

Accelerate Michigan: Leveraging Business Opportunities in Defense & Industry, in partnership with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation

Event Schedule: August 7, 2025

Time	Activity
9:30 am – 10:00 am	Registration, Breakfast, Networking, Training Room, LIFT HQ
10:00 am – 10:05 am	Open Remarks and Welcome Joe Steele, Executive Vice President, Public Affairs, LIFT
10:05 am – 10:10 am	MEDC Overview John Gelmisi, Strategic Development Manager, MEDC's Office of Defense & Aerospace Innovation
10:10 am – 10:50 am	MEDC Panel: Preparedness in Industry 4.0, International Trade, Supply Chain Resiliency & Capital Access, Aerospace & Defense Moderator: Tanya Marko-Vasso, Strategic Engagement Manager, MEDC MEDC Panelists: Rodney Parkkonen, Director, Second-Stage Growth Alyssa Tracey, Director, International Trade Bobby Chasnis, Director, Pure Michigan Business Connect John Gelmisi, Program Manager – Industry 4.0
10:50 am – 11:00 am	MEDC Panel: Preparedness in Industry 4.0, Aerospace, Defense & International Trade Q&A Moderator: Tanya Marko-Vasso, Strategic Engagement Manager, MEDC
11:00 am – 11:10 am	Break, Networking & Tabletop Exhibits <i>2nd Floor Lunch area & Training Room</i>
11:10 am – 11:30 am	LIFT Overview Joe Steele, Executive Vice President, Public Affairs, LIFT
11:30 am – 11:50 am	LIFT: Mentor – Protégé Program Overview Beth Cryderman Moss, Director of Contracts, LIFT
11:50 am – 12:00 am	LIFT: Mentor – Protégé Program Q&A Beth Cryderman Moss, Director of Contracts, LIFT
12:00 pm – 12:30 pm	Lunch, Networking & Tabletop Exhibits <i>2nd Floor Lunch area & Training Room</i>
12:30 pm – 1:00 pm	LIFT Highbay Tour
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