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Defense Strategies Institute Announces Inaugural Advanced Energy Storage For Defense & Security Summit

The Department of War (DoW) is accelerating the transition to advanced energy storage solutions amid a rapidly growing market projected to reach \$83.4 billion by 2030, driving urgent transition from lithium-ion to safer, standardized solutions under the DoW Lithium Battery Strategy 2023–2030 that will ensure supply security.

To this end, the Defense Strategies Institute invites you to reserve your seat for the highly anticipated [Advanced Energy Storage for Defense & Security Summit](#), May 27-28, 2026 in National Harbor, MD. The summit will convene key decision-makers and innovators from across the DoW, federal government, commercial sector, and academia to explore how emerging technologies such as customizable, intelligent battery cells and advanced management systems are powering the next generation of defense and security energy solutions.

Confirmed speakers include:

- COL Josh Wiles, U.S.A., requirement director, Ft. Benning
- Nancy J. Balkus, SES, deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment
- José Collazo-Castillo, battery supply chain senior advisor, OUSW A&S
- KJ Cho, BEACONS director/professor, Department of Materials Science & Engineering, UT Dallas
- Marshall Schroeder, lead, Electrolyte and Interface Science Team
DEVCOM Army Research Laboratory
- Venkat Srinivasan, director at Argonne Collaborative Center for Energy Storage Science
- Travis Johnson, PM, Air Force Office of Energy Assurance
- Changwon Suh, technology manager at Advanced Materials & Manufacturing Technologies Office (AMMTO), DoE
- Stanley Whittingham, Nobel laureate and distinguished professor and director of NECCES and Battery-NY at Binghamton University (SUNY)
- Maj. Gen. (R) Mike Fantini, USAF, defense consultant, Lyten
- COL (R) Brant Dayley, vice president, Integrated Energy & Propulsion Systems, GM Defense *NEW*
- Ikenna Nlebedim, Critical Materials Innovation Hub (CMI), U.S. Department of Energy
- Gabriel Veith, distinguished staff scientist, Chemical Sciences Division, ORNL
- Gavriel Legynd, CEO, VisioneerIT
- Event moderator: Samm Gillard, co-founder & executive director, BATT Coalition

Key topics of discussion:

- Developing and fielding solutions for battery and energy storage technology integration across the DoW
- Utilizing advanced energy storage systems for tactical UAVs
- Mitigating supply chain challenges & sourcing critical materials more efficiently for advanced energy storage systems
- Understanding advanced battery architectures for next-gen tactical EVs
- Scalability, security, and resilience: shaping the future of energy storage systems with AI and digital twins
- Developing safer, faster-charging solid-state batteries for a variety of applications

DSI is now welcoming sponsors and exhibitors for the forum. To learn more contact [Dudley Duverne](#).

Active U.S. military and government and state personnel attend complimentary. Those interested in participating in the Advanced Energy Storage for Defense & Security Summit can visit Defense Strategies Institute's [website](#). Anyone interested in learning more or sending questions contact Jessica Joaquim via [email](#) or phone: (201) 824-0077.