**Kicking Off Year Number Three**

The Raytheon Enterprise Supplier Advisory Council conducted its quarterly meeting at the Westdrift Hotel in Manhattan Beach, California, on February 4–5. The council continues to build momentum in 2019 with a focus on making Raytheon the customer of choice. The group met for an all-day general session meeting on Tuesday to review key initiatives such as the Exostar portal, a new supplier rating system and more. Additionally, trending topics in the defense industry such as cybersecurity were identified as future project focus areas.

February's agenda included the following items of discussion:

- **Exostar Supplier Web Portal**
  In Q4 2018 Raytheon conducted a workshop to evaluate the current use of the Exostar platform across the supply base. As a result, several enhancement projects are being kicked off to work with suppliers and understand how best to improve the functionality and overall user experience of the supplier portal. More details will continue to be tracked in the coming year.

- **SRS Supplier Challenge Capability**
  On Jan. 7, 2019, a new online process was launched, providing Raytheon suppliers the opportunity to formally challenge discrepancies impacting their Supplier Rating System (SRS) performance ratings. The council reviewed this important new feature for managing supplier performance reporting and will be participating in feedback and results reviews at future meetings.

- **OneRTN RFP**
  Another new tool that was rolled out across Raytheon in January 2019 is the standardized Request for Proposal/Quote tool. A live demo was provided, showcasing how this tool will assist all Raytheon procurement agents in delivering a thorough and consistent RFP or RFQ to a supplier. This tool is the foundational requirement for a robust workflow tool intended to automate the supply chain proposal process.

- **DoD Acquisition**
  The council had a roundtable discussion of some of the current topics impacting the extended supply chain in the U.S. military and defense industry, including performance-based payments and NIST cybersecurity requirements.

For additional information on any topic discussed or to recommend a topic for future ESAC sessions, email ESAC@raytheon.com.