using Lean to streamline our processes. The next step is to take the lessons learned both in the private sector and at the ALCs and start using them to deploy Lean processes and Lean thinking throughout the Air Force." General Sullivan said.

With AFSO 21, he said, not only will our air logistic centers continue to focus even more on eliminating waste and producing reliable and repeatable results, but we'll see that kind of thinking deployed Air Force wide.

During the symposium, presenters will illustrate past success stories, identify gaps for improvement and talk about future plans for the AFSO 21 program.

The symposium and other AFA activities helps the Utah Aerospace Education Foundation provide more than \$45,000 annually for educational programs, including scholarships and grants. The foundation also supports junior and senior Reserve Officer Training Corp programs, science fairs, teacher of the year programs and the Hill Aerospace Museum.

To learn more about the symposium, go to: <http://www.afafod.org/>

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