



NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS STANDARD SYSTEMS GROUP

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AIR FORCE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE-GUNTER ANNEX, Ala. – Keynote speakers

including Steve Ballmer, Microsoft Corporation chief executive officer; John Stenbit, assistant Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration; John Thompson, Symantec Corporation Chairman and CEO; and Ted Waitt, Chairman and CEO of Gateway Inc., respectively, will highlight the 2003 Air Force Information Technology Conference Aug. 24– 28 at the Montgomery Civic Center.

The 17th annual conference is geared toward users, buyers, developers and managers from across the Department of Defense who identify and define requirements for the IT capabilities of tomorrow. The conference, "*Transforming the Air Force for Network-Centric Warfare*," allows DoD personnel to stay current on the latest technologies and to learn of future industry offerings and advances.

Government and industry leaders will present more than 160 seminar sessions and the exhibit floor will contain the latest in information technology from leaders in the field.

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ATITC Scheduled for August 2-2-2-2

More than 5,000 people are expected to attend the conference, sponsored by Standard Systems Group. The Standard Systems Group provides and supports secure combat support information systems and networks for the Air Force and DoD components. Today, SSG systems are used at virtually every Air Force operating base – both in garrison and deployed – with more than 200,000 users and 3 million transactions daily.

On-line registration for the conference is available at <https://web1.ssg.gunter.af.mil/afitc/>. For more information, call DSN 596-4319; commercial 334-416-4319.

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MEDIA ADVISORY -- There will be a number of media opportunities during the weeklong conference. A detailed agenda, along with biographies of keynote speakers, can be found at the AFITC website.

Media representatives are encouraged to pre-register on line at <https://web1.ssg.gunter.af.mil/afitc/> .