

Sector Spotlight

AEROSPACE & DEFENSE IN MAINE | NOVEMBER 2024

Maine International Trade Center (MITC) is Maine's leading source for international business assistance. We help Maine companies like yours get the guidance, education, and funding to succeed in global markets and fuel Maine's economic growth.

By the Numbers

THE MAINE DEFENSE CLUSTER

In the air, on land, on the seas, or in the stars, Maine's defense community has a proud history of safeguarding America at home and abroad. Maine has a uniquely diverse cluster, including large prime contractors, construction companies, and small businesses producing components and services.



10%
of Maine GDP

The Maine defense cluster generated \$8.4 billion (10% of the total Maine GDP) in economic output in 2022.



20,000+
Jobs

The defense supply chain employs over 20,000 Mainers; more than half are in the marine/naval sector with aerospace, construction, engineering, and machining also having significant impact.

Local Leader

MDIA HIRES PROGRAM DIRECTOR

The Maine Defense Industry Alliance (MDIA) is a partnership between government, educational institutions, and industry to meet Maine's defense workforce needs. MDIA focuses on creating a sustainable system to address two key challenges: recruiting skilled workers and upskilling the current workforce. Launched in early 2024, MDIA welcomed its first staff member, Program Director Mark Winter, in November.

Mark, a retired U.S. Navy Captain, brings 30 years of experience, including roles as Commandant at Maine Maritime Academy, attorney, and intelligence specialist for the U.S. Attorney's Office. He also served as counsel to U.S. Senator Susan Collins.

Learn more and contact Mark [here](#).



Understand CMMC Compliance and Maximize ROI

COST-EFFECTIVE PLANNING

Recent news of the final rule publication for the implementation of the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) Program on Oct. 15 has formally put the wheels in motion for compliance with a comprehensive set of control obligations for contractors who store, process, or transmit Federal Contract Information (FCI) or Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI).

Securing these sensitive classes of information from unauthorized access and disclosure is imperative to mitigating risk across the Defense Industrial Base and protecting our national security. More than the adoption of tools and technologies, the program requires cross-functional participation in order to produce consistent and repeatable outcomes that satisfy evidence requirements and deliver prospective assurance for certification.



Acknowledging there are no shortcuts to compliance, it's critical for manufacturers to understand where they are today in order to cost-effectively plan for meeting these substantial control objectives over a sequential time horizon. Deer Brook serves as a Registered Practitioner Organization (RPO) in the CMMC ecosystem and assists Organizations Seeking Certification (OSCs) with preparing for a successful certification assessment. [Learn more here.](#)

Updated Maine Supply Chain Database

500+ MAINE COMPANIES

Maine MEP in partnership with the Maine Composites Alliance and Maine Space Grant Consortium recently released the updated Maine Supply Chain Database. The database has information on over 500 Maine-based companies including over 70 companies in the aerospace and defense supply chain. For more information, visit the [Maine Supply Chain website.](#)

In Case You Missed It

LUNCHING, LEARNING & NETWORKING

As part of the ongoing Sector Spotlights series, the Aerospace & Defense Lunch & Learn sponsored by Maine MEP in Brunswick featured presentations from Cait Grant, Vice President of Educational & Economic Development, York County Community College; Adrian Horn, Vice President, Compotech, Inc.; and Mark Winter, Program Director, Maine Defense Industry Alliance. View event photos [here](#). MITC also hosted a networking reception sponsored by Deer Brook at the Maine Maritime Museum in Bath. Browse photos from the event [here](#).



Join MITC

Not a MITC member yet? [Visit our website](#) to learn more about our member benefits, like:



Unique networking opportunities at our members-only events statewide



Discounted fees for participation in MITC events, trade shows, and overseas trade missions



Your company listing and link in our online Member Directory



Member MeetUp virtual showcase opportunity for new members



Complimentary use of MITC's conference room on a space available basis



And more!