



AUSA 2026: The Global Defense Community Gathers in Washington from October 12 to 14, 2026

Published on 11/10/2026

WASHINGTON, D.C. — From **October 12 to 14, 2026**, the *Walter E. Washington Convention Center* (WEWCC) in Washington, D.C., is hosting the **AUSA Annual Meeting & Exposition 2026**, the world's leading event for the land defense sector, military technological innovation, and strategic dialogue.

With this year's official theme, "**America's Army: The Foundation of the Joint Force**" (*America's Army: The Foundation of the Joint Force*), the convention confirms its role as the ideal meeting point for military leaders, policymakers, industry experts, and international delegations from more than 100 countries.

Key Figures and Event Scale

The 2026 edition showcases the scale and strategic importance of the event:

- **More than 40,000 attendees** are expected, including officers, delegates, and industry professionals.
 - **More than 750 exhibitors** spread across more than five exhibition halls (Halls A-E) at the Convention Center.
 - **New this year:** The introduction of the *AUSA Outdoor Exhibits* (Outdoor Exhibition Areas), further expanding the capacity to display vehicles and technologies outdoors.
- The key role of Army PIT: accelerating innovation "in the field"

Within the technological renewal landscape presented at AUSA, the **Army Pathway for Innovation and Technology (PIT)** plays a central role. Created as a core component of the Army acquisition reform and structured around the Portfolio Acquisition Executive (PAE), the PIT serves as the key element (+1) tasked with rapidly turning emerging technologies into tangible capabilities for operational units.

The PIT brings together under a single strategic vision essential innovation ecosystems such as **Army FUZE** (which coordinates xTech, SBIR|STTR, TMI and ManTech), the **Joint Innovation Outpost (JIOP)** and the **Global Tactical Edge Acquisition Directorate (G-TEAD)**. The primary objective is to drastically shorten the time between laboratory development and frontline deployment ("*innovation in the dirt*"), relying on rapid prototyping, direct soldier feedback and flexible contracting pathways to engage both defense giants and innovative small and medium-sized enterprises.

[pdf_1791699693719](#)

Operational Readiness and Human Performance: The AUSA Human Performance Pavilion and BeaverFit

Another focal point of the event is the fighter's physical, cognitive and tactical readiness, conceptualized in the U.S. Army's *Holistic Health and Fitness (H2F)* program. Located at **Booth 7327**, adjacent to the U.S. Army's main exhibit, the **AUSA Human Performance Pavilion** (promoted and developed in partnership with **BeaverFit**) brings together 18 industry-leading companies (including Oura, Woodway, Vald Tactical, Teamworks and NSCA) to showcase advanced solutions designed to optimize the performance and resilience of the soldier as a true "weapons system."

A key event partner, **BeaverFit** (with its global presence and specialized divisions such as *BeaverFit EU*) is the international benchmark in the design and supply of mobile, modular facilities for tactical training and physical preparation. From transportable *container gym* units to urban training towers (*Urban Ops Box*), from breaching facilities to security solutions and modular ranges, BeaverFit provides armies and special forces worldwide with *turn-key* infrastructure designed to enhance responsiveness and operational *lethality* in any training environment or theater of operations.

Key Themes and Program Highlights

The AUSA Annual Meeting is not merely a major technology exhibition, but a top-tier professional development forum. This year's program includes:

- **High-Level Ceremonies and Panels:** Key events such as the Opening Ceremony, the President's Reception, the Eisenhower Luncheon, and the traditional closing gala banquet, the *Marshall Dinner* (scheduled for the evening of October 14).
- **Innovation and the Future:** Dedicated spaces such as the *Army Pathway for Innovation and Technology (PIT)*, the *AUSA Human Performance Pavilion*, and sessions focused on small-business development and Army matchmaking opportunities.
- **Support for Families and Veterans:** Special emphasis is placed on the well-being of the *Total Army* through the traditional *Warfighter and Family Forums* and the employment event *Your Next Mission™*, organized by the American Freedom Foundation.

Useful Information for Attendees

- **Venue:** Walter E. Washington Convention Center (801 Allen Y. Lew Pl, NW, Washington, DC).
- **Exhibit Hall Hours:** Open every day of the event from 09:00 to 17:00.
- **Access and Security:** The event requires an identifiable affiliation with AUSA (military personnel, government personnel, employees of partner or accredited companies, law enforcement, and registered media). The *Digital Access Pass* can be used on a smartphone to facilitate entry to educational sessions, while the printed badge remains mandatory for access to exhibit areas and ticketed events.

AUSA 2026 once again confirms itself not only as an outstanding showcase for the latest developments in military equipment, but above all as an essential forum for dialogue to understand the future trajectory of global national security and cooperation among allies.

News link: <https://meetings.ausa.org/annual/2026/humanperformance.cfm>