FACT SHEET ON
SOCAL AEROSPACE INDUSTRY CLUSTER

SOCAL'S ADVANTAGES
- Deep ecosystem of aerospace talent, suppliers and specialized service providers
- Active defense sector
- Engineering prowess
- A culture of embracing technological innovation, risk taking and entrepreneurship
- Highly-skilled and specialized workforce

SoCal's aerospace sector is known for Mars landings, the Space Shuttle, the B-2 Stealth Bomber, development of GPS systems and entrepreneurs from Howard Hughes to Elon Musk.

SIZING THINGS UP

The aerospace industry represented 85,500 JOBS in Southern CA in 2014, 14% of U.S. industry employment. (Over 100,000 jobs when we include SoCal's public employees at JPL, NASA, etc.)

Southern CA aerospace generates 245,770 TOTAL JOBS including jobs in its supply chain.

SoCal is becoming a POWERHOUSE for guided missiles, space vehicles and parts, with related employment up by MORE THAN 64% SINCE 2004.

NEARLY 1/4 OF JOBS nationally in guided missiles, space vehicles, and related parts are in Southern CA.

Southern CA's aerospace industry overall maintains COMPETITIVE EDGE with employment location quotient (LQ) of 2.1, and an LQ of 3.5 for guided missiles and space vehicles.

THE INDUSTRY SPENDS MORE THAN $24 BILLION on goods and services for inputs into production.

Aerospace industry wages average $105,715 PER YEAR.

Workers are among the HIGHEST-PAID in the SoCal regional economy; almost twice the average paid for other industries.

Aerospace wages have RISEN THREE TIMES (4.3% SINCE 2004) as quickly as average wages for all other industries (adjusted for inflation).

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[1] Report was created by Dr. Christine Cooper at the LAEDC's Institute for Applied Economics.
TWO MAIN OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS:

- Production Workers: 26% of jobs
- Engineering Occupations: 22% of jobs

What the industry says...

More than half of survey respondents indicate Southern CA is an “excellent” or “good” place to do business.

Located in Southern CA primarily for proximity to customers, suppliers and/or legacy of company.

Quality of life in SoCal attracts top talent.

Favorable climate enables testing and product development faster than elsewhere in U.S.

Southern CA excels at training the workforce for aerospace jobs, with WORLD-CLASS EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS offering many targeted training programs.

41% of job openings over the next 5 years will require a bachelor’s degree or higher.