



A full-size fiberglass model of its entry in the Air Force's T-X advanced trainer competition dominated Boeing's booth complex.

# AIR SPACE CYBER

C O N F E R E N C E

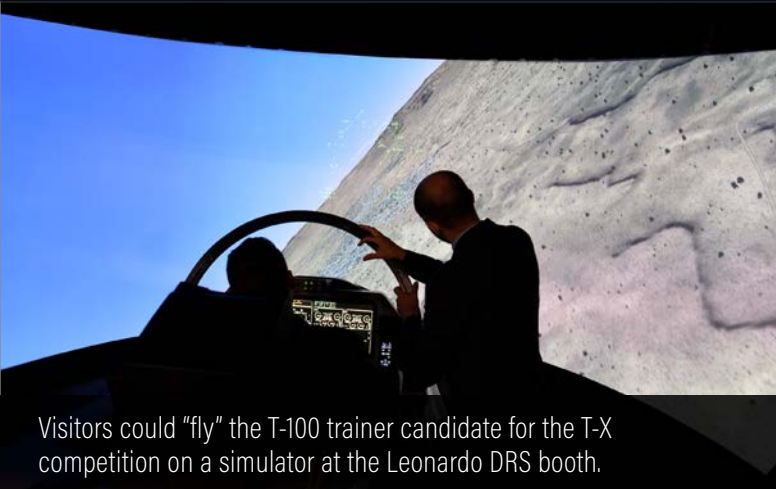
## The Technology Exposition looked to the future.

By John A. Tirpak, Editorial Director  
Photos by Mike Tsukamoto, Photo Editor

AFA's 2017 Air, Space & Cyber Conference was the best-attended yet, beating last year's attendance figures by more than 1,000 people and boasting many more exhibitors, as well.



With real estate on combat aircraft hardpoints growing increasingly precious, Northrop Grumman showed the Open Pod, an open-system architecture, reconfigurable system of sensors. The first version will include infrared search and track and targeting devices.



Visitors could "fly" the T-100 trainer candidate for the T-X competition on a simulator at the Leonardo DRS booth.



Kawasaki's C-2 transport in a cutaway model carried a load of earthmovers for a notional humanitarian relief operation.



Modular payloads for Northrop Grumman's Global Hawk surveillance aircraft were shown in these full-scale models of the Optical Bar Camera (left) and MS-177 multispectral sensor.



Elbit Systems of America displayed some of the configurations of its helmet-mounted display products.



A sampling of aircraft powered by Pratt & Whitney engines were featured in large models at the company's booth, which also showed engine models in cutaway.



Leonardo DRS' T-100 model, its T-X entry, was painted in the colors of the 332nd Fighter Group, the World War II "Red Tails" of the Tuskegee Airmen. If the company wins the T-X contract, aircraft would be assembled at Moton Field, Ala., where the Tuskegee Airmen trained.



Orbital ATK's Advanced Anti-Radiation Guided Missile (AARGM) AGM-88E. A week after the AFA conference, the company won a sizable contract for the radar-killing missile.



Raytheon packed a model of the F-35 fighter with its AIM-120 AMRAAM radar-guided dogfight missile and a hefty load of Small Diameter Bomb IIs.



Legion Pod is Lockheed Martin's offering in the hunt to provide a multifunction sensor for combat aircraft.



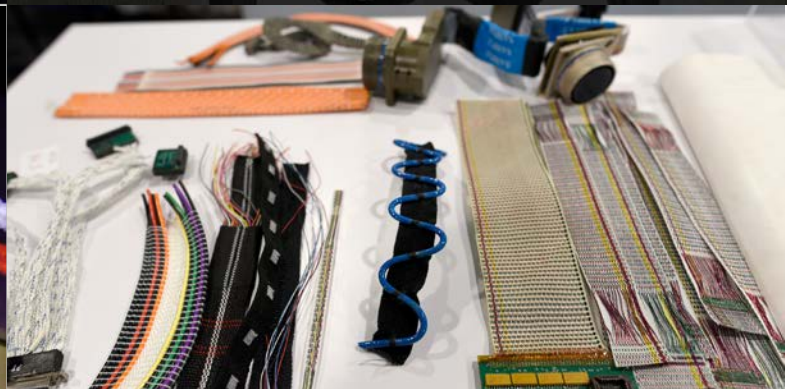
The ACES 5 is UTC Aerospace System's latest generation of the combat aircraft ejection seat.



Charles Buynak of the Air Force Research Laboratory demonstrates a snake-like robot that can inspect parts of an airplane where tech crews can't go.



AFROTC Cadet Cristian Alfonso of the University of Puerto Rico tries a BAE System Striker II helmet-mounted display system.



Woven Electronics laid out a variety of its specialized cable harnesses and connectors used for military and commercial applications.



This General Atomics MQ-9 Reaper model carries an MS-110 multispectral recce pod made by UTC Aerospace Systems.



A DARPA project, the vertical takeoff XV-24A LightningStrike, was presented in model form by maker Aurora Flight Sciences. It would escort CV-22 Ospreys into combat.



Saab is offering its JAS-39C Gripen to air forces and contractors looking for a high-performing, low-cost Aggressor platform.



This full-size "Gremlin" by General Atomics Aeronautical Systems is one proposal for a class of remotely piloted aircraft cheap enough to be sacrificed if necessary.



A generic fighter aircraft wing bears (from top) Lockheed Martin's Sniper targeting pod, Paragon guided bomb, and the LRASM and the JASSM stealth anti-ship/land-attack missiles.



For the ground-bound, the Polaris DAGOR is built to provide mobility for special forces.



A warning to hobbyists and an ad for anti-drone devices marked the entrance of the Tech Expo.



Kongsberg's Joint Strike Missile is a joint venture of Norway and Raytheon, for attacking ships at long distance.



Northrop Grumman models illustrated its proposal for shrinking JSTARS to fit on a Gulfstream 550.



Viper-E from MBDA Missile Systems is a precision guided standoff weapon with both GPS and laser guidance.



Microsoft's patrol vehicle concept that controls drones and has surveillance systems that can read license plates, among many other tricks.



An active electronically scanned array radar needs a new radome. At its booth, General Dynamics showed off this one for an F-16.