

 **ATARC** powered by  **GovExec**

# GITEC'26

Leading the Future of Government Emerging Technology

MAY 3-5, 2026 | OMNI HOTEL | CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA

[Register Now](#)

Sunday, May 3, 2026

4:30 PM EDT  
2 HRS  
Opening  
Ceremonies

## Opening Ceremonies: Skyline Room

GITEC 2026 will kick off with a Welcome Reception at the Omni Hotel, giving attendees an opportunity to connect ahead of the main conference programming.

The Welcome Reception will begin around 4:30 PM and is open to all registered attendees. Guests are encouraged to stop by, grab a drink, and reconnect with colleagues, speakers, sponsors, and exhibitors in a casual environment before the event officially begins.

Monday, May 4, 2026

8 AM EDT

1 HR

## Registration, Exhibition, and Breakfast

Pick up your badge, grab a cup of coffee, and get ready for GITEC 2026 to officially start! We will be in the Jefferson Ballroom, off of the main lobby.

9 AM EDT

15 MINS

Main Stage

## Opening Remarks



**Tom Temin**  
Master of Ceremonies  
GITEC



**Tom Suder**  
Founder  
ATARC



**May Smith**  
Senior Account Executive  
Google Public Sector

9:15 AM EDT

20 MINS

Main Stage

## Keynote Briefing



**Pavan Pidugu**  
Chief Digital & Information Officer  
U.S. Department of  
Transportation

9:35 AM EDT  
40 MINS  
Main Stage

## Leading Modernization at Scale: Strategy, Policy, and Efficiency in Federal IT



**Ty Enmark**

AVP, Government, Defense & Intelligence  
**Oracle**



**David Gleaton**

Cloud Platform Lead, Office of Technology and Innovation  
**Consumer Financial Protection Bureau**



**Dave Raley**

Chief Digital Business Officer  
**U.S. Marine Corps Community Business (Pending Agency Approval)**



**Tom Temin**

Master of Ceremonies  
**GITEC**

Federal IT modernization is increasingly defined by how well agencies align technology, policy, and mission outcomes. As expectations for security, data-driven decision-making, and service delivery grow, leaders must modernize legacy environments while improving efficiency, governance, and cross-agency collaboration. Success depends on clear executive leadership, disciplined prioritization, and a strategic approach that ties modernization investments to measurable impact.

Join this executive-level panel featuring senior government IT leaders for a strategic discussion on the decisions shaping federal IT modernization. Panelists will share leadership perspectives on enterprise transformation, policy alignment, risk management, and operational efficiency—offering lessons learned and insights into what effective modernization looks like at scale

10:15 AM EDT  
10 MINS

## Actionable Threat Intelligence at Google Scale



**Pablo Enriquez**

Account Executive  
**Google Public Sector**

Join us as we showcases the integration of Mandiant's frontline expertise, VirusTotal's crowdsourced insights, and Google's vast visibility into a unified security solution. This Tech Talk provides a practical walkthrough of our Google Threat Intelligence platform, demonstrating how organizations can leverage these combined resources to eliminate blind spots and achieve faster, more informed defensive responses.

10:25 AM EDT  
15 MINS

## Management and Security of COTS Software



**Patrick Stingley**  
Data Scientist and AI Researcher  
**Bureau of Land Management, U.S.**  
**Department of Interior**

While large, bespoke systems often receive the most attention, the greater challenge across government environments lies in the thousands of commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) products that quietly consume resources and introduce risk. These tools are everywhere, yet they remain difficult to track and manage at scale. This session will explore a practical approach to addressing that gap, drawing from several years of development and a recent breakthrough in how COTS-related security risks can be identified and understood across the enterprise.

By leveraging data from existing inventory tools, this approach categorizes software using the Federal Enterprise Architecture Framework and TBM taxonomy, identifies potential data flows to the cloud, flags open source and obsolete components, and provides insight into cost and value. It also layers in security context by assessing whether products are baselined across government, associated with known vulnerabilities, or aligned to relevant STIGs. The result is a more complete, actionable view of the software landscape, helping CIOs and CISOs move closer to full coverage and stronger risk management across their environments.

10:35 AM EDT  
20 MINS  
Main Stage

## Break in the Emerging Technology Showcase

11 AM EDT  
35 MINS  
Main Stage

## Navigating the Cyber and AI Landscape: A Leadership Chat



**Natalie Buda Smith**  
Director of Digital Strategy, OCIO  
**Library of Congress**



**Joanne Woytek**  
SEWP Program Manager  
**National Aeronautics and Space Administration**



**Cherilyn Pascoe**  
Director, National Cybersecurity  
Center of Excellence  
**National Institute of Standards  
and Technology**



**Jason Miller**  
Executive Editor  
**Federal News Network**

Cyber and AI initiatives demand strong leadership to ensure security, accountability, and mission alignment. In this fireside chat, senior leaders discuss how they are navigating emerging risks, governing AI use, and building resilient digital environments.

11:35 AM EDT  
40 MINS  
Main Stage

## Innovation, Leadership, and the Federal IT Mission



**Yixin Sun**  
Assistant Professor  
University of Virginia



**C. Melonie Cannon**  
Chief Information Officer,  
Diplomatic Security  
U.S. Department of State



**Anna Libkhen**  
Acting Chief Information Security  
Officer, Office of the Chief  
Information Officer,  
Bureau of Economic Analysis, U.S.  
Department of Commerce



**Dr. June Noel**  
Mental Health Substance Abuse  
Nurse Manager  
Virginia VA Health Care System,  
U.S. Department of Veterans  
Affairs



**Dr. Lekeisha Sumner**  
Chief Well-Being Officer  
Veterans Health Administration,  
U.S. Department of Veterans  
Affairs



**Tracy Hodge, BSN, RN**  
Clinical Inpatient Transfer/Flow  
Coordinator, Virginia VA Health Care  
System  
U.S. Department of Veterans  
Affairs



**Charlotte Beisel**  
Associate Editor  
GovExec

Leaders from across federal IT gather to exchange insights on leadership, innovation, and advancing agency missions through technology. Featuring women leaders from across the federal government, the discussion highlights their experiences leading IT initiatives and teams across agencies, as leadership roles continue to evolve alongside emerging technologies and shifting mission priorities. The conversation will focus on leadership development, strategic decision-making, and approaches to leading teams through change in complex federal environments. Attendees will gain practical perspectives on effective leadership in government IT, including building resilient organizations, driving innovation, and delivering mission impact through strong, collaborative leadership.

12:15 PM EDT  
30 MINS  
Main Stage

## GITEC 2026 Awards: Announcement



**John Sprague**  
NASA IT Chief Engineer & GITEC  
Awards Committee Member  
GITEC



**Tom Temin**  
Master of Ceremonies  
GITEC

Celebrate the leaders and teams shaping the future of government technology as we announce the winners across all five GITEC Award categories, honoring innovation, impact, and excellence across the public sector.

12:45 PM EDT  
1 HR

## Lunch in Emerging Technology Showcase

1:50 PM EDT  
55 MINS  
Roundtable  
Sessions 2

## Building and Sustaining the Federal Workforce of the Future



**COL Kris Saling**

Technology Advisor, Office of the  
Assistant Secretary of the Army  
**U.S. Army**



**Brian Correia**

Director, Global Cyber Workforce  
Strategy & Engagement  
**Global Information Assurance  
Certification, SANS Institute**



**Anil Chaudhry**

Senior Advisor, Artificial Intelligence  
**U.S. Department of  
Transportation**



**Edward Graham**

Managing Editor  
**Nextgov/FCW**

Participants will exchange perspectives on innovative approaches to attracting highly skilled professionals while navigating systemic barriers such as complex hiring processes and competition with the private sector. The conversation will explore strategies for strengthening agencies' value propositions, leveraging data to understand workforce trends, and tailoring retention efforts to support a multi-generational workforce. Attendees will share insights on improving onboarding, increasing employee engagement, and fostering workplace cultures that support long-term career satisfaction across the federal enterprise.

1:50 PM EDT  
55 MINS  
Roundtable  
Sessions 1

## Strengthening Cyber Defense with Threat Intelligence Roundtable



**Rudolf Rojas**  
Information Technology  
Management/Systems Analysis  
U.S. Department of Agriculture



**Derek Mueller**  
Cybersecurity Advisor  
U.S. Department of Homeland  
Security



**Raymond Romano**  
Deputy Assistant Director, Cyber  
Threat and Investigations  
U.S. Department of State



**Col Travis Hartman**  
Chief Technology Officer, Army  
Forces Command  
U.S. Army (Former)



**Dr. Justin Ubert**  
Chief, Cybersecurity & Operations  
Division  
U.S. Department of  
Transportation



**Rezaur Rahman**  
Chief Information Officer & Chief  
Information Security Officer  
Advisory Council on Historic  
Preservation



**David DiMolfetta**  
Cybersecurity Reporter  
Nextgov/FCW

Kicking off this breakout with remarks from Rezaur Rahman (ACHP), this session will transition into an interactive roundtable discussion among participants.

Against the backdrop of persistent cyber threats, organizations are continually challenged to identify and mitigate the risks most relevant to their missions. This conversation will bring attendees together to share perspectives on how threat intelligence is strengthening cybersecurity defenses across agencies. Participants will exchange insights on integrating threat intelligence into existing security frameworks, discuss the operational advantages agencies are seeing in practice, and explore emerging use cases that are expanding the value of intelligence-driven security strategies.

2:50 PM EDT  
40 MINS  
Roundtable  
Sessions 2

## Modernizing Federal Applications for Mission Agility and Scale Roundtable



**Sean Thompson**  
Public Sector Systems Engineer  
**Sonar**



**Rayvn Manuel**  
Principal Application Developer &  
Architect, DevOps Engineer  
**National Museum of African  
American History & Culture, The  
Smithsonian Institution (Pending  
Agency Approval)**



**Ramesh Ramakrishnan**  
Enterprise Architect  
**Bureau of Diplomatic Technology,  
US Department of State**



**Patrick Stingley**  
Data Scientist and AI Researcher  
**Bureau of Land Management, U.S.  
Department of Interior**



**Jason Miller**  
Executive Editor  
**Federal News Network**

As federal agencies modernize their digital environments, application modernization has become a critical driver of mission agility, security, and operational efficiency. This roundtable will bring participants together to share experiences and perspectives on evolving legacy applications through cloud-native architectures, modular development, improved data integration, and automation.

Participants will discuss common challenges such as technical debt, interoperability, security, and workforce readiness, while exploring practical strategies for scaling modernization across complex federal environments. The conversation will also examine how emerging technologies, automation, and DevSecOps practices are reshaping the application lifecycle and enabling agencies to build more resilient, mission-ready applications.

2:50 PM EDT  
40 MINS  
Roundtable  
Sessions 1

## Quantum on the Horizon: Security, Strategy, and Federal IT Readiness Roundtable



**Dr. Tina Brower-Thomas**  
Joint Appointee  
Howard University & Brookhaven  
National Laboratory



**Dr. Merrick Watchorn**  
Chief, Cyber & Quantum  
U.S. Air Force



**Grayson Killebrew**  
Client Success Manager  
GovSmart



**Tom Temin**  
Master of Ceremonies  
GITEC

Quantum technologies are poised to significantly impact federal IT modernization, reshaping how agencies think about security, resilience, and long-term infrastructure planning. This roundtable will bring participants together to discuss how agencies are beginning to assess the implications of advancing quantum capabilities for encryption, secure communications, and data protection.

Through an interactive exchange of perspectives, attendees will explore approaches to preparing for a post-quantum future, including the adoption of quantum-resistant strategies that align with Zero Trust principles. The discussion will focus on balancing immediate risk mitigation with forward-looking planning across mission systems and enterprise environments.

3:30 PM EDT  
5 MINS

## Closing Remarks

That's a wrap on our first day of sessions for GITEC 2026! Join us for our GITEC Awards reception at 4:30PM!

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

8:30 AM EDT  
1 HR

## Check-in and Breakfast

Check-in at the registration desk for our final day of GITEC 2026!

9:30 AM EDT  
5 MINS  
Main Stage

## Opening Remarks

9:35 AM EDT  
35 MINS  
Main Stage

## IT Modernization Priorities for the Public Sector in 2026 and Beyond



### Ankur Saini

Chief Product and Technology Officer

**Office of the Chief Digital and Information Officer, U.S. Department of Transportation**



### Kyra Stewart

Director of the IT Vendor Management Office

**Federal Acquisition Service, U.S. General Services Administration**



### CDR Jonathan White

Cloud, Data & AI Branch Chief

**U.S. Coast Guard (Pending Agency Approval)**



### Charlotte Beisel

Associate Editor

**GovExec**

As federal agencies and public-sector organizations navigate accelerating technological change, IT modernization remains central to improving mission delivery, strengthening security, and enhancing workforce productivity. This panel will examine the priorities, challenges, and opportunities shaping modernization efforts in 2026—from advancing cloud adoption and data interoperability to integrating emerging technologies and updating legacy systems. Speakers will discuss practical strategies for driving sustainable digital transformation, optimizing resources, and building resilient, future-ready technology environments. Attendees will gain insights into the policies, partnerships, and implementation approaches that are redefining public-sector IT in the years ahead.

11 AM EDT  
45 MINS  
Main Stage

## Securing Data and Operations in a Digital-First Government



**Eric Woynaroski**  
Integration Deployable Connectivity  
Section Chief, USCG C5I Service  
Center  
**U.S. Coast Guard**



**Aaron Brantly**  
Director, Tech For Humanity Lab at  
Virginia Tech - Associate Professor  
School of Public and International  
Affairs  
**Virginia Tech**



**Yolanda Darricarrere**  
SME/Manager, Computer  
Information Research Scientist  
**Former U.S. Department of Health  
and Human Services**



**David DiMolfetta**  
Cybersecurity Reporter  
**Nextgov/FCW**

In an increasingly digital world, cybersecurity and data protection are essential to maintaining public trust and ensuring the resilience of government operations. From implementing advanced encryption and threat detection tools to fostering a culture of cyber awareness and inter-agency collaboration, the session will highlight practical approaches and emerging innovations that enhance data integrity and ensure the continuity of mission-critical services.

11:45 AM EDT  
35 MINS  
Main Stage

## Integrating AI into Federal Systems: From Concept to Deployment



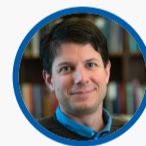
**Landon Shaw**  
Hostmaster/Postmaster  
**Administrative Office of the U.S.  
Courts**



**Brian Mayer**  
Research Scientist, Sanghani Center  
for Artificial Intelligence and Data  
Analytics  
**Virginia Tech**



**Dr. Jim Chen**  
Professor, Cyber-enabled National  
Security Strategies, Artificial  
Intelligence, Cyber Operations,  
College of Information and  
Cyberspace  
**National Defense University**



**David Denks**  
Professor of Philosophy, Artificial  
Intelligence, & Data Science  
**University of Virginia**



**Rudolf Rojas**  
Information Technology  
Management/Systems Analysis  
**U.S. Department of Agriculture**



**Edward Graham**  
Managing Editor  
**Nextgov/FCW**

Implementing AI in the public sector involves navigating technical, ethical, and operational challenges. This session focuses on the journey from AI pilot programs to full-scale deployment in federal agencies to aid in modernization efforts. Panelists will share their experiences in developing frameworks and integrating AI with existing systems to deliver value while meeting operational requirements.

12:20 PM EDT  
10 MINS

## **GITEC 2026 Closing Remarks**