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# Introduction

These are the proceedings of the XXIII Open Architecture/Open Business Model Net-centric Systems and Defense Transformation conference. The papers presented at the conference strongly reflected the inexorable trend towards open architecture/open business model acquisition patterns to provide the government Better Buying Power (BBP). The conference included the following joint sessions:

1. Self-organizing Collaborative Unmanned ISR Teams, held jointly with the Unmanned Systems Technology conference.
2. Autonomous C4ISR Systems of the Future, held jointly with the Micro-and Nanotechnology Sensors, Systems, and Applications conference.

The conference included invited papers by several luminaries from the U.S. Department of Defense.

Looking ahead, we expect net-centric systems to evolve towards Systems of Systems (SoS) based on an Open Architectures (OA) and Open Business Models (OBM) construct. The emphasis on disaggregated SoS comes from the DoD push in the Third Offset. Such OA/OBM systems seek to mimic the successful PC industry and hold the promise to dramatically reduce the acquisition and life cycle costs of military systems and tremendously accelerate the rate of technology refresh in military systems.

It is gratifying to see the high level of audience interest in this conference. Particularly gratifying is the fact that this conference has resulted in the "spin-off" of several new conferences at SPIE Defense & Security. My sincere thanks to the distinguished invited speakers, authors, attendees, and my associates on the program committee for another successful conference.

**Raja Suresh**