Venturing Into the CAVE

On Wednesday May 1st and Thursday May 2nd, 2019, the Raytheon Enterprise Supplier Advisory Council (ESAC) conducted its quarterly meeting in the Immersive Design Center located at Raytheon Space and Airborne System’s headquarters in McKinney, Texas.

The council met for an all-day general session meeting on Thursday to review progress on several key initiatives. Additionally, there were interactive demonstrations featuring CAVE2™ technology, which showcased Raytheon’s design collaboration capabilities by connecting with remote CAVE sites internally, and from an external supplier location as well.

May’s agenda included the following items of discussion:

- **Additive Manufacturing (AM) at Raytheon** – An engineer from Raytheon’s Additive Manufacturing Center of Excellence provided an informational presentation on the state of additive manufacturing at Raytheon, highlighting diverse products, pursuits, and applications for this newer technology. A roundtable discussion with the council helped suppliers understand how to leverage existing Raytheon AM capabilities, education, training and industry partnerships.

- **CAVE Demonstration and Supplier Spotlight** – The Immersive Design Center team provided impressive demonstrations highlighting use case examples of how the advanced visualization capability of the CAVE can enhance and optimize customer engagement, product development and production, training and program sustainment, and even community outreach. The council also participated in a real-time connection with supplier EEI Manufacturing Services in Clearwater, FL for a live demonstration of the various benefits of external remote Immersive Design Center capabilities.

- **Consolidated Domestic Transportation** – The Raytheon Logistics team provided an overview of the current domestic freight and transportation initiative. This project will provide 4PL management for all U.S. inbound and outbound shipments, and ultimately optimize the number of freight carriers within our network to drive efficiency. The group discussed how these changes would impact supplier shipments to Raytheon, and the need for their involvement in the design and testing of our proposed solution.

- **Business Transformation** – The Raytheon Supplier Excellence Program (SEP) presented updates on the ASPECT project and the suppliers provided detailed feedback from their businesses on the impact the project has had to date. The new Business Transformation Lead also presented her vision on where Raytheon is and where we need to be.