



U.S. Chamber of Commerce



Marik String Meets one-on-one with DAEC members on April 18

On April 18, the State Department's **Deputy Assistant Secretary Marik String** provided 15 minute one-offs for DAEC members hosted at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. This unique opportunity provided members with the ability to have an exclusive conversation with the Deputy Assistant Secretary on their concerns with and proposals for improving option for financing international sales.

General Hooper meeting with Industry on UAS on May 1

DAEC members were hosted by the **Director DSCA LTG Hooper** and his staff

whereby he personally briefed in great detail the current plans with respect to UAS export policy and implications for CAT 1 MTCR policy changes in the future. This was the most informative discussion on this topic by an official on behalf of the Administration.

Hill Engagement

DAEC members discussed UAS and MTCR policy with General Hooper, the House Democratic Whip's National Security Advisor, and other Democrats from the House Armed Service Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee. After discussing possible amendments, the group agreed to a classified and open hearing on the issues regarding UAS and MTCR policy.

Global Offset & Countertrade Association

Spring offset conference on May 4th

DAEC President Keith Webster spoke at the semi-annual Global Offset & Countertrade Association Spring offset conference where he delivered a presentation focusing on the emerging headwinds that if not tackled will challenge U.S. market share globally.

7th Annual Norwegian-American Defense

Conference on May 9th

Webster joined Bill Greenwalt, Atlantic Council, and Samantha Clark, Covington & Burling LLP at the National Press Club for the 7th Annual Norwegian-American Defense Conference. Here he discussed how to leverage the National Technology & Industrial Base (NTIB) to meet the future needs of the Alliance.

Keith Webster awarded rank of Officer in the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic (OMRI)

by the Italian Minister of Defense on May 13

In May, Webster was honored by the **President of the Italian Republic** and the **Italian Minister of Defense** by being awarded the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic (OMRI), the highest-ranking honor of the Italian Republic. Keith's dedication and persistence in the implementation of international cooperative policies and programs in the Defense field was praised for enhancing bilateral relations between the United States of America and Italy.

NADEC Annual Export Conference on May 22

Webster was seated on a panel with Robert McEntire, U.S. Department of Commerce, and Kelvin Stroud, AIA, to discuss the global aerospace market outlook at the NADEC Annual Export Conference.

Webster speaks at Export Controls & Technology Transfers on June 20

On June 20th, Webster was a guest speaker at the Export Controls & Technology Transfers Conference in Falls Church, VA. Keith partnered with Kevin Cuddy (IBM) to lead the discussion on Anticipating and Preparing for Pending BIS Regulations Involving Emerging Technology. Among the key topics discussed during this conversation were utilizing valuable industry insights to share best practices for trade compliance and effectiveness of rules as well as maximizing industry-government engagement to integrate industry and stakeholders into the regulatory process.

Middle East Discussions

Upon request of DAEC Executive Membership, DAEC sought insight from the Administration pertaining to the current and forecasted climate in the Middle East as it relates to Congress and the future of U.S. Defense exports. The team sat down with prominent policy makers at the U.S. Department of State (**Acting Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, Ambassador Satterfield** and **Deputy Assistant Secretary for Arabian Gulf Affairs in the Near East, Timothy Lenderking**), for closed door, on the record discussions and had conversations with other relevant offices within the

interagency. The purpose of these meetings was to bridge gaps of information left by various reports and media outlets on the Congressional view with respect to this Administration and sales of military capability to the Middle East.

Aspen Security Forum July 17

Webster is attending the eighth annual Aspen Security Forum. The Forum welcomes top-level current and former U.S. officials from relevant security agencies, as well as industry leaders, leading journalists and academics. On-the-record information will be shared in a read-out with members upon Keith's return.

Roundtable Discussion with Hon. Mira Ricardel July 19

On July 19, DAEC hosted **Hon. Mira Ricardel**, former Deputy National Security Advisor and Undersecretary of Commerce, for an off-the-record discussion with our members. Ms. Ricardel shared her perspective on export issues with a particular focus on Unmanned Aerial Systems.

Roundtable with Kiyoko Aburaki September 16

Partnering with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's US-Japan Business Council, DAEC will host Kiyoko Aburaki, Director of Nippon Keidanren, for a roundtable discussion on Japan's defense industrial base and U.S.-Japan Cooperation. Invitations will go out to members next month.

DAEC Roundtable Discussion with LtGen Dan O'Donohue on September 20

DAEC will convene a roundtable discussion with LtGen Dan O'Donohue to promote greater understanding of the requirements and challenges of increasing interoperability and unity in the context of FMS and technology security concerns to bridge gaps

between industry and military perspectives.

NATO's 75th Anniversary Event November 12

The NATO-Industry Forum will be held in Washington, D.C. this November. The Forum welcomes the distinguished leaders from industries operating within Allied nations along with senior officials from NATO, European Union, and Allied nations. In advance of the Forum, DAEC is partnering with NATO to host The Young Disruptors Day (YDD) on November 12 to gather young leaders in the defense and aerospace industry sectors, both within Europe and the U.S., to explore and discuss how disruptive technologies, AI and Big Data can assist decision making and support innovation. This event is a historic first for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and NATO. The outcomes discussed will be used the following two days at the Forum. There will be an opportunity for membership branding at this event—details to follow.

INSTEP Dinner with General Petraeus and Bob Work moderated by Webster November 19

InSTEP – the International Security Trade & Economic Platform – was launched by the U.S. Chamber's International Affairs Division in 2010 and currently runs in DC, NYC, Boston, and San Francisco. It is a forum that brings together a select group of experts, executives, think tanks, media, former government officials and other thought leaders for a discussion on important global topics. For this discussion, the theme is “Defense Debrief: What Private Equity Partners Need to Know” featuring **General Petraeus** and **Bob Work**.

For more information, please visit our [website](#).