

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

Wednesday, 9 September

1–1:15 p.m. | Arrival and Welcome Remarks

1:15–1:30 p.m. | Summit Context, Structure,
and the Role of the CTO

Chapter I: Critical Technologies

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

2–3:15 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: Technology Superiority at Speed, Faster Production and Fielding, and Secure and Resilient Supply Chains

3:15–3:45 p.m. | Breakout Reflections and Outcomes

3:45–4 p.m. | Networking Break

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

- Speaker: Carissa Christensen, Founder and CEO, BryceTech

4:30–5 p.m. | Keynote: Building the Industrial Base: Mechanisms
to Address Technology and Strategic Capacity Needs

- Speaker: The Honorable Michael Cadenazzi,
Assistant Secretary of War for Industrial Base Policy

6–8:30 p.m. | Reception, Keynote, and Dinner at the Archer Hotel;
Keynote: A Tale of Two Pressures: Technology and Speed

- Speaker: The Honorable Joseph Jewell, Ph.D., Assistant
Secretary of War for Science and Technology

Thursday, 10 September

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

8:15–8:30 a.m. | Welcome

Chapter II: Examples from Adjacencies

8:30–9:45 a.m. | Keynote Panel: New Approaches to Speeding
Technology Superiority and Accelerating Production Scaling

- Speakers:
 - Timothy Costa, Ph.D., Vice President and General Manager for Industrial and Computational Engineering, NVIDIA
 - Jenny Irvine, Vice President of Technology, IQT
 - Jon Luszczakowski, Partner, AE Industrial Partners
 - Michael Thacker, Senior Vice President of Engineering, Pratt & Whitney

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

- Speaker: Aalok Mehta, Ph.D., Director, Wadhwani 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? What obstacles are limiting broader
implementation across the sector?

11:30 a.m.–12 p.m. | Where Innovation Meets Appropriation:
Insights for Technology Leaders

- Speaker: Abigail Grace, Professional Staff Member,
Subcommittee on Defense, Senate Committee on Appropriations

12–12:45 p.m. | Lunch

Chapter III: Implications for the Role of the CTO

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

- What are the most critical technology, operating model, and
role changes to address? What actions can AIAA take to support
its membership and the ecosystem?

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