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SUBJECT: NSPA Military Clothing and Textiles Industry Day

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am pleased to announce that NSPA will hold a Military Clothing and Textiles Industry Day Event on **10 November 2025** at **NSPA's Headquarters in Luxembourg**.

Ensuring that NATO troops are equipped with reliable, high-performing, and technologically advanced clothing and personal equipment is critical to mission success, force protection, and operational readiness. Military clothing is more than a uniform or a pair of boots — it is an essential layer of survivability, mobility, and capability for soldiers operating in diverse and often extreme environments.

Modern military operations expose personnel to a broad range of operational environments — from arid deserts and tropical jungles to sub-zero climates and urban battlefields. Soldiers rely on their clothing not only for environmental protection but also for ballistic and fragmentation protection, thermal regulation and insulation, moisture and odor management, load-bearing support and ergonomic mobility, camouflage and concealment in multi-spectral domains, integration of communication, sensor, and power systems in wearable formats, sustainability and durability under prolonged field use.

In addition, operational requirements are shifting due to changes in the threat landscape, climate conditions, and technological evolution. NSPA anticipates these needs and works closely with industry to deliver solutions that ensure performance, safety, and interoperability.

This event aims to strengthen collaboration with industry stakeholders who design, produce, and innovate in this vital area. This Industry Day will provide a platform to:

- Present upcoming business opportunities and new approaches with NSPA in the area of military clothing and soldier systems;
- Deepen industry understanding of end-user requirements, both immediate and long-term, to inform innovation pipelines and product development, as well as foreseen growth and business in the various segments of the industry;
- Encourage exploration of next-generation textile technologies, such as smart fabrics, energy-harvesting materials, and integrated wearables;
- Improve the quality and compliance of proposals submitted in response to NSPA Requests for Proposal (RFPs).

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NSPA is especially interested in participation from companies operating in the following segments:

- Fabric OEMs for technical and performance textiles;
- Textile system designers, garment assemblers and clothing OEMs;
- Ballistic panels and plates, plate carriers and modular load systems OEMs;
- Military footwear and combat boot manufacturers;
- Tactical glove OEMs for harsh military environments;
- Wearables designed for soldier integration (power, communications, sensors);
- Smart textiles with adaptive, reactive or sensing capabilities;
- Textile accessories suppliers (zippers, hook-loop fasteners, patches, buttons, etc.) optimized for soldier systems.

Through this engagement, NSPA seeks to foster deeper relationships with industry, improve mutual understanding of capability requirements, and accelerate the development and delivery of high-quality, mission-ready soldier clothing systems. Your participation will be key in ensuring that our forces are better protected, better equipped, and better prepared for the challenges ahead.

Please communicate your interest to participate by completing the online registration form located on the NSPA <u>website</u>, **no later than 2 August 2025**. Requests received after this date will not be accepted.

Please note that this Industry Day is neither a pre-qualification nor a solicitation conference.

Acceptance of your company's application will be based upon the following criteria by order of importance:

- Eligibility (legal residence and place of effective management in a NATO nation¹)
- Qualification (portfolio and past experience with clothing and textiles solutions)
- Innovation (manufacturing innovative products/supporting disruptive technologies)
- Past business relationship (new companies will be privileged as will those registered with NSPA having limited past business with the Agency)
- Space availability

If your registration is accepted, you will be notified by **2 September 2025**. The agenda and administrative details will be released shortly thereafter. **Please do not make any travel arrangements before your participation is confirmed.**

I look forward to your participation in what promises to be an exceptional event.

Britt NEWELL NSPA Competition Advocate

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¹ For companies not registered in the NSPA source file as an active and eligible supplier, NSPA will seek confirmation of eligibility from national authorities