

bdpatoday

Special Conference Edition
August 2016
Volume XLI Issue 8



Get ready for new drone racing leagues and youth drone racing competitions with chapters near you.

Featured inside bdpatoday

▲ HSCC Programs Reach 30-Year Milestones

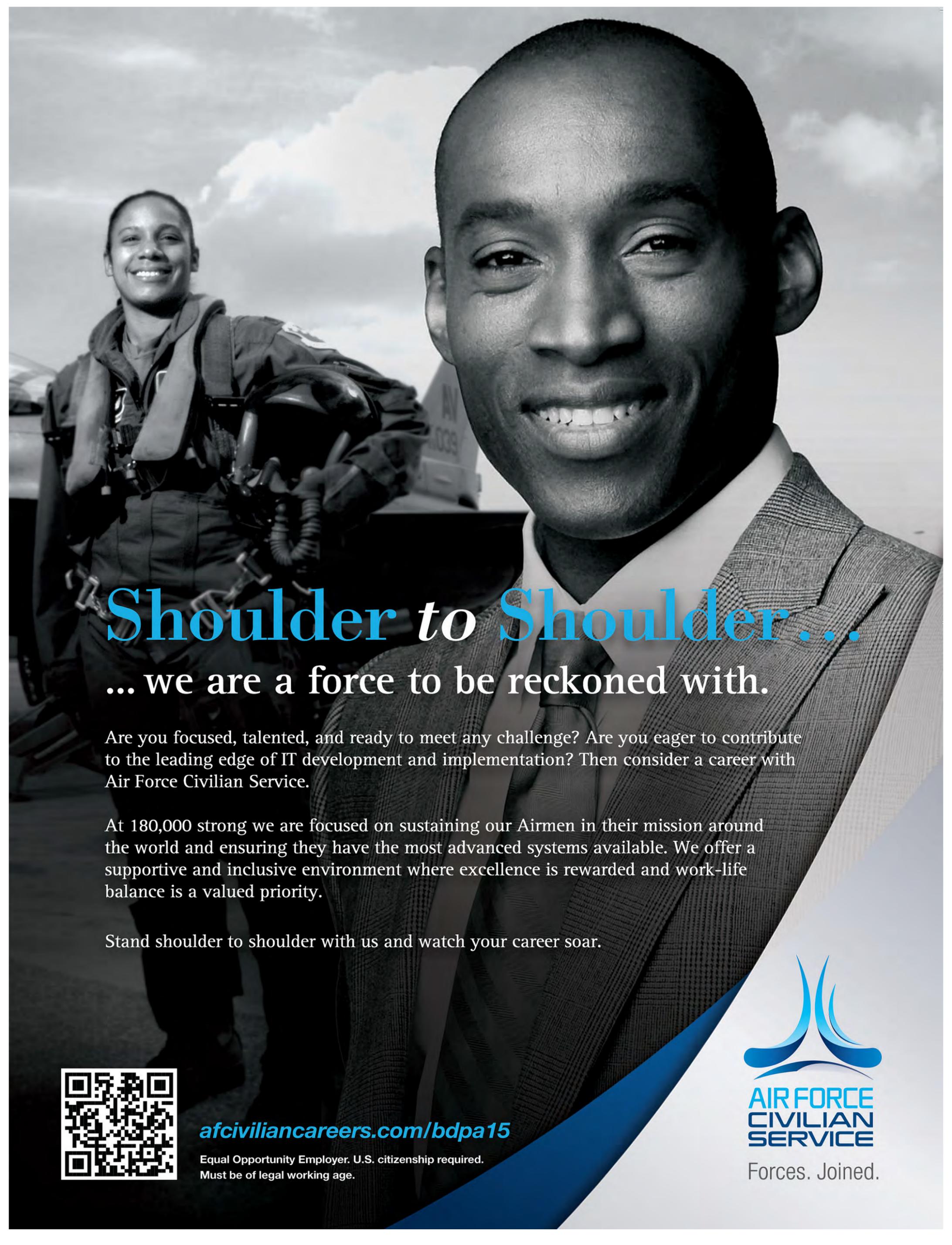
Long before STEM and hack-a-thons arrived on the digital scene, America's High School Computer Competition (HSCC) programs powered by BDPA unfolded across our nation's 'Chapter Cities'

▶ Drone racing leagues, virtual reality, and new online video games are creating new tech and media jobs across an explosive interactive entertainment industry

▶ BDPA Connect 2016

National BDPA announces speakers for the organization's 38th Annual Technology Conference. BDPA will celebrate a 30-year High School Computer Competition (HSCC) milestone in Atlanta, Georgia

#BDPAConnect16
Westin Peachtree Plaza Hotel



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ABOUT US

BDPA, formerly known as *Black Data Processing Associates*, was founded in 1975 to promote professional growth and technical development to those in or entering information and communications technology (ICT) career fields and related industries. Now in its 40th year (Volume **XL**) National BDPA (NBDPA) and participating local BDPA Chapters publish quarterly or monthly newsletters. For newsletter or web portal advertising rates, publication schedules, online calendars, and newsletters, contact regional or local BDPA Chapters by visiting bdpa.org or by calling **301.584.3135**.

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INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SENIOR MANAGEMENT FORUM

Fostering the career growth of African-American executives



IT Senior Management Forum 3Q16 Symposium with NBDPA — 08.10.16 | Atlanta, GA

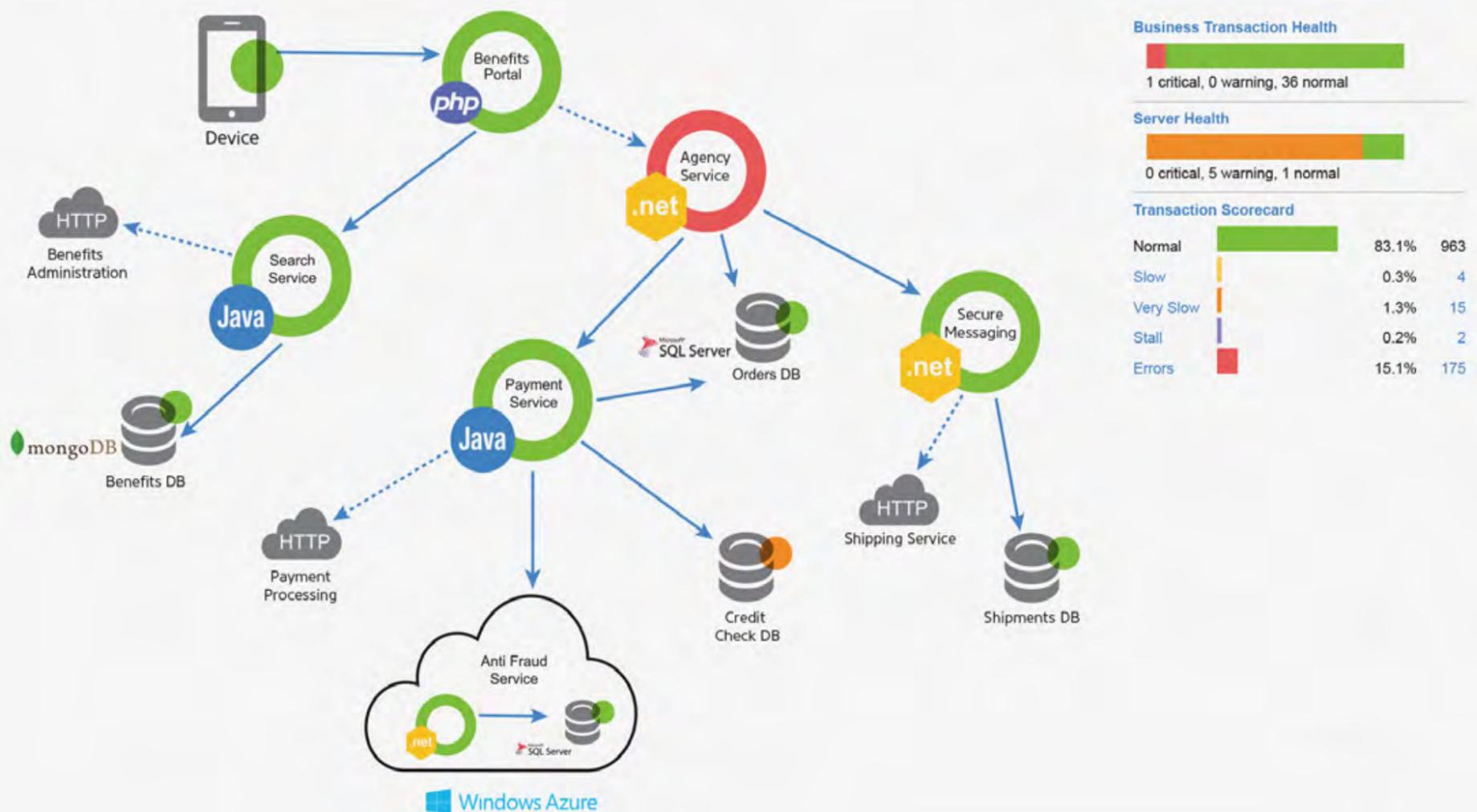
ITSMF's mission is to increase the level of African-American representation at senior-levels of IT through executive leadership development programs, networking initiatives, formal mentoring and strategic partnerships.

According to their Vision Statement, ITSMF intends to graduate 500 professionals by 2020 through a series of rich, developmental, and career-advancing programs, and do so by being a second family to its members and partners.

Technical professionals are encouraged to continue and accelerate their journey to the C-Suite while exploring timely and relevant topics critical to professional development. Throughout the year members and corporate partners gather at symposia, professional networking events, and conferences to build rewarding professional and personal relationships. Learn, share and network with other Technology executives in an atmosphere of trust, camaraderie and openness. bt

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BDPA CONNECT 16

38th Annual Technology Conference

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CONFIRMED SPEAKERS

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David White

CIO
Battelle



Fabian Elliot

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Black Tech Mecca
and
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at Google



Yvonne Harvey Williams

Founder & CEO
Speak2Inspire LLC



To register: Go to bdpa.org/conference2016 | #BDPACONnect16



— photos and logo courtesy
Technology Expresso



ATLANTA, GA— Members of National BDPA's Host Chapter, BDPA Atlanta, will co-host several multimedia events, podcasts, and radio interviews during this year's Annual National BDPA Technology Conference, National High School Computer Competition (HSCC), National I.T. Showcase, National Mobile App Showcase, and National BDPA's annual Technology Career Expo.

Jacqueline Saunders and David Blackman return to National BDPA this year to proudly serve as co-hosts throughout #BDPACONnect16 and National BDPA's Awards Gala. bt

For extended coverage during this year's conference, their latest radio interviews, and new industry podcasts, visit:
<http://www.technologyexpresso.com/>

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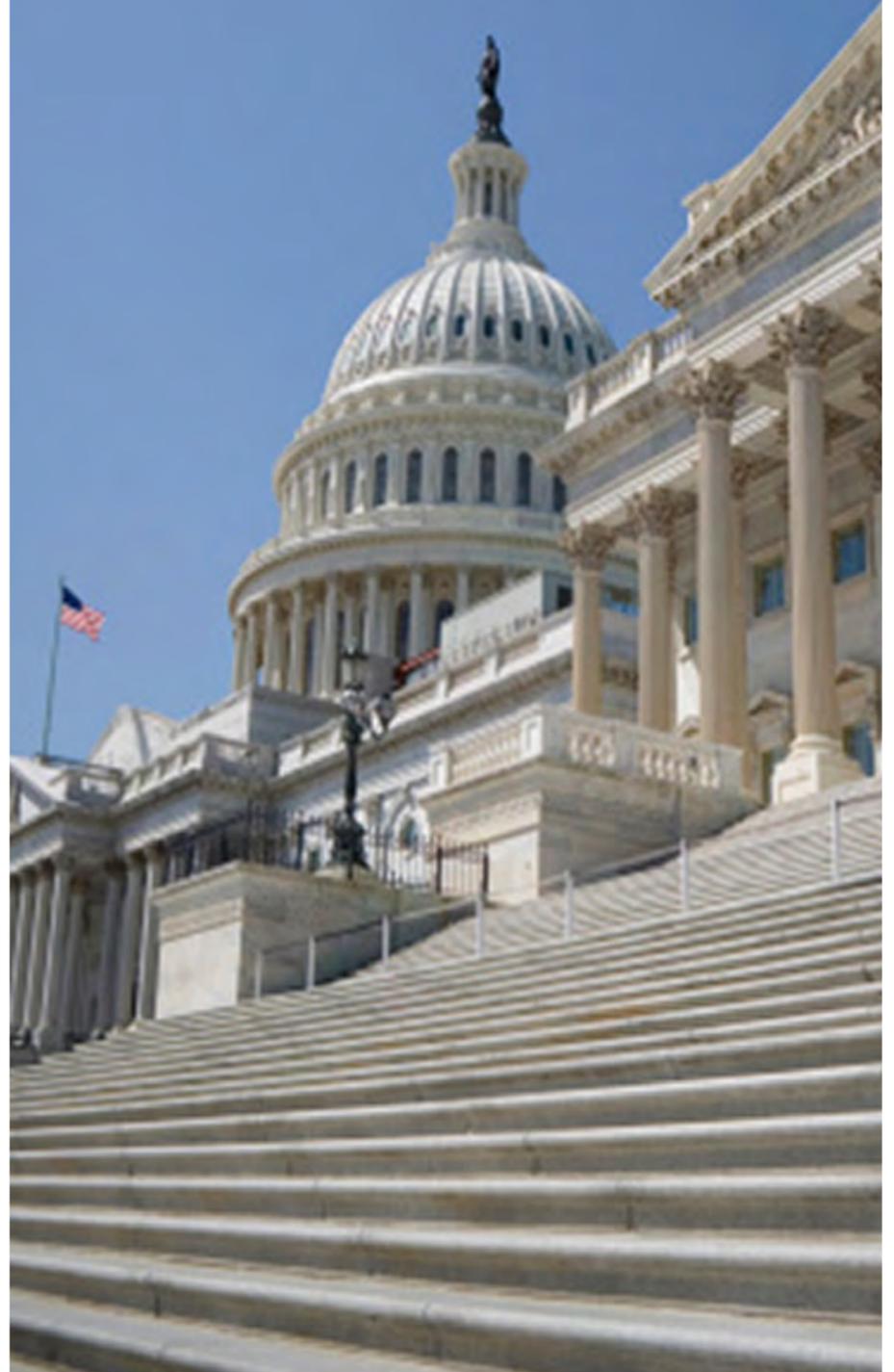
PENTAGON — Cyberspace Superiority is the degree of dominance in cyberspace by one force that permits the secure, reliable conduct of operations by that force and its related land, air, maritime, and space forces at a given time and place without prohibitive interference by an adversary. Three major components of Cyberspace Superiority are Department of Defense information network (DODIN) operations, defensive cyberspace operations, and offensive cyberspace operations.



U.S. AIR FORCE

This year's U.S. Air Force budget request for fiscal year 2017 (FY17) continues to focus on the development of cyber mission forces with support for defensive and offensive cyberspace operations capabilities. The unique attributes of cyberspace operations require trained and ready cyberspace forces to detect, deter, and, if directed, respond to threats in cyberspace. Securing and defending cyberspace requires close collaboration among federal, state, and local governments; private sector partners; and allies and partners abroad. The FY17 budget request supports defensive cyberspace operations that provide information assurance (IA) and cyber security to the Air Force's networks at all levels and continues to augment personnel within the Combatant Command's to support both integration and coordination of cyberspace operations.

DODIN Operations: DODIN Operations are actions taken to design, build, configure, secure, operate, maintain, and sustain DoD communications systems and networks in a way that creates and preserves data availability, integrity, and confidentiality, as well as user/entity authentication and non-repudiation. In DODIN Operations, the Air Force continues to plan and influence the development of the DoD Joint Information Environment (JIE), supporting the stand-up of the new security layer under the Joint Regional Security Stacks (JRSS) initiative and working with Service counterparts, USCYBERCOM, the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA), the DoD Chief Information Officer (CIO), and other DoD Agencies and Combatant Commands to shape



the strategy, planning, and implementation of the overarching JIE initiative.

Defensive Cyberspace Operations: Defensive cyberspace operations are cyberspace operations intended to defend DoD or other friendly cyberspace domains. The Air Force will increase the operational capability of the Cyberspace Vulnerability Assessment/Hunter mission and will leverage the Active and Reserve Components to increase capacity by standing up additional Cyber Protection Teams.

Offensive Cyberspace Operations: Offensive cyberspace operations are cyberspace operations intended to project power by the application of force in and through cyberspace. The Air Force is continuing to work with the Joint Staff and USCYBERCOM to provide forces required for the National and Combat Mission Teams supporting National and Combatant Command objectives.

For BDPA Members and STEM majors seeking civilian or military careers within the Department of the Air Force, consider this. Of the nearly \$167 billion budget request for FY17, their Research, Development, Testing and Evaluation (RDT&E) budget request for FY17 was \$19.6 billion, \$2.4 billion for Cyber Operations, and \$377 million for cyber mission teams. **Source: Department of the Air Force.** bt



△ The United States Air Force reached a new milestone with National BDPA this year as a new Silver-level mission partner. Visit their exhibit during this year's National BDPA Technology Conference and Career Expo in Atlanta, GA for exiting and new career opportunities, U.S. Air Force Academy admissions, AFROTC Scholarships, civilian careers, or serving our nation on active duty supporting Air and Cyber warfighting domains. Above, students participate in flight simulation exercises during **Patriot Technology Training Center's 19th Annual Youth Summit on Technology** at Bowie State University.
— *bdpatoday* photo courtesy **BDPA DC**



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Hewlett Packard Enterprise is a proud sponsor of the 38th Annual National BDPA Technology Conference.

We're honored to support the National BDPA and their work to advance the next generation of IT leaders. At Hewlett Packard Enterprise, we're combining our legacy of innovation with a bold new goal to accelerate everything we do – like creating a culture that's shaped by different perspectives and unique ideas. It's how we're building for the future. And making a difference in the communities where we live and work. Ready to change the world? No one's doing it faster.

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Photos courtesy **Drone Racing League (DRL)**

△ The 2016 US National Drone Racing Championships is the official 2016 World Drone Racing Championships qualifier event for the United States. Winners from the Drone Nationals will be selected to represent Team USA for all categories, including Individual, Freestyle, Wing and others. This year's championship, powered by Drone Sports Association (DSA), will be held August 5-7, 2016 at Governor's Island, New York.

Big Money Maybe Soon Form New Drone Leagues

Janet Burns
Forbes.com

OAHU, HI — This month, the National Drone Racing Championships only had competitors vying for \$50,000 in prize money. However, the stakes may quickly be rising for both pilots and investors. *Forbes* reports in October 2016, the DSA and its sponsors will head to Oahu, HI for the international championships—perhaps picking up additional heavyweight backers along the way.

Dr. Scot Refsland, Chairman of the DSA, commented, "This is a big step forward for DSA and drone racing as a sport. To have major brands like **GoPro, AIG, EMC,** and **EY** follow **ESPN** and become our partners is an incredible testament to the immense growth of drone racing."

According to *Bloomberg*, competitive video gaming is a professional sport that generates more than \$700 million a year, so why not drone racing?

That's the bet Nick Horbaczewski is making by launching the Drone Racing League (DRL), with the backing of investors who include Stephen Ross, owner of the National Football League (NFL) team Miami Dolphins, and Lerer Hippeau Ventures, a



With the backing of new tech and sports sponsors, newly formed Drone Racing League (DRL) could become "digital NASCAR" for drone racing enthusiasts.

New York venture capital firm. Horbaczewski expects most fans to watch races online, much as they do competitive gaming in the U.S., using smart phones, computers—eventually even virtual-reality headsets. Ultimately, he has ambitions of becoming a "digital NASCAR" for drone racing enthusiasts.

Bloomberg also reported this nascent league hosted the first race of its inaugural season at Sun Life Stadium in Miami last December, shooting video of drones zooming around the giant complex from various perspectives.

Drone racing shares a number of similarities with e-sports, the term for competitive video gaming, which lets fans watch their favorite gamers go head to head online and in stadiums. The e-sports market generated about \$750 million in revenue last year, mostly from advertising and sponsorships, according to SuperData Research, which tracks the gaming market. Meanwhile, live streams of gamers playing on such sites as **Twitch** generated about \$3.8 billion in 2015, SuperData said.

Sources: **DSA, DRL, Bloomberg,** and **Forbes** bt

CBC TECH 2020 African American Inclusion Plan — *National BDPA*

Overview

In May 2015, the *Congressional Black Caucus* (CBC) launched CBC TECH 2020 to bring together the best minds in the tech, non-profit, education and public sectors to chart a path forward to increase African American inclusion at all levels of the technology industry. The lack of African American representation in the technology industry means that many of our best and brightest – the problem solvers, critical thinkers, and those that challenge conventional thinking – are not included, and America’s global competitiveness suffers as a result. By adopting a CBC TECH African American Inclusion Plan, organizations are expressing their commitment to use their unique capabilities and networks to contribute to increasing diversity in the technology industry.

BDPA Mission

Black Data Processing Associates (BDPA) is a global member technology organization that delivers programs and services for the professional well-being of stakeholders. Founded in 1975, BDPA is a non-profit organization of professionals working in or having an interest in the Computer Science and Information Technology fields. BDPA has a diverse representation of information technology professionals. Included amongst the organization’s members are programmers, analysts, engineers, managers, instructors, entrepreneurs, and students, to name a few.

BDPA Motto: “Advancing Careers from the Classroom to the Boardroom.”

BDPA Action Items

Outcome: Increase the number of IT professionals ready to lead at all levels within industry.

Importance: Diversity, especially African American, is needed across organizations to encourage, inspire and demonstrate that better decisions and business growth are achieved when there is equal representation at the table.

Action Steps:

Develop and implement a Senior Leadership/Executive Track curriculum at the 2016 BDPA Conference for senior level staffers aspiring to acquire skills that enable them to grow and be considered for Director and above roles;

Identify opportunities to partner with ITSMF and others to create mentorships and training opportunities that assess and prepare our membership for senior leadership and/or executive level roles; and

Assess and create a BDPA program for senior leadership and/or executive level members that enable them to enhance, strengthen and grow their skills in preparation for new, current or future leadership roles.

CBC TECH 2020 African American Inclusion Plan — *NBDPA continued*

Outcome: Grow the pipeline of future IT, Computer Science and S.T.E.M. talent through BDPA Connect (College Outreach) and Student Information Technology Education and Scholarship (S.I.T.E.S.) program. The S.I.T.E.S. program encompasses the High School Computer Competition Program, IT Showcase and Mobile Application Showcase.

Importance: To cultivate the next generation of talent and enable sustained presence in industry.

Action Steps:

Launch BDPA Connect and our updated High School Computer Competition (HSCC) program across our 35+ chapters;

Conduct quarterly webinars with College students to increase awareness of our new program, training/education, technology trends, internship and employment opportunities; and

Expand the participation, quality and sponsor engagement of the Mobile Application Showcase.

Outcome: Establish and formalize partnerships with at least three (3) Silicon Valley technology firms to facilitate a pipeline of internships, as well as entry-level and experienced-hire talent. These partnerships may include the following: financial commitment, in-kind donations, recruitment opportunities, scholarships, internship, strategic and executive support.

Importance: These partnerships become a catalyst and enabler of increased workforce diversity and membership growth, initially in the Bay Area (California) and nationally thereafter.

Action Steps:

Create targeted list of top 10 Silicon Valley tech companies;

Generate and send exploratory “partnership” inquiries to top 10 list, soliciting feedback to determine willingness to partner with BDPA; and

Create and execute MOUs based on partnership, mutual agreement and benefit.

Partnerships:

Information Technology Senior Management Forum (ITSMF), CompTIA, Coalition of Hispanic, African and Native Americans for the Next Generation of Engineers and Scientists (CHANGES), DiversityComm, and Diversity In Action.

Learn More: BDPA — <http://www.bdpa.org>

CBC TECH 2020: <http://cbc-butterfield.house.gov/tech>

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△ **National BDPA HSCC Student Eligibility**

Any student entering the 9th through 12th grade during August, September, or graduating from high school in the same the year of a Regional HSCC or National HSCC competitions are eligible to participate. They must also be a financially current Student Member of BDPA and sponsored by a local BDPA Chapter.

LARGO, MARYLAND — Throughout the year, local chapters conduct (Student Information Technology Education & Scholarship) **SITES** training programs for youth in their respective communities. These programs are designed to expose area students to information technology, computer and data science concepts, with exposure to application development tasks giving them a detailed overview and expertise required for coding, technical support, and developing new web or mobile applications.

Some chapters will participate in regional competitions throughout the country to further prepare their students. Each BDPA chapter is able to send one team of 3 to 5 students to the National Conference to compete against teams from chapters all over the country.

The BDPA National High School Computer Competition, (HSCC), was founded in 1986 by **Dr. Jesse L. Bemley**, (inset photo) a National BDPA *Life Member*, from Washington, D.C. What started as a two-team event between Washington, D.C. (BDPA-DC) and Atlanta, GA (BDPA Atlanta) has grown to over 20 teams of various high school students from chapters throughout the nation. It's all designed to introduce our Youth to the field of Information Technology,



encourage them to seek higher levels of education, and groom many of them to become our next generation of IT professionals.

Once at the National Conference, students will be able to attend Workshops and Seminars covering topics related to Personal Development, Academic Development, Youth Entrepreneurship and Information Technology. They will be able to participate in activities including, Corporate Sponsored luncheons and receptions, visits to educational places in the hosting city (i.e. museums), and networking evenings with IT professionals and students from around the country.

On top of all this, Student Members get to showcase their talents in the National Competition which consists of a timed computerized written exam, oral questions and the development of a live web application per specifications. If they feel creative, they also may participate in a T-Shirt Design Competition. bt

Sources: **National BDPA** and **BETF**



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