



# Accelerating Material Innovation for Competitive Advantage & Expanding the Defense Industrial Base

## Event Schedule: September 18, 2025

Time	Activity
7:30 am – 8:00 am	<b>Registration, Breakfast &amp; Networking</b> <i>Training Room, LIFT HQ</i>
8:00 am – 8:15 am	<b>Opening Remarks &amp; Welcome</b> <i>LIFT: Noel Mack, LIFT, Chief Technical Officer</i>
8:15 am – 9:00 am	<b>LIFT Advanced Technology &amp; Material Innovation</b> <i>AMPP – Advanced Metallurgy Production and Processing Center: Tony Bromwell, LIFT, VP Advanced Development</i>  <i>PAW DED – Plasma Arc Welding - Directed Energy Deposition Craig Gaertner, LIFT, Senior Engineer, Robotics</i>  <i>MIDAS – Materials Informed Digital Acceleration Suite David Hicks, LIFT, Engineering Director, Modeling &amp; Simulation</i>
9:00 am – 9:15 am	<b>Keynote: Ensuring Technological Advantage</b> <i>Carrie Davis, Branch Chief, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division</i>
9:15 am – 10:00 am	<b>Keynote: Accelerated Materials Innovation</b> How emerging technologies are playing a role in material research and implementation. <b>*Invited:</b> Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman Corporation, RTX Technology Research Center (RTRC)/ Raytheon
10:00 am – 10:30 am	<b>Break, Networking &amp; Tabletop Exhibits</b> <i>Meet LIFT Members 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Lunch Area &amp; Training Room</i>
10:30 am – 11:00 am	<b>Next-Gen Alloys for High-Performance Applications</b> Innovations in producing high-purity, high-performance materials for demanding industrial and defense Applications. <i>Vulcan Elements: Jake Bowles, Chief Operations Officer</i>
11:00 am – 11:30 am	<b>Precision Metal Forming: Innovation in Swaging &amp; Wire Flattening</b> Customized metal forming solutions that support scalable production and advanced material shaping. <i>Fenn Torin: Craig Watterson, Sales Manager</i>
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	<b>Vacuum Metallurgy: Enabling Advanced Materials Through Innovative Casting Technologies</b> Atomization and casting processes that are shaping the future of advanced powder and alloy production. <i>Arcast: Sasha Long, Corporate Officer and Engineering Manager</i>
12:00 pm – 12:30 pm	<b>Additive Materials Reinvented: Unlocking New Possibilities</b> 3D printing with advanced metal composites and performance-enhancing additive materials. <i>Elementum 3D: Jeremy Iten, Chief Technical Officer</i>
12:30 pm – 1:00 pm	<b>Lunch, Networking &amp; Tabletop Exhibits</b> <i>*Options: Learning Lab Tour or Meet LIFT Members 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Lunch Area, LIFT Learning Lab, Training Room</i>
1:00 pm – 1:30 pm	<b>Expanding the Defense Industrial Base</b> MPP Program Overview. <i>LIFT: Beth Cryderman Moss, LIFT, Director, Contracts and Mentor-Protege Program</i>

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm	<p><b>Keynote: A Mentors Perspective Increasing Raytheon’s Supplier Pool &amp; Driving Growth with Small &amp; Non-Traditional Businesses</b></p> <p>Learn how small businesses can engage and get the most from mentorship opportunities, what mentors look for in partnerships and how they build successful collaborations.</p> <p><i>*invited RTX Technology Research Center (RTRC)/ Raytheon: Crystal King, Supplier Diversity Business Lead</i></p>
1:30 pm – 2:15 pm	<p><b>Panel: Breaking Silos – Mentor-Protégé Authorized Subcontractors</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Beth Cryderman Moss, LIFT, Director, Contracts and Mentor-Protege Program</i></p> <p><i>Invited:</i></p> <p><i>MEP: PRiMEX, - Ramon Vega, Executive Director</i></p> <p><i>APEX: The University of Tennessee - Jutta Bangs, Counselor</i></p> <p><i>SBDC: Schoolcraft College - Jodie Beckley, PH.D., Director</i></p> <p><i>MSIs: University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) - Dr. Cristina Pomales, Dean of Engineering</i></p>
2:15 pm – 3:00 pm	<p><b>Manufacturers Strengthening Defense Industrial Base: Small Business Briefings</b></p> <p><i>Moderated Fire Side Chat.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Tampa Brass: Aubrey Greene, President – Owner</i></li> <li><i>Elementum 3D: Jeremy Iten, Chief Technical Officer</i></li> <li><i>Vulcan; Jake Bowles, Chief Operation Officer</i></li> </ul>
3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	<p><b>Coffee, Conversations &amp; Technology</b></p> <p><i>Optional LIFT Highbay, Learning Lab Tour, Networking &amp; Tabletop Exhibits.</i></p>