

★ DAKOTA DEFENSE ALLIANCE ★

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RAYTHEON COMPANY'S TERRY DOWNING WILL KEYNOTE AT SD BUSINESS EVENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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RAYTHEON TO KEYNOTE AT BUSINESS LUNCHEON

Thursday, April 14, 2011- (Fargo, ND) the Dakota Defense Alliance (DDA) announced it will host business matchmaking and networking luncheon aimed towards regional businesses in advanced power and energy as well as advanced manufacturing. Raytheon's Terry Downing, Manager of Special Projects will be keynoting during the luncheon and Maj Gen (ret) Michael J. Haugen will be introducing him.

DDA is a sub-contractor for the Advanced Power and Energy Cluster (APEC), a regional innovation program funded by the Small Business Association (SBA). The goal of this cluster is to develop and promote power and energy technology in the Upper Midwest. The ultimate goal is to accelerate technology solutions to meet the needs of the Department of Defense (DoD) by creating jobs and empowering our small businesses.

NeTia Richards, Partner for APEC for the Dakota's Region said "It is an opportunity for us to collaborate with regional organizations, academia, and industry and government institutions to increase the job market, technology development and advancement while bringing short and long-term technology needs to our war fighters."

The business matchmaking event will bring cluster members in with industry leaders such as Raytheon and GE Aviation to discuss emerging technology, product commercialization and funding sources. This will take place at the Washington Pavilion in Sioux Falls, SD on Tuesday, April 19th from 9 AM-3 PM.

About Dakota Defense Alliance:

The Dakota Defense Alliance, a non-profit organization located in North Dakota aims to network and expand defense industry job opportunities in both North and South Dakota and provide greater visibility for our heartland manufacturers. DDA has just over 40 members from within the state and across the country.

About Raytheon Company:

Raytheon Company, with 2010 sales of \$25 billion, is a technology and innovation leader specializing in defense, homeland security and other government markets throughout the world. With a history of innovation spanning 89 years, Raytheon provides state-of-the-art electronics, mission systems integration and other capabilities in the areas of sensing; effects; and command, control, communications and intelligence systems, as well as a broad range of mission support services. With headquarters in Waltham, Mass., Raytheon employs 72,000 people worldwide.

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*"It is our hope that as we get our names out, become better informed, and network, we can secure more work for all of our companies. This is just the start, but it is the right way to set us apart from other Alliances across the country."
~Executive Director,
Kristin Hedger~*