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HANSCOM AIR FORCE BASE PARTNERS WITH THE MILITARY TASK FORCE TO CREATE THE HANSCOM COLLABORATION AND INNOVATION CENTER

New center located at Hanscom Air Force Base to enhance partnerships around cyber security, public safety, and information technology

HANSCOM AIR FORCE BASE – Wednesday, December 10, 2014 – The Massachusetts Military Asset and Security Strategy Task Force and Hanscom Air Force Base today celebrated the opening of the Hanscom Collaboration and Innovation Center (HCIC), formerly known as the Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Enterprise Integration Facility (CEIF). Working with military, industry, academia, and federally-funded research and development centers, HCIC will enable cutting-edge advances in defense applications, cyber security, public safety, and information technology.

“The Hanscom Collaboration and Innovation Center once again shows that Massachusetts is leading the way in being prepared for the 21st century innovation economy,” said Governor
Patrick. “This Center has a tremendous amount of potential to strengthen our critical military infrastructure as well as the Massachusetts economy.”

The Hanscom Collaboration and Innovation Center (HCIC) will support and has growth potential for a variety of Air Force, National Guard, public safety, academic, and industry uses. Its infrastructure for massive joint and multi-nation coalition warfighting experiments and demonstrations, and access to the Commonwealth’s high-technology ecosystem, make the HCIC the ideal location to develop, integrate, and test innovative technologies.

“We picked the name because that’s exactly what we hope to achieve going forward,” said Dr. Tim Rudolph, Chief Technology Officer for the Air Force’s Life Cycle Management Center, key elements of which are headquartered at Hanscom. “We intend to use this facility to advance our connectivity with the vast array of local and regional intellectual capital inherent in Massachusetts. This will allow us to better meet critical Air Force mission objectives and, hopefully, in turn allow other parties to better achieve their own vital objectives.”

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has committed $2.9 million to facilitate necessary energy and communications upgrades at the HCIC. The HCIC currently operates at maximum power and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning capacity while attempting to accommodate a large number of users. This investment will support the Air Force’s current and future mission requirements, including cyber, IT, secure cloud computing, and big data analytics and exploitation capabilities. These upgrades, to be completed in late 2015, will also allow the HCIC to expand academic, public, and private sector and research and development opportunities, including partnerships with industry, technical consortia, federally funded research and development centers, as well as federal, state, and even municipal public safety departments.

Governor Patrick’s FY2015 Capital Plan authorized funding for this and other infrastructure projects at military installations throughout the Commonwealth in concert with the installations and the Military Asset and Security Strategy Task Force. The cooperation between the military and the Task Force over the last few years has led to this historic opportunity.

In addition to the infrastructure upgrades, the HCIC also will immediately:

- Allow for a new partnership between Hanscom Air Force Base and the Massachusetts National Guard for Cyber Security Training and Preparedness efforts. Members of the National Guard will now use technology at the HCIC for their mission and training requirements. The National Guard will leverage this space to support partnerships such as the Region 1 Cyber First Responder Working Group and Cyber training programs sponsored by the National Guard Homeland Security Institute.
- Host the Northeast Public Safety Collaborative (NPSC), a new effort chartered by the Patrick Administration, the Military Task Force, the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, the Massachusetts National Guard, and the MITRE Corporation (a not-for-profit organization that addresses critical national challenges include those found in the defense, homeland security, and healthcare sectors). The NPSC will enhance regional ability to prevent, mitigate, respond to, and recover from all hazards. The NPSC will bring federal, state and local first responder organizations made up of military and
civilians together with industry and academia to explore emerging standards, advances in technology, persistent training, and effective cross organizational operations. At the HCIC, the NPSC will focus on training, enabling mutual aid, and advancing technology adoption.

- Serve as a site for the Advanced Cyber Security Center to collaborate with the military to explore cyber threats, engage in next-generation cybersecurity research and development, create education programs that will address the shortfall in cyber talent, and advance public policies that will enhance security.
- Support a new partnership between Hanscom Air Force Base and the Massachusetts Open Cloud Initiative to leverage university-industry-government collaboration designed to create new business models and more commercial infrastructure as a next generation of cloud patterns and support for secure workloads.

“Innovation is a vital part of the Massachusetts economy, but it only works if the right conditions are in place,” said U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren. “This innovation center at Hanscom will bring together the best and brightest from our military, business community, and universities -- fostering cutting-edge solutions and partnerships that will boost our security and economy.”

“I appreciate Governor Patrick’s commitment to providing the critical funding to make the necessary upgrades to this facility that will greatly expand opportunities for the Air Force mission at Hanscom, and will also open up this remarkable resource to public and private partners,” said Congresswoman Niki Tsongas (MA-3). “The expanded use of this facility will encourage greater collaboration among the military, public safety officials, and the private sector so that we are able to take advantage of the best minds and talent in countering new and rapidly evolving cyber threats to our economy and to our national security. This center will better take advantage of the unique ecosystem that exists here in Massachusetts, bringing together academic, business and defense resources and a skilled workforce so that the Air Force can continue to build an even deeper partnership with, and benefit from, one of the most cutting edge innovation hubs in the country.”

Governor Patrick, Members of Congress and other members of the Military Task Force have expressed the Commonwealth’s commitment to Hanscom Air Force Base through multiple areas that illustrate Massachusetts’ competitive business, innovation, education, and workforce advantages and how those advantages benefit the Air Force and communities. Hanscom and the Commonwealth have partnered on workforce training efforts, small business partnerships, energy efficiency, master planning for secure and efficient base operations, and cyber security and information technology mission enhancements such as today’s announcement on the graduate certificate program in network security.

“The Hanscom Collaboration and Innovation Center will allow for continued growth within the Cyber Security field,” said Major General L. Scott Rice, The Adjutant General, Massachusetts National Guard. “This effort ties into Massachusetts’s role as a national leader in innovation leading to quality jobs and educational investment.”

“The Hanscom Collaboration and Innovation Center represents a significant, new opportunity for collaboration between industry, government, academic and consortia members who are tackling
cutting-edge cyber challenges,” said Charlie Benway, Executive Director of the Advanced Cyber Security Center, a non-profit consortium that brings together industry, university, and government organizations to address the most advanced cyber threats. “Those challenges include the advancement of public-private cyber threat information sharing that is absolutely vital to securing our nation's critical infrastructure, which is under constant attack.”

“The MITRE Corporation is proud to partner with the Air Force and Commonwealth of Massachusetts to establish the Hanscom Collaboration and Innovation Center,” said Peter Sherlock, MITRE Senior Vice President and Director of Bedford Operations. “We envision a vibrant hands-on engineering environment that promotes innovation by enabling strong and persistent ties to the high-tech innovation ecosystem around Hanscom. Innovation, a long-held tradition for the Air Force, is critical in the advancement of Air Force information and cyber capabilities. We’re also excited to help establish the Northeast Public Safety Collaborative and support the Commonwealth’s tradition of leading the nation in development and use of First Responder capabilities.”

Hanscom Air Force Base

Hanscom Air Force Base, the only active duty Air Force base in New England, is an 846-acre base located in Bedford, Lexington and Lincoln, bordering Concord. At the base, a mix of active-duty military, civilian and contractor employees develop and acquire sophisticated radar, cyber and information technology-based systems that provide critical battlefield situational awareness to U.S. warfighters. Hanscom is also the home to the Massachusetts Army and Air National Guard’s Joint Forces Headquarters. The base creates more than 3,600 direct and 14,500 indirect jobs for a total of more than 18,000 jobs, with a 2011 economic impact of $8.44 billion for the Commonwealth’s economy.

Military Asset and Security Strategy Task Force

In 2012, Governor Patrick approved the creation of the Military Asset and Security Strategy Task Force, spearheading one of the nation’s most comprehensive efforts to support a state’s military installations and their host communities, advancing initiatives in workforce training, transportation, veterans’ services, energy, and housing in partnership with municipalities, industry, and academia. The six military installations in Massachusetts include Barnes Air National Guard Base in Westfield; Fort Devens; Hanscom Air Force Base; Joint Base Cape Cod; Natick Soldier Systems Center; and Westover Air Reserve Base in Chicopee. These installations account for a total economic impact of $14.2 billion and more than 46,500 Massachusetts jobs.