



CTO SUMMIT

9–10 September 2026 | McLean, VA

AGENDA*

Driving Faster Production and Technology Superiority: The Evolving Role of the CTO

Wednesday, 9 September

1–1:15 p.m. | Arrival and Welcome

1:15–1:30 p.m. | Strategic Framing

Chapter I: Critical Technologies

1:30–2 p.m. | Outcomes and Action Items from the 2025 CTO Summit: AIAA Working Groups

2–2:45 p.m. | Keynote Address and Networking Break

2:45–4 p.m. | Breakout I: Critical Technologies

- Changes since the 2025 Summit across three priorities: AI in Aerospace, Autonomy at Scale, and Digital Thread Enablement
- Key technology needs for the next 3–5 years: Speed, Accelerated Production & Fielding, and Secure Supply Chains

4–4:30 p.m. | Breakout Reflections and Outcomes

4:30–5 p.m. | Technologies Transforming Aerospace Report

- Speaker: **Carissa Christensen**, Founder and CEO, BryceTech

6–8 p.m. | Keynote Address: A Tale of Two Pressures: Technology and Speed

- Speaker: **The Honorable Joseph Jewell, Ph.D.**, Assistant Secretary of War for Science and Technology
- Keynote followed by a Reception, Dinner, and Networking at the Archer Hotel

Thursday, 10 September

7:30–8:15 a.m. | Continental Breakfast

8:15–8:30 a.m. | Welcome to Day II

Chapter II: Examples from Adjacencies

8:30–9:45 a.m. | Keynote Panel: New Approaches to Accessing Technology and Speeding Scale

- Hear from:
 - Aerospace companies adopting creative approaches, private equity firms, DefTech/SpaceTech companies, and companies from adjacent industries.

9:45–10:15 a.m. | Rapidly Evolving AI Capabilities: National Security, Economic Competitiveness, and Global Strategic Dynamics

- Speaker: **Aalok Mehta, Ph.D.**, Director, Wadhvani AI Center, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

10:15–10:30 a.m. | Networking Break

10:30–11:30 a.m. | Breakout II: Lessons to Adopt or Evaluate

- What “alternative” approaches should aerospace adopt, adapt, or evaluate, and what obstacles are limiting broader implementation across the sector?

11:30 a.m.–12 p.m. | Presentation from Senate Committee on Appropriations

12–12:45 p.m. | Executive Networking Lunch

Chapter III: Implications for the CTO

12:45–2 p.m. | Breakout III: Implications for the Role of the CTO

- What are the most critical technology, operating model, and CTO role issues to address?

2–2:45 p.m. | Breakout Reflections and Outcomes

2:45–3:15 p.m. | Prioritization and Finalization

3:15–3:30 p.m. | Closing Remarks and Next Steps

**The agenda is subject to change.*

Agenda last updated 4 August 2026.