

## **OAATC Committee Meeting – Ohio Aerospace Day**

**10/6/2015 – Carlos M. Grodsinsky, Ph.D. – Chair OAAC**

I would like to thank the Ohio Aerospace and Aviation Technology Committee (OAATC) and Chairman Perales for inviting me to address you today and introduce the Ohio Aerospace Day event. As Chair of the Ohio Aerospace and Aviation Council (OAAC), I want to discuss the importance of the aerospace industry to our state's competitiveness and the criticality of rallying our stakeholders into one cohesive team, in order to maximize and leverage our contributions to this industry. The Ohio Aerospace Day event was created to inform the General Assembly of our state's position within the aerospace industry and describe its importance not only to Ohio but to the nation and the world at large. In addition to being the 4<sup>th</sup> largest advanced manufacturing state and the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest related workforce in the US, Ohio is currently the number one supplier to both Boeing and Airbus. As such, the health of our state's aerospace infrastructure is critical for our continued success within this important industry that brings high technology high paying jobs and multiple tangential opportunities in other sectors.

The stakeholder institutions within Ohio include our higher education institutions, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB) and the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), NASA Glenn Research Center, the OAATC, the OAAC, Jobs Ohio, the Ohio Federal and Military Jobs Commission (OFMJC) and its Ohio Research Network, and the many regional economic development organizations. These organizations provide the framework and infrastructure to support and advocate for our state's aerospace supply base and for new technology commercialization opportunities. In terms of critical technologies needed by Commercial Aerospace and Aviation, the United States Department of Defense (DoD), the Air Force and NASA, our state is well positioned within the Unmanned Aerial Systems, Adv. Propulsion and Power, Adv. Manufacturing such as 3D printing, Small Satellites, Adv. Communication and NextGen airspace transformation areas. These are the technologies which will drive innovation and give birth to emerging markets. In order to position Ohio for job growth within these new emerging aerospace markets and continue to be a key player, it is imperative that we align our stakeholders and come together with ONE VOICE to share common goals and provide focused support. This alignment and one voice will help our state and federal representation to fully understand the competitive landscape regarding Air Force and NASA specific interests.

As such, we have been working extensively to align goals and objectives and identify a pipeline of technology development and commercialization growth opportunities while strengthening our current aerospace supply base. The Ohio Research Network supported by our legislature is a key catalyst in driving new technology commercialization opportunities through new products and service offerings directly aligned to the critical technologies and needs of the Air Force and NASA. Regional economic representation ensures that statewide interests are accounted for and the OAATC and OAAC provide direct insight and expertise to align our industry partners accordingly. Jobs Ohio is a key resource with two of its industry focus areas being Aerospace and Aviation and Advanced Manufacturing. I would also

mention the importance that supporting this framework and critical technologies has on other key industries within Ohio, such as aerospace medicine and tele-medicine, information technologies and other key bellwether high technology industries which drive economic growth.

As a part of the Ohio Aerospace Day activities, at lunch in the Statehouse Atrium, we will hear from Ohio Aerospace leaders from industry and our two Federal Aerospace Institutions. Mr. Todd Yeatts, Manager of Government Operations at Boeing, Dr. Janet Kavandi, Deputy Director of NASA Glenn Research Center, a former astronaut and recent addition to our Ohio aerospace community and Mr. Doug Ebersole, the Executive Director of the AFRL at WPAFB. We will discuss the commercialization of new technologies to their respective missions and goals and the role of advanced manufacturing in the industry.

Next, as part of the OAATC committee agenda, we will hear about near term issues within the NextGen Airspace, Fuel Tax policy, UAS areas and work force development needs, all critical to our continued success. Key topics for NextGen airspace regulation include how to ensure a competitive landscape for our Airports and Airspace, and addressing the infrastructure investment in our Airports through more effective Fuel Tax policy as well as our state's UAS position and the criticality of regulation which does not impair our competitiveness. We will also address the workforce requirements and challenges we face in supporting the aerospace industry, specifically around advanced manufacturing. I thank you for joining us today and I invite all of you to engage our members as we discuss key initiatives and topic areas. I personally look forward to assisting the OAATC committee and serving Ohio's interests in the Aerospace and Aviation sector and I look forward as well to speaking with all of you throughout today's events.