

MSET Technology Showcase a Success

The Mississippi Enterprise for Technology (MSET) recently hosted a technology showcase featuring the systems, services, and infrastructure support in Mississippi in conjunction with the Navy's Unmanned Systems Operational Demonstration. The showcase highlighted many of the companies with headquarters or offices in Mississippi that support unmanned systems missions, as well as companies that might consider a Mississippi location.

The Showcase took place in the hangar at the Air National Guard's Combat Readiness Training Center in Gulfport, MS. A number of companies displayed their unmanned systems for the attendees, brought models of their systems, or showed videos of their system's operations. Unmanned systems used in government missions, as well as commercial efforts, were on exhibit.

The highlight of the event was the creation of the Ocean Task Force by Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant. The Task Force will focus on the existing and growing activities in oceanography, unmanned maritime vehicles, technical workforce development, and marine science research in the State, and create a plan to move the State forward in this industry sector. MSET's CEO, Robbie Ingram, was named to the Task Force, which will be headed by the University of Southern Mississippi's Monty Graham.

Following the signing of the Ocean Task Force proclamation, the Governor delivered an inspiring keynote address to the crowd. Rear Admiral Timothy Gallaudet followed with an additional keynote that laid out plans for similar and expanded events in the future.

"Thanks to our exhibitors and sponsors for the event," stated MSET's CEO, Robbie Ingram. "With their support, we could put together a high-quality event with good food, good information, and good forward momentum. Special thanks to Teledyne Web, Hydroid, and L3 OceanServer for their sponsorship."

The Navy's Operational Demonstration was initiated as a result of Gallaudet's Unmanned Systems Strategy to expand the use of these systems not only in the Navy's survey operations, but during Navy operations and missions. Additional information concerning the strategy can be found at http://www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=91231.

MSET is a private, nonprofit organization founded in 1994 to assist technology companies in understanding the processes and procedures of working with federal agencies. Located inside the gates of Stennis, MSET tracks federal opportunities in contracting and technology transfer. MSET also operates an incubator at Stennis for start-up and growing companies that need access to existing and potential federal customers. For additional information on MSET, visit www.mset.org or call 228-688-3144.