



# The Defense Industry in West Virginia — A visit to one of our nation's unique resources

Summit Point Training Facility  
201 Motorsports Park Circle  
Summit Point, WV 25446

## Agenda

9:45 - 10 am	<b>Welcome</b>
10 - 10:30 am	<b>SPTF Overview – President of SPRA, Jeff Johnson</b>
10:30 - 11am	<b>SPTF Partner Organizations – ARA and Panthera</b>
11:05 - 11:30 am	<b>NDIA: An island of stability in a sea of uncertainty</b>
11:35 am - Noon	<b>Briefing from federal officials</b>
Noon - 1 pm	<b>Lunch</b>
1 - 2 pm	<b>Hot Laps and Tours</b>
2 - 4 pm	<b>Social at Silo Museum</b>

# Bios

## **CRAIG HARTZELL**

Mr. Hartzell is the President, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), and founder of Azimuth, Incorporated (Azimuth), a West Virginia-based, service-connected disabled veteran-owned small business (SDVOSB). He has more than 30 years of experience in the fields of electronic communications, special operations and business management. He is a Decade Member of the Special Forces Association, a life member of the Armed Forces Communications Electronics Association (AFCEA), a life member of the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA), and a life member of the American Legion. Mr. Hartzell served on active duty with the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne). He also served in the U.S. Army Reserves with the 11th and 12th Special Forces Groups, and the 1st Special Operations Command.

Mr. Hartzell is a member and past President of the Northern West Virginia Chapter of the National Contracts Management Association; is the winner of the West Virginia 2003 Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur of the Year award in the Defense and Security category; and has served on many ad hoc committees supporting economic development efforts for the state of West Virginia.

Mr. Hartzell was nominated by Senator Jay Rockefeller, appointed by the President of the United States, and served on the Board of Directors of the National Veterans Business Development Corporation. Mr. Hartzell was selected by the U.S. Small Business Administration as West Virginia's Small Business Person of the Year for 2010. He holds B.S. degrees in Electronics and Education from Ferris State University.

## **JEFF JOHNSON**

With a distinguished 30-year career in global security, Jeff Johnson has been a driving force behind business growth in both domestic and international markets. His extensive experience spans both federal and commercial sectors, where he has consistently provided strategic leadership and operational enhancements.

Jeff joined Xator Corporation in 2020 as Vice President of the Training Simulation Solutions Division. In 2022, this division was divested as a standalone business, after which Jeff became the President of Summit Point Raceway Associates (SPRA), a West Virginia-based small business overseeing Summit Point Training Facility and Summit Point Motorsports Park. Under his leadership, SPRA has significantly expanded its capabilities and market presence. In 2024, Jeff spearheaded the creation of Summit Solutions Group to broaden SPRA's government contracting services and meet evolving market demands.

His prior leadership roles include Vice President of Government Services at MSA Security, Senior Vice President of International Operations at PACEM Solutions International, and Vice President of Worldwide Protective Services at Constellis, where he led significant business growth initiatives.

A proud veteran, Jeff's career began with over a decade of service in the U.S. Marine Corps, with assignments in multiple Force Reconnaissance Commands. He holds a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix.

## **JARED FREDERICK**

Jared joined Xator Corporation in January 2021 as the Business Development Manager for the Training Simulation Solutions (TSS) Division. In June 2022, following the divestiture of TSS, it became a stand-alone entity named Summit Point Training Facility (SPTF). Jared was retained and promoted to Director of Business Development, a position he continues to hold. In this role, he was instrumental in developing and implementing scalable business systems while ensuring the successful growth and stability of SPTF during a period of significant transition.

Since its establishment in June 2022, SPTF has rapidly emerged as a formidable player in the Government Contracting space, expanding from tactical training into areas such as Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation (RDT&E), Facilities Support Services (FSS), and Base Operations Support (BOS). This expansion necessitated the creation of a new entity focused on expeditionary capabilities—Summit Solutions Group (SSG). Jared played a critical role in the automation of business development processes, systems development, and new business growth, which have been key to establishing and driving the success of SSG.

Jared served nearly a decade as a Critical Skills Operator (Raider) with the Marine Special Operations Command (MARSOC) before attending Columbia University in the City of New York. He holds a degree in Political Science with dual focuses in US Government and International Relations

## **THE HONORABLE DAVID NORQUIST**

The Hon. David L. Norquist President and Chief Executive Officer National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) The Hon. David L. Norquist is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA). Mr. Norquist has more than 30 years of public and private sector experience in national security and federal financial management. He has served in three Senate-confirmed positions: the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the Department of Homeland Security, the Under Secretary of Defense Comptroller/CFO and most recently, as the 34th Deputy Secretary of Defense. He began his career as a civil servant, supporting Army intelligence as a program/budget analyst with assignments on the Army staff, a major command, a defense agency, and at an overseas field site. Following his time with the Army, Mr. Norquist served for six years with the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense as a professional staff member. He later served for eight years as partner with Kearney and Company, a certified public accounting firm. Mr. Norquist is a graduate of the University of Michigan, with a BA in Political Science and a Master's in Public Policy. He also holds an MA in National Security Studies from Georgetown University

## **COLLEN LEWIS**

Mr. Lewis joined Applied Research Associates (ARA) in January of 2025. His role within the Strategic Operations, Analysis, and Research (SOAR) Sector of ARA focuses on oversight, operations, and stakeholder relationships associated with projects located in West Virginia; and engagement with current customers and business development with potential partners for all Sector projects. Prior to joining ARA, Mr. Lewis served as National Security Advisor to Senator Joe Manchin III (I-WV) where his duties included monitoring and drafting legislation, conducting research, and making policy recommendations within the national security, foreign affairs, and veterans portfolios. Including staffing and preparation for all Senate Armed Services (SASC) and Senate Veterans Affairs Committee (SVAC) hearings; as well as, the Cyber Subcommittee, which Senator Manchin served as the Chairman and Ranking Member of. He was also responsible for the coordination of all West Virginia and national security priorities submitted by Senator Manchin in the annual National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and the annual appropriations process for the Defense, State and Foreign operations, and Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Subcommittees. Prior to his services as NSA, Mr. Lewis served as Senator Manchin's Special Assistant from 2016 to 2018. The Special Assistant role is analogous to that of confidential assistant or an aide-de-camp within the military. He later joined the Senator's National Security staff in 2018. Mr. Lewis is a 2016 graduate of West Virginia University, and was born and raised in the small town of Ripley, WV.

## **JAMES MAZOL**

Mr. Mazol currently is Performing the Duties Of (PTDO) the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (OUSD(R&E)) and Chief Technology Officer. Previously, he served as the Republican Policy Director for the Senate Armed Services Committee with responsibility for science and technology policy and programs. A capitol hill veteran, Mazol also served as the Republican Policy Director for the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee; National Security Advisor for Senator Roger F. Wicker (R-Miss.); and Legislative Director for former Congressman Jim Bridenstine (R-Okla.). Mazol holds degrees from George Washington University and the University of Richmond.

## TRACY FROST

Ms. Tracy Frost is the Director of the Technology Innovation Industrial Base (TIIB) in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering's Science and Technology Futures directorate. As TIIB Director, Ms. Frost oversees the Department of Defense Manufacturing Technology (DoD ManTech) Program, the Technology Transfer, Transition, and Commercial Partnerships (T3CP) Program, Technology and Industrial Base Assessments Program, Sustainment Technologies Office, and Principal Director for Biotechnology's Office. Together, these programs lead advance technology integration, generate opportunities for small and mid-sized businesses, and grow the robust production capabilities, supply chains, and partnerships the Nation needs. A member of the Senior Executive Service since 2024, Mr. Frost has more than 25 years of experience in the Department. Prior to this appointment, Ms. Frost served as the Director of the Department of Defense Manufacturing Technology (DoD ManTech) Program for eight years. In this capacity, she helped coordinate collaboration across the Military Services and Agencies to reduce the acquisition, supportability, manufacturing, and repair cycle times costs of defense weapon systems. Under her leadership, the Department of Defense launched four of the nine DoD Manufacturing Innovation Institutes – unique public-private partnerships enhancing America's strategic competitiveness while enabling the military of tomorrow. Ms. Frost also spent seven years managing small business programs for the Office of Naval Research's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program and DoD Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP). In 2014, Ms. Frost became the Associate Director for the DoD SBIR and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) where she implemented innovative initiatives to assist the small business community transition viable technologies to the military and commercial marketplace. This experience drew on her over 10 years as a science and technology program manager in the areas of unmanned systems and ship logistics. Ms. Frost has a Bachelor of Science degree in Ocean Engineering from Florida Atlantic University and a Master of Science degree in Engineering Management from George Washington University.



## **SUMMIT POINT**

Summit Point Training Facility (SPTF) is a premier provider of security and counterterrorism training solutions for government, commercial, and industry partners. Located in Summit Point, West Virginia, just an hour from Washington, D.C., SPTF operates a multi-purpose facility equipped with diverse environments to support comprehensive training and research initiatives.

SPTF specializes in delivering real-world training programs tailored to address the evolving global security landscape. Their offerings include advanced driver training, firearms proficiency, emergency medical response, and scenario-based tactical exercises designed to prepare individuals and organizations for high-threat environments.

In addition to training, SPTF provides Research, Development, Testing, and Evaluation (RDT&E) services, acting as a testbed for innovative technologies and emerging security challenges. The facility's unrestricted Class E and Class G airspace allows for flexible low-altitude tactical flight training and Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) operations, enhancing real-world readiness.

As a small, privately held business, SPTF prides itself on delivering personalized services with unparalleled flexibility, ensuring that clients receive tailored solutions to meet their unique operational needs. The team comprises expert instructors drawn from Special Operations, law enforcement, and professional driving backgrounds, providing mission-focused training that prepares students for any scenario.

Summit Point Training Facility continues to be a leader in security training solutions, combining decades of experience with state-of-the-art facilities to ensure clients are fully prepared for evolving security challenges.