

James F. Gerraughty

From: SAP&DC <jgerraughty+sapdc.org@ccsend.com>
Sent: Monday, April 3, 2023 10:06 AM
To: James F. Gerraughty
Subject: APEX Accelerator Newsletter April 2023



SAP&DC

PTAC



Progress Through Regional Cooperation In The Alleghenies

State of the Southern Alleghenies APEX Accelerator - April 2023
by James Gerraughty,
APEX Accelerator (formerly PTAC) Program Manager



One of the hardest decisions to make is to come up with a logo. There's a ton of variables, and you want to make sure that all the stakeholders are pleased with the result. It's probably best that our new APEX logo being designed is in the hands of professionals; if I did it myself, it would look like an Iron Maiden album cover.

Much like logo design and the naked copying of a heavy metal icon, government contracting can have a lot of variables and tough decisions. To torture this simile further, you also have the professional assistance in the form of the counselors at the Southern Alleghenies APEX Accelerator to help with the process. Our services are free, so give us a call or email.

In the next few weeks, we're going to have various training courses, mostly online, on various topics related to government contracting. All of these events are free to attend, but you must register. You can review and register for upcoming events on our [eCenter page](#).

If you have ideas for topics, or would like to learn more about something, please drop us a line at (814) 949-6500 or by [email](#). (That email address will likely change, but it will still get to us).

CISA: Election Security Still Under Threat at Cyber and Physical Level

By Alexandra Kelley, Staff Correspondent, Nextgov

Threats enacted by state-sponsored actors during the 2022 election have highlighted the need for “continued vigilance” in upcoming elections, said CISA Election Security Advisor Kim Wyman.

Federal cyber leadership doubled down on the need to continue to fortify election security at both the local and national level as threats from foreign and domestic actors will still be a problem ahead of the 2024 presidential election.

“We face continuing threats from a growing number of foreign state sponsored threat actors intent on targeting our election infrastructure and voters through cyber activity and malign foreign influence operations,” Kim Wyman, the senior advisor for election security at the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency said during a panel discussion hosted by the University of California, Los Angeles, on Friday.

Wyman said that in the wake of the tumultuous 2016 presidential election, the security of the digital election infrastructure of the U.S. has made “incredible progress” in improving voting systems’ resiliency. She also noted that while law enforcement and regulatory bodies saw “no evidence” of deleted or lost votes within the 2022 election, state-sponsored threats were documented. [Continue Reading](#)

(Accessed 3-23-2023)

Lawmakers Propose Civilian Cyber Reserve to Bolster DOD and DHS

By Edward Graham, Staff Reporter, Nextgov

The bipartisan package of two bills would address the government’s shortage of skilled cyber personnel by allowing DOD and DHS “to recruit qualified civilian cybersecurity personnel to serve in reserve capacities.

Senate lawmakers introduced a legislative package on Tuesday to establish civilian cybersecurity reserve pilot programs within the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security to help bolster the federal government’s cyber resilience amid a national shortage of high-skilled cybersecurity personnel.

The pair of bipartisan bills—introduced by Sens. Jacky Rosen, D-Nev., and Marsha Blackburn, R-Tenn.—would enable DOD and DHS “to recruit qualified civilian cybersecurity personnel to serve in reserve capacities to ensure the U.S. government has the talent needed to defeat, deter or respond to malicious cyber activity, especially at times of greatest need,” according to a joint press release. Participation in the reserve programs would be voluntary and “by invitation only,” and would not include members of the military Selected Reserve. [Continue Reading](#)

(Accessed 3-23-2023)

Pentagon Office Tracking National Security Impact of Silicon Valley Bank Collapse

By Edward Graham, Staff Reporter, Nextgov

The director of the Pentagon’s office tasked with connecting relevant tech companies with private capital said in an email that the office is “monitoring national security-related impacts” stemming from the prominent startup lender’s demise.

The Defense Department’s Office of Strategic Capital has been “heads-down in assessing impacts to national security” resulting from the collapse of Silicon Valley Bank, or SVB, according to an email Sunday from the OSC director seen by Nextgov.

The bank’s dramatic collapse on Friday set off a weekend panic across the tech sector—which has experienced mass layoffs and a market slowdown over the past year—before federal officials announced emergency measures on Sunday to backstop depositors with money at the failed bank.

OSC, which launched in December 2022, serves as the Pentagon’s hub for connecting “companies developing critical technologies vital to national security with capital.” DOD said in a press release last year that the office will help startups overcome the industry’s ‘Valley of Death,’ where companies developing innovative technologies often struggle to receive the long-term financing needed “to bridge the gap between the laboratory and full-scale production.” [Continue Reading](#)

(Accessed 3/23/2023)

About US

The PTAC/APEX Accelerator at SAP&DC is an economic development entity that bridges the gap between supplier and buyer in the government marketplace. The PTAC/APEX Accelerator stands ready to support businesses in the central PA Alleghenies region in the pursuit to secure contracts with local, state and/or federal government agencies nationwide.

Due to the generous support of our Commonwealth and Federal funding partners, services provided by the PTAC/APEX Accelerator are free of charge.



Whether you are an experienced contractor or new to the government marketplace, the PTAC/APEX Accelerator will provide one-on-one counseling utilizing all of the program resources necessary to increase your share of contract awards.

Contact us today at the PTAC/APEX Accelerator at SAP&DC to get started!

Email: ptac@sapdc.org

Phone: (814) 949-6500

Web: APEXAccelerator@SAP&DC

SAP&DC is an Equal Opportunity Employer

SAP&DC | 814-949-6528 | jgerraughty@sapdc.org | <http://www.sapdc.org>
3 Sheraton Drive
Altoona, PA 16601



SAP&DC | 3 Sheraton Drive, Altoona, PA 16601

[Unsubscribe jgerraughty@sapdc.org](mailto:jgerraughty@sapdc.org)

[Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by jgerraughty@sapdc.org powered by

