



## MONTANA AEROSPACE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

### VISION

The vision of MADA is to make aerospace technology industry a major component of Montana's economic base.



# 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Montana Aerospace Technology Conference

Holiday Inn – Great Falls, Montana  
February 23-24, 2005

*“Partnerships – the key to building aerospace industry in Montana”*

## Conference

“The Second Annual Montana Aerospace Technology Conference” is scheduled for February 23-24, 2005, at the Holiday Inn in Great Falls, Montana. This conference is co-sponsored by the Montana Aerospace Development Association (MADA), the Montana Department of Commerce, Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA), MSE Technology Applications, Inc., Montana State University’s TechLink Center, the University of Montana, and NASA. The conference serves as the primary forum for Montana’s aerospace community to network with each other, explore new business and partnering opportunities, and learn about successful Montana-based aerospace companies.

This year’s conference promises to be a very exciting and informative event. Keynote speakers will include Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer and a representative from NASA Headquarters. Dr. Mike Reilly, Professor of Marketing at Montana State University, will talk about Niche Marketing, and Evan Barrett with the Montana Governor’s Office of Economic Development will talk about aerospace economic development in Montana. Additionally, breakout and poster sessions with expert panelists will be held in the areas of lean manufacturing, ISO, research and development, public/private partnerships, and industrial partnerships. The feedback from 2004 Conference participants was overwhelmingly positive.

MADA and its members are convinced that aerospace technology represents a significant economic development opportunity for Montana. Our achievements this past year have already advanced Montana’s position in the aerospace industry, and we have now laid a solid foundation on which the State can build a significant aerospace industry. Montana can only compete in aerospace with larger and more established states by coordinating our efforts and combining our resources, and the MADA public/private partnership provides the necessary leadership for achieving this.

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## Agenda

### Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>

12:00 noon	Welcome	Linda Brander Montana Department of Commerce SBIR Program
	Speaker	Governor Brian Schweitzer
12:30 p.m.	Lunch	
1:00 p.m.	Conference Overview	Jim Kambich, Chairman of the Board Montana Aerospace Development Association
1:05 – 1:15 p.m.	Speaker	Tony Preite, Director Montana Department of Commerce
1:15 – 1:45 p.m.	Speaker	Evan Barrett, Governor’s Office of Economic Development
1:45 – 2:00 p.m.	Break	

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### Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>

2:00 – 4:15 p.m.

Breakout Session

#### **Lean Manufacturing/ISO Workshop**

Todd Daniels, Field Engineer  
Montana Manufacturing Center  
Montana State University

Poster Session

#### **Montana Aerospace R&D**

Aaron Collett, MSU, Mechanical & Industrial  
Engineering

Ron Cooper, AdvR – *Engineered Nonlinear  
Optical Materials Enabling Pathways to New  
Laser Devices*

Dr. Robert Crabtree, Yellowstone Ecological  
Research Center – *Development of Mapping  
Tools for Wildland-Fire Risk Assessment Using  
Advanced Remote Sensing Data Fusion  
Techniques*

Dr. Rick Donovan, Montana Tech  
Paul Gannon, Arcomac Surface Engineering –  
*Aerospace Applications of Arcomac Technology*  
Harold Howe, Resodyn Corp. – *Sonic Mixing of  
Gelled Propellants*

Dr. Ralph Hutcheson, Scientific Materials  
Robert Hyatt, Resodyn Corp. – *Thermal Spraying  
of Polymers for Aerospace Applications*

Dale Johnson, Positive Systems – *Image  
Processing and Vector Display Tools for Serving  
GIS Data Over the Internet*

Dr. Dave Klumppar, Space Science & Engineering  
Lab, MSU – *Micro-Satellite Development in  
Montana*

Dr. Larry Lass, Aquila Vision – *Detecting Leafy  
Spurge with Remote Sensing Techniques in  
Bonneville County, Idaho*

Dave Lofftus, Electrical Engineer, MSE  
Technology Applications – *Mariah Wind Tunnel  
Development Program*

Jim McConnell, Electrical Engineer, MSE  
Technology Applications – *Autonomous Launch  
Bar Seating Check*

Dr. Bojana Nikolic-Tirkas, Aerospace Engineer – *Miscellaneous Propulsion  
Projects*

Mike Obland, Physics Department, MSU – *Optical Remote Sensing System  
Development*

Kevin Opitz, Visual Learning Systems – *Feature Extraction Software Development*

Alex Philp, GCS Research – *Geo-Marc: Digital Watermarking Solutions for the  
Geo-Spatial Industry*

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2:00 – 4:15 p.m.      Poster Session  
(Continued)

#### **Montana Aerospace R&D**

Dr. Roland Redmond, UofM

1. *Seasonal Leaf Area Index: Stand level estimates derived from MODIS and Landsat TM data products*
2. *Using BIOM-BGC and MODIS to estimate production in annual crops: A study in Nebraska*
3. *Comparison of satellite imagery for pastoral planning projects in Central Asia*
4. *Crown of the Continent Hydrologic Observatory: Flathead Basin*
5. *Fire Research at the University of Montana's National Center for Landscape Fire Analysis*
6. *Freezeout Fire Wireless Network and Web-Cam Implementation*

Dr. Bruce Rex, HyPerspectives – 3-D  
*Characterization of Forested Vegetation Using LIDAR*

Diane Whited, Flathead Lake Biological Station, UofM

1. *Application of Airborne Hyperspectral Imagery to Assess Floodplain Vegetation*
2. *Application of Airborne Hyperspectral Imagery – Hydrologic variation and the complexity and patterns of river habitats: indicators of biodiversity and ecosystem integrity*

4:15 – 4:30 p.m.      Break

4:30 – 5:30 p.m.      Speaker

#### **Niche Marketing**

Dr. Mike Reilly, Professor of Marketing  
Montana State University

5:30 p.m.              Social

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### Thursday – February 24<sup>th</sup>

7:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast	
8:00 – 8:10 a.m.	Speaker	Randy Gray, Mayor of Great Falls
8:10 – 8:20 a.m.	Speaker	Senator Max Baucus Letter Senator Conrad Burns Letter
8:20 – 8:30 a.m.	Speaker	Erik Iverson Congressman Denny Rehberg's Office
8:30 – 9:45 a.m.	Panel	<b>Promoting Montana's Aerospace Industry Through University/Industry Partnerships</b> Dr. Will Swearingen, Moderator Executive Director, TechLink Center, MSU Dr. Doug Cairns, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering Department, MSU David Gibson, Associate Commissioner for Economic Development Outreach Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, Montana University System Dr. Ralph Hutcheson, President Scientific Materials Corporation Dr. Tony Rudbach, Assistant Vice President for Research and Economic Development, UofM Nick Zelter, Technology Manager, Technology Transfer Office, MSU
9:45 – 10:00 a.m.	Break	

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### Thursday – February 24<sup>th</sup>

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.      Panel

#### **Promoting Company Success Through Strategic Business Partnerships**

[Dave Micheletti](#), Moderator, MSE  
Technology Applications, Inc.  
[Larry Farrar](#), Resodyn  
[Larry Hall](#), S&K Electronics  
[Ken Johnson](#), CM Manufacturing  
[Kevin Opitz](#), Visual Learning Systems

11:30 a.m.                      Closing Remarks

[Dave Micheletti](#), President  
Montana Aerospace Development  
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## Presenters

**Speaker:** Evan Barrett

Evan Barrett, newly appointed Chief Business Development Officer for the State of Montana, will discuss his vision and plans for economic development under Governor's Schweitzer's administration. Barrett spent the past 18 years as Executive Director of the Butte Local Development Corporation, a successful economic development organization that has the largest revolving loan fund program in the state, helped create and retain thousands of jobs, and participated in some of Montana's largest industrial recruitment efforts. His activities as Legislative and Public Policy Chair for the Montana Economic Developers Association put him in the forefront of economic development policy in Montana over the last 11 years. Barrett is a graduate of Red Lodge High School. He attended Montana State University, St. John's University where he received his bachelor's degree in government, and the University of Montana Graduate School in political science.



**Presenter:** Todd Daniels

**Breakout Session:** *Lean Manufacturing/ISO*

Todd Daniels is a Field Engineer for the Montana Manufacturing Extension Center serving Helena, Great Falls, and north central Montana. Mr. Daniels has a B.S. in Industrial and Management Engineering from Montana State University.



**Speaker:** Randy Gray

Randy Gray has served on the Great Falls City Commission since 1996, and is serving his third two-year term as Mayor. Gray has a private law practice in Great Falls.

**Speaker:** Jim Kambich

Jim Kambich is Executive Director of the Montana Economic Revitalization & Development Institute (MERDI), in Butte. MERDI focuses its efforts on economic development, education, and community development and redevelopment in Butte and southwest Montana. Kambich previously worked for Butte local government in a variety of capacities, including being the first director of the Business Development Center. This was the first business incubator program in the Northern Rocky Mountain Region and one of two municipally owned and operated incubators in the country. Kambich has a B.S. in Business Administration and Finance and an M.B.A. from the University of Montana.

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**Poster:** Dr. Dave Klumpar

**Subject:** *Micro-Satellite Development in Montana*

Dr. Klumpar is Research Professor of Physics and Director of the Space Science and Engineering Laboratory at Montana State University. He has a B.A. in Physics and Mathematics and a M.S. in Physics from the University of Iowa and a Ph.D. in Physics from the University of New Hampshire.

**Poster:** Dave Lofftus

**Subject:** *Mariah Wind Tunnel Development Program*

Mr. Lofftus is a senior electrical engineer for MSE Technology Applications, Inc. He is project engineer for construction and test of an Ultra-High Pressure Test Facility, which will allow compression of nitrogen, helium, or air up to 20,000 atmospheres and eject it through a nozzle as small as 1 millimeter. He has a B.S. and M.S. in Electrical Engineering from Montana State University.

**Poster:** Jim McConnell

**Subject:** *Autonomous Launch Bar Seating Check*

Mr. McConnell is a senior electrical engineer for MSE Technology Applications, Inc. He is principle investigator for the Machine Vision Confirmation of Launch Bar Engagement Project for the Naval Air Warfare Center, Aircraft Division, at Lakehurst, New Jersey. He has a B.S. in Physics from the University of Scranton, Scranton, Pennsylvania.

**Moderator:** David A. Micheletti

**Panel:** *Industrial Partnership*

Dave Micheletti currently serves as Vice President and Senior Manager of MSE Technology Application, Inc.'s (MSE) Advanced Energy and Aerospace Division, and he is the President of the Montana Aerospace Development Association (MADA). He possesses a B.S. Degree in Engineering Science from Montana Tech and an M.S. Degree in Engineering Management from the University of Idaho. Upon graduating from Montana Tech in 1976, he joined the Boeing Aerospace Company in Seattle, WA; where in worked as an engineer on both the Air Launched Cruise Missile (ALCM) and Inertial Upper Stage (IUS) Programs. In 1978, he entered active military service in the U.S. Air Force as an Aerospace Engineering Officer working on both the Minuteman Missile Program at Malmstrom AFB in Great Falls, Montana, and the Space Shuttle Program at Vandenberg AFB in California. Upon leaving active Air Force service, Mr. Micheletti joined General Dynamics Space Systems Division in San Diego, California; where he worked as a Test Management Engineer on the Space Shuttle/Centaur Program. In 1985, he returned to Montana and Malmstrom AFB in a civilian capacity to work as a Systems Engineer on a major program to upgrade and modernize the Minuteman Missile System. In 1991, he joined MSE where he is leading several major aerospace/defense technology development programs, including the Mariah Hypersonic Wind Tunnel Development Program which is the nation's only program developing a true-air hypersonic wind tunnel. Mr. Micheletti currently serves as a Commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve and is a U.S. Naval Academy Blue and Gold Liaison Officer.

**Poster:** Dr. Bojana Nikolic-Tirkas

**Subject:** *Miscellaneous Propulsion Projects*

Dr. Nikolic-Tirkas is a senior aerospace engineer for MSE Technology Applications, Inc. She performs analysis on simulation and modeling of flow, energy, and mixture separation for vortex tube air separation technology for the possible use of the vortex tube as an air separator in advanced propulsion systems. Dr. Nikolic-Tirkas conducts research and analysis of numerical modeling methods used to predict effects of Magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) in hypersonic flows. She provides analytical support using the methods of gas dynamics in the design of an ultra high pressure hypersonic wind tunnel. She has a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Belgrade and a M.S. and Ph.D. in Mechanical/Aerospace Engineering from Arizona State University at Tempe.

**Speaker:** Tony Preite

Tony Preite, was appointed by Governor Schweitzer to serve as the Director of the Montana Department of Commerce. Preite previously served as Director of the Office of Space Commercialization and Economic Development Outreach at the University of Montana. Preite was Executive Director of the Havre based multi-county Bear Paw Development Corporation for twenty years. Subsequent to that he was appointed by the Clinton Administration in 1993 to serve as Montana Director of USDA Rural Development. In 1999 Preite was selected in a nation-wide non-political competition as the EDA, Denver Regional Office Director.

Preite graduated from Havre Central High School. He received his bachelor's degree from Northern Montana College.



**Presenter:** Dr. Mike Reilly

**Topic:** *Niche Marketing*

Dr. Mike Reilly, Professor of Marketing, has been at Montana State University since 1984. He has taught a wide variety of marketing courses including marketing management, promotion management, advanced advertising, and the strategic management of technical innovations. In his role as Director of New Ventures at the Center for Entrepreneurship for the New West, Dr. Reilly works to find opportunities to create new ventures around Department of Defense-, NASA-, and MSU-generated technologies.

Prior to joining the MSU faculty, he taught in the marketing department at the University of Arizona in Tucson. Dr. Reilly's research interests are in consumer behavior and in the marketing of small and entrepreneurial businesses. He has published a number of journal articles on these and other topics. Dr. Reilly regularly serves as a consultant to a variety of small- and medium-sized businesses and government agencies, primarily for marketing analysis and strategy. In addition, he has served as chief marketing officer for several ventures, both commercial and noncommercial.

Dr. Reilly received his M.B.A. and Ph.D. from Pennsylvania State University. His undergraduate work in psychology and sociology was at the University of Delaware.



**Speaker:** Governor Brian Schweitzer

Governor Schweitzer was born in Havre in 1955 and was raised on his parent's registered cattle ranch in the Judith Basin, Montana. His German and Irish grandparents immigrated to Montana near the turn of the century and homesteaded in Hill County. His parents still farm near Geysers.

Governor Schweitzer earned a Bachelor of Science degree in International Agronomy from Colorado State University, and later earned a Master of Science degree in Soil Science from Montana State University. After graduation, the Governor began a career of irrigation development that took him to Africa, Asia, Europe and South America. He has built hundreds of miles of roads, poured thousands of yards of concrete, buried many miles of pipe, and built hundreds of structures, from houses to warehouses to distillation

plants. During seven years in Saudi Arabia, he developed over 28,000 acres of irrigated cropland. Governor Schweitzer and his family returned to Montana in 1986 to raise a family and to build a ranching and irrigation business in Montana. His business and agricultural experience is broad and deep, including extensive farming and ranching experience in Montana, and successful agricultural business projects on five continents. He has owned and operated Montana farms in Flathead, Sanders, Rosebud, and Judith Basin Counties.

In 1993, Governor Schweitzer was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to serve on the Montana State USDA Farm Service Agency committee. He served for seven years with the FSA, and his three-person committee was responsible for the operation of 46 county offices, 300 employees and a budget of more than \$300 million. He resigned in 1999 to run for U.S. Senate.

Governor Schweitzer has been active in developing and implementing national farm policy, and ensuring that the voice of local Montanans is heard. In 1995, he received an award from the Secretary of Agriculture for outreach efforts to Native Americans. In 1996, he was appointed to the Montana Rural Development Partnership Board and in 1999 to the National Drought Task Force, a 16-member national board, to review policy and report to Congress an improved coordination response to drought emergencies nationwide.

Brian's life experiences are extensive and diverse. He has learned to fly his own plane, obtained a Montana Boiler's license, has communicated in several languages and has a chemical applicator's license.

On November 2, 2004, Brian Schweitzer was elected as Montana's first democratic governor since 1988, and on January 3, 2005, he was sworn in as the 23rd Governor of the great state of Montana.



**Moderator:** Dr. Will Swearingen

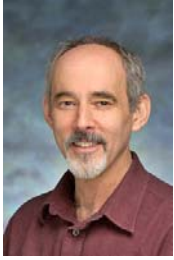
**Panel:** University/Private Sector Partnerships

Dr. Will Swearingen has managed technology development and technology transfer programs for more than 16 years. He was appointed TechLink's Executive Director in August 2000. Previously, he served as the leader of TechLink's NASA initiatives and was TechLink's first employee.

Before joining TechLink in 1996, Dr. Swearingen directed several major programs at Montana State University (MSU), including a program to partner Montana biotech companies with university researchers for new technology development, and an international biocontrol program that focused on pest problems in four different African countries. Prior to this, he initiated new projects and directed international training programs in satellite remote sensing at the NASA-sponsored Earth Data Analysis Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Dr. Swearingen is the Principal Investigator on TechLink's National Science Foundation-funded Partnerships for Innovation project, "Montana Business Foundry: Tech Ventures for a Rural State," which is creating new companies in Montana around DoD, NASA, and MSU technology. In addition, he serves on the board of Advanced Technology, Inc., which provides guidance for Bozeman's Advanced Technology Park.

Dr. Swearingen has a Ph.D. in economic geography from the University of Texas at Austin and conducted postdoctoral research at Stanford University.



**Panelist:** Nick Zelter

**Panel:** University/Private Sector Partnerships

Nick Zelter leads TechLink's initiative to evaluate and license intellectual property for Montana State University. He brings 20 years of experience in technology transfer, business development, licensing, and building industry-university partnerships to this effort.

Previously, Zelter directed the Industrial Associates Program at the Center for Biofilm Engineering at MSU. He has patented and licensed several technologies involving biofilm technology and helped start-up two companies that provide equipment and services for biofilm monitoring, including a spinout company built around MSU-licensed biofilm technology.

Zelter is a licensed engineer in Montana. He has a M.S. in environmental engineering from Rice University, a B.A. in environmental engineering and a B.S. in biology from Humboldt State University.

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## Exhibits

Exhibit space at the Second Annual Montana Aerospace Conference is available on a first come, first serve basis. There is no charge for exhibiting. Each exhibiting company will be provided with one 8-foot draped table; standing and tabletop displays can be accommodated. If a standing display is used the table provided must be placed in front of the display so as not to restrict traffic flow in the exhibit area and meeting room. Exhibitor identification signs will indicate exhibit space assignments.

### Exhibitor Information

#### Exhibit Space

- 10 – 10 x 4 exhibit spaces are available
- Exhibit space assignment will be made by the exhibits coordinator
- Each exhibit space will include one 8-foot draped table

#### Exhibits Schedule

Exhibitor Move-In:	
Wednesday, February 23, 2005	9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Exhibit Area Open:	
Wednesday, February 23, 2005	12:00 noon – 8:00 p.m.
Thursday, February 24, 2005	7:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Exhibitor Move-Out:	
Thursday, February 24, 2005	11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Please do not dismantle exhibits before 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, February 24<sup>th</sup>.

The Great Falls Holiday Inn will accept exhibit material shipments in advance of the conference. Advance shipments should arrive at the Holiday Inn no later than Monday, February 21, 2005. Exhibit materials shipped direct to the Holiday Inn will be available at the exhibitor's assigned space by 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 23, 2005. The Holiday Inn will also provide storage for display containers during the conference. Outbound shipping arrangements can be through the Holiday Inn. Exhibit materials being shipped directly to the Holiday Inn should be addressed as follows:

To:       Company Name  
          Second Annual Montana Aerospace Technology Conference  
          c/o Holiday Inn  
          400 10th Avenue South, Great Falls, MT 59405  
          406-727-7200

To reserve exhibit space, complete the registration form provided and return it to the exhibits coordinator. A list of exhibitors will be posted on the conference web site and included in the conference proceedings. If you have any questions regarding the exhibits or require additional information, please contact the exhibits coordinator.

JoEllen Zeiler, Exhibits Coordinator  
Second Annual Montana Aerospace Conference  
Phone: 406-494-7450   Fax: 406-494-7230  
e-mail: [joellen.zeiler@mtada.org](mailto:joellen.zeiler@mtada.org)

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Great Falls, MT 59405  
Phone: 406-727-7200  
Fax: 406-268-0472  
Toll Free: 1-800-257-1998



When making reservations be sure to mention you are attending the Montana Aerospace Conference.

For more information on the Holiday Inn visit <http://www.holiday-inn.com/greatfallsmt>

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