Boundless Opportunity: Aerospace and Aviation

Becca Hardin, President
Bay County
Economic Development Alliance
Florida ranked #1 for US Aviation Manufacturing Attractiveness

– PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

110,000+ veterans between the ages of 17-64 live in Northwest Florida

– National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics, Profile of Veterans 2011

2nd Best State for Business

– ‘ChiefExecutive.net’

Florida was recognized as the #1 state for renewed consideration post-recession.

– Area Development

#2 best business climate (Business Facilities)
Florida’s Great Northwest

- A regional economic development organization comprised of public and private partnerships.
  - Local EDO’s
  - Workforce Boards
  - Higher Education
  - Utilities
  - Private Companies
- Working together to market and brand as a globally competitive location for business
Florida’s Great Northwest
Northwest Florida is proximate to 5 major Aerospace OEM manufacturers.
Existing Aviation Related Companies
Northwest Florida is home to several of America’s most distinguished aviation-related military installations
Northwest Florida has a strong military-related labor force

- 44,000 active duty
- More than 19,000 civilians employed
- Approximately 6,000 highly skilled personnel exiting from the military each year; average age is early 40’s.
Northwest Florida provides easy access to university and government research partners

- 9 Universities, State Colleges and Community Colleges (including Florida State University, University of West Florida, and Florida A&M University)

- Major Air Force and Navy Research Laboratories

- UF-REEF (University of Florida Research and Education Engineering Facility)

- High Performance Materials Institute, Florida Center for Advanced Aero-Propulsion, and National High Magnetic Laboratory (Florida State University)

- Florida Institute for Human & Machine Cognition (IHMC) - Research partners have included: DARPA, NSF, NASA, Army, Navy, Air Force, NIH, IARPA, DOT, IDEO, Raytheon, IBM, Microsoft, Rockwell Collins, Boeing, Lockheed, and SAIC, among others.