



ICAM26

ORLANDO, FL
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International Conference on Advanced Manufacturing

Research to Application through
Standardization

Industrial Sector: Defense



amcoe.org/icam2026

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Additive manufacturing (AM) is rapidly transforming defense sustainment and logistical advantages by enabling agile, resilient, and point-of-need production. Barriers to this transformation include safeguarding the digital thread, process variability, lengthy qualification and certification pathways, and education and workforce development. This symposium will convene leaders from defense agencies, industry, and end users to discuss emerging technologies, success cases, lessons learned, and pathways for scaling AM in mission critical contexts. The symposium will explore how AM technologies can strengthen operational readiness, reduce logistical risk, and reshape the defense industrial base and operational environments.

Topics of interest include but are not limited to:

- **Workforce education & industry collaboration:** Review ongoing and/or future training initiatives to upskill or cross train personnel and review initiatives accelerating AM adoption for defense applications by advancing standards, qualification, or certification pathways.
- **Industrial surge and hybrid manufacturing:** Explore integrating AM into legacy manufacturing lines to enable hybrid approaches, reduce downtime, and accelerate transition from peacetime to surge manufacturing during wartime or emergency scenarios. Discuss how AM complements conventional machining and casting when supported by interoperability standards between additive and subtractive processes to ensure quality, repeatability, and the ability to quickly pivot to meet defense demand.
- **Material selection or substitution for mission critical parts:** Ensuring metals, polymers, and composites meet mechanical, thermal, and environmental requirements for aerospace, naval, and ground systems, or required considerations when substituting material.
- **Application specific tailoring:** Matching AM processes (e.g., powder bed fusion, directed energy deposition, fused deposition modeling, etc.) to the unique demands of defense platforms such as aircraft engines, armored vehicles, and naval systems.
- **Strategies for resilient sustainment and contested logistics:** Extend life cycles and reduce downtime of equipment by integrating AM into defense maintenance and repair workflows. Leveraging AM to reduce dependence on fragile supply lines and ensure mission continuity in denied or austere environments.
- **Manufacturing spare or repairing hard to source parts:** Address obsolescence and supply chain vulnerabilities through forward deploying AM capabilities on operating bases, ships, and aircraft to deliver or repair critical parts where and when required. Presenting real life success cases, lessons learned, and challenges of forward deployed AM.