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PROGRAM EXECUTIVE OFFICE (STRATEGIC SUBMARINES)
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IN REPLY REFER TO
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ADDENDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION:

UPDATE ON THE PENNSYLVANIA PIPELINE PROJECT: BUILDING AND SUSTAINING THE FUTURE MARITIME DEFENSE WORKFORCE (*MEMO PEO CLB/0009 dtd 19Apr21*)

1. Purpose. The purpose of this addendum is to communicate progress and plans regarding the joint Navy-OSD IBAS “Pennsylvania Pipeline Project” launched earlier this year. In May 2021, the Pennsylvania Workforce Pipeline Project implemented a Philadelphia pilot targeted at building relationships between defense industry and regional academic partners to ensure the defense and maritime ecosystems have the people and trades needed to meet the current and future demand signal. With the support, collaboration, and influence of stakeholders across the Commonwealth, this program has had a tremendously successful first 6 months, and we have been able to scale and expand to Southcentral Pennsylvania (York regional) and Eastcentral Pennsylvania (Lehigh Valley region) within the same calendar year. This effort now includes 28 defense employers, 23 Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs and High Schools, and 6 facilitating organizations. The communication, transparency and advocacy of these partners have been critical enabler of success.

2. Perspective & Opportunity.

a. Since 1 APR 21, our team determined there was a strong participant demand signal across the Philadelphia Region, and to-date we have achieved several program milestones that have progressively expanded the reach of these partnerships, including a 27 MAY 21 Kickoff Event and an 15 SEP 21 Employer-Academia Partnering Program. As of 1 OCT 2021, we have 28 Employers who have pledged 87 New Hires and 23 Career and Technical Education Programs who have over 680 Student Candidates in the Hiring Pool. We will customize the model built on creating and sustaining a maritime and defense industrial base pipeline that enables Defense Industrial Suppliers to re-capitalize their workforce through recruiting, hiring, training, and retaining the critical trade skills required to meet the demand.

b. FY22-26 Program Plan. Effective 1 OCT 21, the Pennsylvania Pipeline Program’s mission is to complete the 2-year Philly Workforce Pipeline Pilot Project from September 2021 – January 2024 with new Employer, Career and Technical Education Program, and Facilitator’s participants joining in Q3/2022 & Q3/2023, followed by a transition to local Program Management for long term sustainment by September 2025.

c. Beginning in January 2022, we plan to expand the program to Western Pennsylvania centered in another rich Navy Employer Supplier base in the Pittsburgh Region using a similar yet customized model. We will Kick Off the Pittsburgh Region in May 2022 and conduct the 1st class through September 2026. Simultaneously, the Program will be assessing other Regions of the country to determine if there is enough Employer demand to justify further expansion investments.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. D. Sermon', with a stylized, cursive script.

M. D. SERMON