



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3500 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3500

MAR 14 2019

SUSTAINMENT

MEMORANDUM FOR POTENTIAL DOD-ALLIED NATIONS TECHNICAL CORROSION  
CONFERENCE ATTENDEES

Accelerating readiness recovery continues to be our near-term imperative in alignment with the National Defense Strategy to increase lethality. One of the key work streams in realizing that objective is mitigating and remediating lost materiel availability due to the effects of corrosion. In fact, the latest report to Congress notes that in 2017, corrosion was attributable for an estimated \$20 billion to the cost for DoD to sustain weapon systems, equipment, and facilities. As the average age of DoD legacy platforms rises, the task to address corrosion and material degradation challenges must intensify.

I would like to encourage your participation at the 2019 DoD-Allied Nations Technical Corrosion Conference scheduled for August 12-15, 2019, at the Cox Convention Center, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. It is the only DoD conference solely focused on effects, mitigation, and prevention of corrosion on weapon systems, equipment, and facilities. The theme of this year's conference is *Corrosion Prevention and Control: The Intersection between People and Technology*, and it has been approved for all DoD participants by the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment.

The conference offers a unique opportunity for you to be involved in examining and tackling our tough challenges. The event brings together the corrosion community, maintenance professionals, and the broader sustainment community to address challenges, exchange information, and share best practices. Attendees include DoD civilian and Military Service personnel, industry, academia, and allied and partner nations' representatives.

For industry, if your organization is involved in any aspect of corrosion prevention or mitigation, or would like to be, the co-located Defense Corrosion Exhibition is a unique opportunity to showcase your products and services to those in the corrosion, maintenance, and sustainment communities.

I am looking forward to an excellent conference and hope to see you this August in Oklahoma City.

Sincerely,

Kenneth D. Watson  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense  
Materiel Readiness