

Aerospace and Defense: The Strength to Lift America




Let's Celebrate

NATIONAL  
AEROSPACE  
WEEK

SEPTEMBER 12-18, 2010





# NATIONAL AEROSPACE WEEK

## Aerospace and Defense The Strength to Lift America

The aerospace and defense industry drives our economic vitality, national security and technological superiority. Hundreds of thousands of industry workers across the country are keeping the United States strong and competitive. Our industry serves as a wellspring of innovation leading to extraordinary advances in technology, exploration and environmental stewardship. We are the muscle – and heart – of the American economy.

Join us in celebrating National Aerospace Week September 12-18, 2010. Together let's remind our elected officials and community leaders that we are 'the Strength to Lift America.'

Remember, the aerospace and defense industry includes more than 800,000 workers across the nation. These workers support more than two million middle-class jobs. And there are more than 30,000 suppliers to the industry across all 50 states.

To celebrate National Aerospace Week a series of events in Washington, D.C. and across the country are being planned. New research reports, contests for youth and other events hosted by businesses, aligned organizations and communities will showcase the industry's role in the future high-tech workforce of America and in creating and sustaining high-paying jobs across the country.





## From Takeoff to Liftoff and Beyond

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America's aerospace and defense industry is the leader in developing and applying technologies to advance progress in national defense, civil aviation and space exploration.

Our industry protects the homeland; connects the globe via flight; and converts space technologies into everyday efficiencies.

Nevertheless, our leadership faces a number of challenges. Investment must continue in new technologies and systems and in our next generation of workers. A commitment to excellence must be sustained across all sectors of the industry.

### Consider these facts:

- Aerospace industry sales are forecast to reach a record \$215 billion in 2010.
- U.S. aerospace sales account for three to five percent of our country's gross domestic product and every aerospace dollar yields an additional \$1.50 to \$3 in additional economic activity.
- With exports of \$81.2 billion in 2009, the industry's positive trade balance of \$56 billion underpins our economy and is the largest surplus of any manufacturing industry.



## The Aerospace and Defense Industry is Powered by People

The more than 800,000 aerospace and defense workers are the bulwark of our industry and our nation. Among them stand tens of thousands of men and women working in a highly sophisticated supply chain to produce the components, subsystems, machined parts and software that are necessary for systems that move and protect our country.

What's most amazing about this workforce is that every day they set new benchmarks in the most demanding technical fields and enable technological breakthroughs once thought impossible.

It's imperative that our nation devotes significant resources to quality education in science, technology, engineering and math to develop the next generation of young scientists, engineers and assembly workers who will define our future.

More than anything else, National Aerospace Week is an opportunity to say "job well done" to these thousands of dedicated men and women of our industry.

Learn how you can be involved in promoting our nation's aerospace and defense industry and recognizing the workforce that embodies 'the Strength to Lift America.' Visit [www.NationalAerospaceWeek.org](http://www.NationalAerospaceWeek.org)



National Aerospace Week is supported by the Aerospace Industries Association  
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*Photos courtesy of Aerospace Industries Association Member Companies.*