



SUSTAINMENT

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3500

AUG 26 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR MAINTENANCE EXECUTIVE STEERING COMMITTEE
JOINT GROUP ON DEPOT MAINTENANCE
INDUSTRIAL BASE COMMANDERS

SUBJECT: 2020 Maintenance Innovation Challenge Update – Call for Abstracts

With the decision to cancel the 2020 DoD Maintenance Symposium due to continued COVID-19 impacts, we will conduct the Maintenance Innovation Challenge (MIC) virtually on December 7, 2020. Additionally, the National Center for Manufacturing Sciences has committed to support the demonstration of the winner's innovation in a selected DoD activity by making available \$50,000 and necessary in-kind labor to the associated commercial technology provider, to the extent permitted under the existing Commercial Technologies for Maintenance Activities Cooperative Agreement.

Conducting the MIC annually raises the awareness of our community of technologies and innovative processes that present the best opportunities. Industry, academia, Military Services, and defense agencies are all actively pursuing innovative technologies and processes to improve maintenance capability, effectiveness, and efficiency. The MIC continues to be DoD's hallmark event to elicit and share unique maintenance capabilities and best practices. Its objective is to elevate and expand sustainment innovation beyond new technology, to include value-added partnerships, resourcing strategies, business practices, processes, and other transformative capabilities that make maintenance more agile, effective, and affordable.

To recognize and uncover potential game changing innovations, I am challenging individuals and organizations to submit their innovative capabilities and forward-looking sustainment enablers for the 2020 MIC. The review and selection process provides great exposure as the top six innovations and the final winner are determined by senior DoD sustainment leaders. In addition to the top six presentations on December 7, 2020, all who submit a qualifying abstract and quad-chart will be published in the increasingly popular MIC magazine. To ensure members of your team do not miss out on this opportunity – please encourage them to submit an abstract today.

Please assist me in disseminating the call for Maintenance Innovation Challenge submissions. The deadline for MIC submittals is Friday, October 2, 2020. Additional details are available at: www.sae.org/dod. My point of contact is Mr. Greg Kilchenstein, (571) 236-2829, gregory.j.kilchenstein.civ@mail.mil.

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Materiel Readiness