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## News Release

Gary Conley, Chairman | *Ohio's Edison Centers Directors Council*



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### **THREE NEW AEROSPACE MANUFACTURERS JOIN OHIO'S AIRBUS SUPPLIER SUMMIT, OFFERING NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR OHIO'S AEROSPACE SUPPLIERS AND WORKERS**

Most industrial trade events follow a timeless market model: exhibitors and sponsors assume the role of sellers while typically attendees are potential buyers. At Ohio's Airbus Supplier Summit, however, that model is essentially turned upside down, and all involved seem to agree on the mutual benefits of this innovative approach. And because the third Airbus Supplier Summit in Columbus on November 15<sup>th</sup> features the addition of three major participants, even more opportunities are in store for attendees from both the world's leading aerospace companies as well as Ohio's aerospace suppliers.

In a sense, Airbus and the other five Summit exhibitors are buyers as they source products and services from multiple, certified aerospace suppliers. As for Ohio's aerospace suppliers, the leading state in the nation for Airbus at \$4.3 billion in sales in 2009, the opportunity to sell additional goods and services is an attractive incentive to attend the Summit.

The Summit is the brainchild of Airbus Americas, the American subsidiary of the European-based aerospace giant EADS, Senator Sherrod Brown and four member organizations of Ohio's Edison Centers. The intent of this partnership was to directly connect key Airbus executives with their counterparts at the impressive roster of Ohio-based aerospace suppliers available to strengthen the manufacturing supply chain of the global aerospace leader.

Following a second session in April that saw additional aerospace industry sponsors and cumulative attendance of over 300 representatives within Ohio's aerospace industry, the Airbus Supplier Summit continues to evolve. The third Airbus Supplier Summit, sponsored by RTI and GE and taking place at The Ohio State University's Fawcett Center will feature three new participants:

- **RTI International Metals** - the Pittsburgh, PA producer of titanium and other specialty metals and fabricated parts for aerospace and other industries
- **Rockwell Collins** - a Cedar Rapids, IA manufacturer of aviation communications and electronic equipment

*(more)*

- **Spirit AeroSystems** - based in Wichita, KS and the world's largest supplier of commercial airplane assemblies and components.

These three suppliers join founding member Airbus as well as four aerospace companies who participated in the second Summit: General Electric, Goodrich and Honeywell, and Parker, and a tier 2 Ohio-based supplier Allan Aircraft. Attending companies will have the opportunity to present their capabilities with these suppliers one-on-one during the event.

“We are pleased that the Airbus Summit continues to progress to include additional members of the global aerospace community,” said Gary Conley, Chairman of the Edison Centers Directors Council (ECDC). “In total, these six companies represent over tens of billions of dollars in annual sales in the aerospace market, representing a continuing opportunity for sales for Ohio suppliers — and jobs for Ohio workers.”

In addition to his duties as Edison Center Directors Council chair, Conley is president of TechSolve, one of seven Ohio Edison Centers. The third Airbus Supplier Summit will be hosted by EWI, the Columbus-based Edison Center that focuses on welding and joining technology and is supported by four of its fellow Ohio Edison Centers:

- TechSolve (Cincinnati, Aerospace manufacturing focus)
- EMTEC (Dayton, materials and technology focus)
- MAGNET (Cleveland, manufacturing focus)
- PolymerOhio, (Westerville, polymer focus)

Speaking at the event will be Senator Brown as well as Allan McArtor, Airbus Americas' Chairman, to emphasize the importance of the relationship between Airbus and Ohio. They will also discuss the opportunity to capitalize on existing and emerging Ohio aviation manufacturing capabilities to grow Ohio's value in the Airbus supply chain. Other highlights of the day-long Summit include the opportunity for one-on-one sessions between Ohio-based aerospace suppliers with key executives of the seven aerospace companies, an industry roundtable, and an introductory session to help Ohio manufacturers learn steps needed to enter the aerospace market.

*More information on attending the Third Airbus Summit is available at [www.ewi.org/airbus-supplier-summit](http://www.ewi.org/airbus-supplier-summit) or 614.688.5000.*

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