



The Alliance Matters

Welcome to “The Alliance Matters”, a newsletter focused on keeping you informed about the Alliance initiatives and accomplishments, highlights about our Central New York (CNY) region, defense industry, members, our partners and upcoming events.

Mission

The CNY Defense Alliance mission is to Promote, Advocate, Strengthen and Expand the region’s Department of Defense (DoD) and federal assets including the Air Force Research Laboratory Information Directorate (AFRL/RI), Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), Eastern Area Defense Sector (EADS) and the FAA Designated New York (NY) Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Test Site, all located at the Griffiss Business and Technology Park.



AFRL/RI, DFAS, EADS and the NY UAS Test Site are organizations that are recognized nationally for their respective accomplishments but that makes them a target for other states looking to grow their military value and high tech eco-system.

The **goal** of the CNY Defense Alliance is to strengthen and expand our defense industry and high tech eco-system by supporting initiatives enabled by collaboration and partnerships with our region’s DoD and federal assets. We also work directly with our federal, state and local representatives to ensure they address issues head on while taking a proactive stance on a potential BRAC (2021) or DoD realignment.

CNY Defense Alliance Annual Meeting

SAVE the DATE: Meet the new NUAIR Alliance President and CEO, Mr. Marke "Hoot" Gibson, Air Force Maj Gen (Ret) at the Annual meeting on Thursday, **28 June 2018** from 11:30 - 1:30pm. Hoot will be our keynote and provide an overview of \$30 Million NYS investment in UAS Corridor that will stretch from Rome to Syracuse, NY.

Mr. Chad Lawrence, Commissioner of the Griffiss International Airport is hosting our meeting at the NY Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Test Site which is in Building 100 at the Griffiss International Airport.

Prior to our speaker, we will conduct the annual election of Board members. Dr. Bill Jemison (Vice Chair) and Mr. Mark Pfisterer (Treasurer) have agreed to continue their CNY Defense Alliance Board of Directors support and serve another 3 year term. However, if you or someone from your organization is interested in running for a seat on the Board of Directors, please send me a short resume by 22 June 2018. The resume should highlight why the nominee is a good candidate for the Alliance Board of Directors.

Cost for non-members to attend is \$20.00. Space is limited so Alliance members will have priority. Please RSVP to Dawn at Dawn.rava-Crofoot@axenterprize.com by Friday, 22 June 2018.



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AFRL Information Directorate

The AFRL Information Directorate (AFRL/RI) continues to be recognized by AFMC and AFRL HQ and the Air Force in general for their R&D in cutting-edge capabilities. Achieving **over \$1.3 Billion** in research and development funding in fiscal year 2017 is a solid indicator that AFRL Rome and its defense eco-system understand the requirements of our warfighters while looking beyond for that next innovation.

The DoD is in a state of reorganization, restructuring its infrastructure and assets to enhance lethality. While we don't anticipate any major changes in the AFRL lab structure, AFRL/RI is undergoing a change in its leadership structure. The Directorate will be led by a Colonel with 3 new civilian leadership positions (Senior Leader (SL), DR5 and Senior Scientist (ST)). We were disappointed with losing the SES position. However, after numerous discussions with AFRL and AFMC leadership, the decision was to take some time to evaluate the effectiveness of the new structure. If we determine the new structure isn't working, we are prepared to work with the Air Force and our federal representatives to find a solution.

Since the beginning of establishing the Alliance, we have worked to identify MilCon (construction) funds for a perimeter security project to control the accessibility to AFRL property. With the help of our federal representatives, we have secured over \$14M and anticipate construction to begin in 2020.

The Alliance successfully supported the development of a CRADA and MOU between AFRL/RI and the NY UAS Test Site. The CRADA and MOU will enable joint research with the two organizations.

The Alliance is currently working with Senator Griffo, Assemblyman Brindisi, County Executive Picente and Commissioner Lawrence to develop a sUAS Cyber Resilient Command and Control (C2) Facility, a.k.a. Sky Dome, which will enable a one-of-a-kind, year-round indoor instrumented sUAV experimentation environment at the NY UAS Test Site.

The Alliance is also working the development of an Open Research Campus environment that will facilitate collaborative research among AFRL/RI, the NY UAS Test Site commercial and academic partners in technically challenging areas such as autonomous swarms and neuromorphic computing.

SAVE the DATE : June 19-20, 2018 Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA), Erie Canal Chapter will host the C4I and Cyber at Hotel at Utica Centre, Utica, NY - formerly known as Radisson Hotel. For more info: www.afceaeriecanal.com



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NY UAS Test Site

NY-UASTS MISSION
To provide a state-of-the-art operations and data management center and testing grounds for the development and experimentation of technologies for the safe integration of UAS into the National Airspace (NAS)

ABOUT US
The New York UAS Test Site at Griffiss International Airport is developing unmanned aircraft system (UAS) test range instrumentation and surveillance systems to safely integrate UAS into the National Airspace System (NAS). Griffiss is transforming through multiple stages of airspace expansion to create world-leading infrastructure for Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) testing.

WORLD-CLASS UAS TESTING FACILITIES
SUPPORTING ALL UAS PLATFORMS
ACCESS TO DIVERSE AIRSPACE ABOVE VARIED TERRAIN
OPERATIONS CENTER SUPPORTING DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS
ONGOING FAA-NASA UNMANNED TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT RESEARCH

The NY-UASTS is managed by the NUAIR Alliance
www.nuairalliance.org

The NY UAS Test Site continues to grow and evolve with Mr. Chad Lawrence assuming the role of Commissioner of the Griffiss International Airport, Mr. Brian Smith is the new Deputy Commissioner, and NUAIR welcomed a new President and CEO, Mr. Marke "Hoot" Gibson, Air Force Maj Gen (Ret). The day to day energy is high with research and testing activities by NASA, AFRL and a number of commercial and academic institutions.

In April, the bipartisan bill (H.R.4, the FAA Reauthorization Act) reauthorized the Federal Aviation Administration to extend the operation of the 7 National UAS Test Sites for an additional 6 years.

https://www.syracuse.com/politics/index.ssf/2018/04/congress_extends_national_dron_test_site_in_central_new_york_for_6_years.html

SAVE the DATE: September 10 -12 NUAIR will be hosting the New York UAS Symposium at Turning Stone. For more information go to <https://nuairalliance.org/symposium/>

Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) Rome

The DFAS workforce is responsible for supporting a range of functions critical to our military's readiness, including the processing of pay and benefits for two million service members and the management of more than \$18 billion in accounts receivables. In particular, DFAS Rome primarily serves and supports financial processes that are critical to the day-to-day operations of the Army.

In January, the new DFAS Rome Director, Ms. Cindy Garcia, provided an overview of her vision for growth in Rome. The challenge is to continue getting the right workforce in place to support the jobs.

Mr. Abounader, a senior member of the DFAS Rome leadership team, has been elected to the President's National Council for DFAS. It is a three (3) year term and he represents 120,000 employees.



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THANK YOU to our 2018 Members/Sponsors

The Alliance is the **ONLY** not-for-profit corporation in the region that is positioned to legally engage in lobbying to advocate, strengthen and expand the region's DoD and federal assets. Your support enables us to continue the important work of the CNY Defense Alliance.

Our membership drive is underway and I would encourage all organizations to get involved and take advantage of our flexible membership program! **Our Voice is as strong as our membership!!**

- **PREMIER**

- AIS
- AmeriCU Credit Union
- AX Enterprize
- BAE
- Clarkson University
- First Source Federal Credit Union
- FTL Information Technology
- Griffiss Institute
- Intelligent Automation Inc.
- Mohawk Valley EDGE
- Mohawk Valley Community College
- NYSTEC
- PAR/ Rome Research Corp
- Quanterion
- Raytheon BBN Technologies
- SUNY POLY
- Syracuse University/CASE

- **ADVOCATE**

- Bank of New York Mellon
- Booz Allen & Hamilton
- CenterState CEO

- **ASSOCIATE**

- Capraro Technologies
- Mohawk LTD

- **COMMUNITY**

- Black Owl
- Dr. Don Hanson
- JAG Technologies
- Phoenix Contract Management
- Research Foundation for State University of NY

If you have information or news that you would like to share in the newsletter, please let me know. Also, we are always looking for community support. If you would like to get involved in the Alliance mission, please contact me at mary.chruscicki@cnydefensealliance.org or 315-617-2821.