



Trusted Suppliers Networking Event 2024

Speaker Bios

Dr. Nicholas T. Martin, Director, Defense Microelectronics Activity

Dr. Nick. Martin is the Director of the Defense Microelectronics Activity (DMEA). In this capacity he provides engineering expertise to solve Department of Defense (DoD) specific microelectronics issues facing the Warfighter, provides direct support to system program managers in the services, interfaces with special forces and intel community leadership to understand mission needs and to provide innovative and timely solutions, oversees and manages the DoD's only organic semiconductor manufacturing laboratory, maintains a highly skilled civilian workforce, provides management direction and control over the Trusted Access Program Office (TAPO) that facilitates United States Government access to trusted state-of-the-art (SOTA) and state-of-the-practice (SOTP) microelectronics design and manufacturing capabilities, and carries out Head of Contracting Activity (HCA) responsibilities. He assumed his current position in August 2021.

Prior to his current assignment, Dr. Martin served as the Technical Lead of the DMEA Warfighter Solutions Division – leading a multidisciplinary project centric team responsible for providing microelectronics research, designs, prototypes, products, analysis and consultation services with a focus on increasing weapon system lethality and mission capability, while reducing development time and operational cost.

Dr. Martin served in the U.S. Navy as an electronics technician and served two deployments aboard the aircraft carrier USS John C Stennis (CVN-74). He has served as an adjunct professor at California State University, Sacramento, in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering.

Dr. Martin received his Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from California State University, Sacramento, and his Doctorate in Electrical and Computer Engineering from University of California, Davis, as a DoD SMART Scholar. He is a Level III certified Defense Acquisition Professional in the career field of Systems, Research, Development and Engineering (SPRDE).

Aman S. Gahoonia, Director, Trusted Access Program Office

Mr. Aman Gahoonia is the Program Director for the Trusted Access Program Office (TAPO) within the Defense Microelectronics Activity (DMEA). In this capacity, he provides overall technical direction and technical oversight to the TAPO enterprise. TAPO has successfully developed a reliable source of parts that gives the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Intelligence Community needed access to state of the art commercial processes, fabrication tools and fabrication services. TAPO has made it possible for the Intelligence Community to design and obtain advanced mission critical systems via commercial, state of the art manufacturing processes. TAPO's long-term contract assures long-term access to the latest and most capable commercial IC technologies in the world. Mr. Gahoonia has served on various government and industry panels and committees. He holds multiple patents in secure semiconductor manufacturing and is a Senior Member of the IEEE.

Kelly Schlienger, Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency, Industrial Security Directorate

Mrs. Kelly L. Schlienger was named NISP Cyber Security Office (NCSO) Authorizing Official Designated Representative (AODR), Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency (DCSA) effective January 2023. In this capacity, Mrs. Schlienger is responsible for managing and coordinating Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DCSA and other government agencies regarding interconnections of classified contractor and government systems and the associated Cognizant Security Office roles and responsibilities for those classified systems.

Prior to her current position, Mrs. Schlienger was the Command Cyber Readiness Inspection (CCRI) Service Cyber Lead for DCSA. In this position, she served as the Program Manager responsible for management and coordination of teams performing CCRI at contractor facilities with systems connected to the Secret Internet Protocol Router Network (SIPRNet). While at DCSA, she also served as a Project Manager in the Program Executive Office (PEO) and in the field as an Information System Security Professional (ISSP).

Mrs. Schlienger received a Master of Science Degree, Government Information Leadership Cybersecurity from National Defense University (NDU) College of Information and Cyberspace and a Bachelor of Science Degree, Asset Protection from Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) College of Law Enforcement and Safety. Mrs. Schlienger currently holds numerous cybersecurity certifications including CISM, CISSP, ISSAP, CCSP, CISA.

Government Panel

Barry Ives, Lockheed Martin

Mr. Barry Ives is a technical director for advanced programs at Lockheed Martin's corporate offices in Virginia. He has a background in commercial electronics and advanced materials where he worked as a manufacturing and process engineer in multiple companies, including two venture-backed startup companies in electronics and a not-for-profit laboratory. He holds a patent in the area of flexible electronic packaging. At Lockheed Martin, where he has worked 15 years, he manages a team that shapes new government R&D programs at DARPA, OSD, the military Services and the Intelligence Community, across a wide array of new technology domains. He has been a principal investigator or co-PI on multiple DARPA programs and three Services. Barry started his career in the US Army, where he was an armored cavalry officer and was decorated for front line combat action in Iraq with the Bronze Star medal in 1991. He lives in Virginia and has a wife and a daughter. His hobbies include sports, wine making and bronze working.

Jonathan Heiner, Air Force Materiel Command

Mr. Jonathan Heiner is a Plans and Programs Engineer at HQ Air Force Materiel Command Engineering Directorate's Systems Engineering Division working on DAF microelectronics strategy and policy. Previously, Mr. Heiner worked at the Air Force Research Laboratory's Information Directorate as a Senior Computer Engineer within the Trusted Systems Branch managing the development of the government owned T-CORE secure processor. Mr. Heiner's research focus for the last 15 years has been in hardware-based cyber security, digital design, and secure edge computing. Mr. Heiner graduated from Brigham Young University with a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering with a focus in Computer Engineering. Mr. Heiner spends remainder of his time with his wife and 3 girls.

Nathanael “Nate” Holstead, Microelectronics Analyst and Project Manager

Mr. Nate Holstead supports the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Policy serving as Microelectronics Technical Sector Deputy executing the Industrial Base Analysis and Sustainment (IBAS) Program. In this role, Mr. Holstead works directly with industry and the Services to support the Department of Defense’s (DoD) strategy in transitioning leading edge technology developed by government and industry to DoD programs of record, to ensure the Department maintains a competitive edge. These efforts include establishing domestic advanced packaging capabilities, establishing a data repository to manage obsolescence, radar system accelerators to mitigate supply chain risks, onshoring the capability for trusted and reliable Printed Circuit Boards (PCBs), and establishing workforce efforts needed to design and make microelectronics components domestically.

John Schofield, Naval Sea Systems Command

Mr. John Schofield began his career at Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division in 2001. He currently serves in three primary leadership roles as the Chief Engineer for Radar Technologies Division at Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane Division; as a Chief Scientist for the Innovation Capability and Modernization (ICAM) Program Office for Radar, Electromagnetic Warfare (EW), and Microelectronics industrial base investments; and as the EW Technical Execution Area Co-Lead for Microelectronics Commons. He holds a Master of Science in Systems Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA and Bachelor of Science, Electrical Engineering from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, IL.

Industry Panel

Ray Gingras, Defined Business Solutions

Mr. Ray Gingras is a microelectronics industry liaison for Defined Business Solutions, supporting government programs and initiatives. His career has spanned over 30 years, working in both the commercial and aerospace defense sectors for GlobalFoundries, IBM and Raytheon.

Michael Cassidy, Draper

Mr. Mike Cassidy is a Senior Program Manager with the Charles Stark Draper Laboratory’s Electronics Systems Business Area focused on strategic initiatives to deliver secured and assured microelectronics solutions for Department of Defense (DoD) and national security customers. Prior to joining Draper, Michael enjoyed over two-decades of experience working across the DoD and Intelligence Community in various analytical, operational, program management and technical leadership roles. Michael served as a Microelectronics Systems Lead with Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab and a strategic planner for the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence (OUSD(I)) where he led a multi-functional team that developed tailored, intelligence-driven strategies for senior DoD policymakers, warfighters and the acquisition community. Michael holds a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service from Georgetown University and Master of Arts in International Affairs from the Fletcher School at Tufts University. He was commissioned as an infantry officer for the U.S. Army and served in Afghanistan as part of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM.

Joe Hein, Lockheed Martin

Mr. Joe Hein is the Senior Manager of Silicon Solutions at Lockheed Martin Space. Since late 2020, he has overseen the development of ASIC and FPGA solutions for military, commercial, civil / science and human space missions. Prior to Lockheed Martin, over a 24-year period, Joe held several roles within major commercial semiconductor companies: yield analyst, application design / verification, product / market development, ecosystem development, services subcontracts and program management. Joe is a graduate of the Colorado School of Mines (BSEE) and Regis University (MBA). He lives in Westminster, Colorado with his wife and four children.

Dr. Eric Miller, Boeing

Eric Miller is the Senior Manager for ASIC and FPGA design in Boeing's Electronic Products group, which supports production unit developments across defense and commercial programs. With 20 years at Boeing, he has a background in technology qualification and radiation effects and has managed multiple CRAD programs before leading the IC design team that spans six Boeing sites for the past 9 years. In that time, the team has leveraged leading-edge commercial technologies for complex SoCs that have enabled new systems and capabilities. The group has also developed Trusted flight ASICs in multiple nodes that are in orbit today. He has a BS in Physics from the University of Notre Dame and a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from UCSD.

Tony Lowry, SEAKR

Mr. Tony Lowry is the Director, ASIC Development at SEAKR Engineering LLC) has a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering with over 26 years of experience in ASIC design, manufacturing, test, and productization. He has design to production experience with technologies from 250um Planar CMOS to 12nm FinFET. During his career he has either been part of a design team or managed a team designing ASICs on more than 100 successful ASIC tape outs. He has managed design teams globally and for the past 10 years he is managing ASIC Design teams across the US for SEAKR. He and his team have continued SEAKR's record for 100% Right First Time on ASIC functionality. The most recent ASIC work includes continuing development of SEAKR's patented family of ASICs integrating ADCs/DACs with the lowest power and highest performance Channelizing and Beamforming for space applications.

Trusted Supplier Panel

Dan Radack, Institute for Defense Analyses

Dr. Dan Radack analyzes technologies and develops solutions to challenging problems related to microelectronics for U.S. government applications. His primary focus is semiconductor technologies and assured microelectronics. Dan was previously a program manager at the Defense Advanced Research Projects. While there, he developed a portfolio of microelectronics research and development programs that advanced high-performance semiconductor technologies by providing foundational advances to the state of art in manufacturing, advanced devices and circuits, hardening, and integration technologies. He also previously worked for the National Institute of Standards and Technology, where he studied dynamic test circuits and semiconductor metrology. Dan holds bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees in electrical engineering from the University of Maryland, and he is a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

Dr. Bill Conley, Mercury Systems

Dr. Bill Conley is Mercury System's Chief Technology Officer and is responsible for the technical vision and implementation of strategic objectives. As a customer-facing leader, he's focused on future solutions and architectures. Mercury Systems is a global commercial technology company serving the aerospace and defense industry. Bill has substantial experience in research, development, weapon system acquisition, technology road mapping, strategy development & implementation, and government. Prior to joining Mercury, Dr. Conley was a member of the Federal Senior Executive Service, serving as the Director for Electronic Warfare in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. In that role, he led the \$7B annual investment to develop and acquire electronic warfare weapon systems. Earlier in his civilian career, he was a program manager at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, better known as DARPA. Dr. Conley earned a Bachelor of Arts from Whitman College and a Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Philosophy from Purdue University. Bill earned a Bachelor of Arts from Whitman College and a Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Philosophy from Purdue University.

Brad Ferguson, SkyWater Technology

Dr. Brad Ferguson is SkyWater's SVP/GM of Special Programs and President of a wholly owned Subsidiary, SkyWater Federal focused on defense work. His charter is to accelerate the growth of SkyWater's US Government business and strengthen strategic U.S. government relationships in support of microelectronics technology manufacturing. Previously, he served as the company's first Chief Technology Officer and later as Chief Government Affairs Officer, as well as starting up the SkyWater Florida site as its first General Manager. Dr. Ferguson started his career in 1999 at Cypress Semiconductor in photolithography process technology development. In 2008, he started up the Cypress custom foundry business to provide differentiated solutions to technology innovators, which led to the eventual spinoff of the site into SkyWater. He also drove the accreditation process to achieve Trusted Foundry status and secured many defense customers, which launched the site's entry into the aerospace and defense market, a key component of SkyWater's market strategy. Dr. Ferguson received a Bachelor of Science in chemical engineering from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. He also received a doctorate and Master of Science in chemical engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.

Miguel Guajardo, onsemi

Mr. Miguel Guajardo has more than 25 years of experience in the semiconductor industry. Originally from Durham, North Carolina, Miguel completed his MBA at Wake Forest University. He started his career in the semiconductor industry at American Microsystems, Inc. (AMI) in Pocatello, Idaho. AMI Semiconductor went public in 2003, building on a large custom product portfolio that was strategically aligned for the military and aerospace markets. ON Semiconductor acquired AMI Semiconductor in 2008 and has continued to make targeted acquisitions to deliver industry-leading intelligent power and intelligent sensing solutions. Miguel's initial roles included supply chain planning, acquisition integration, and marketing management. He transitioned into sales and global account management roles in the east region and is currently serving in Business Development for the Aerospace and Defense market segment.

Monica Gilbert, BAE Systems

Ms. Monica Gilbert is the Microelectronics Engineering Director in the Electronic Systems sector of BAE Systems. In her current capacity, she leads the Microelectronics Engineering organization which includes the BAE foundries, design and test. She has been with BAE Systems for 1.5 years.

Monica has 40 years of experience in the semiconductor industry including 18 years at the IBM T.J. Watson Research Center as a Sr. Staff Engineer. She also worked at Maxim Integrated Products as a Business Director; Semtech Corp. as Director, Strategic Programs; and Jariet Technologies as the VP of Strategic Programs.

Ezra Hall, GlobalFoundries

Mr. Ezra Hall is the Senior Director of the Aerospace and Defense End Market at GlobalFoundries, one of the world's leading semiconductor manufacturers and the only one with a truly global footprint. In this role, he devises novel and strategic solutions to technical, legal, security, and business challenges in support of U.S. government, national security, and critical infrastructure sector needs. Previously, Ezra worked at IBM Microelectronics where he helped stand up and administer the program responsible for delivering trusted and secure technologies to the U.S. defense and intelligence communities. With nearly thirty years of experience across technical and business roles, Ezra is a recognized leader in microelectronics supply chain security. Recognized as a Master Inventor by IBM and GlobalFoundries, he holds 21 U.S. patents, has published award winning papers, and co-founded the National Defense Industrial Association Electronics Division.