



SHOWCASING SAN ANTONIO'S LEADING EDGE IN TECH AND EDUCATION TO THE WORLD

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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS — Port San Antonio, the vast technology campus and industrial airport located just southwest of the Alamo City's downtown, recently showcased leading efforts to connect innovations in digital security, robotics, and other applied sciences based in the San Antonio region.



The Port led a delegation of businesses and educational partner organizations as part of Aviation Week's MRO Americas 2024 convention in Chicago, Illinois. The event is the world's premier gathering for technologies that support the maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) of the global fleets of aircraft.

San Antonio is one of America's fastest-growing cities and has diverse and mature industry sectors. In addition to playing a leading role in the development of modern aviation throughout the past century, the region is home to significant industry clusters that are driving global innovation in aviation and an array of other sectors. Among them are cybersecurity, computing, space technology and next generation aeromedical transportation systems.

Port San Antonio's exhibit at MRO Americas included the following:



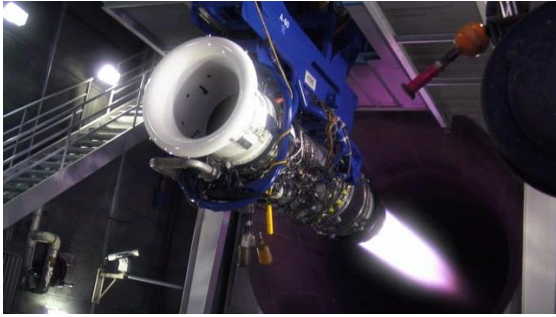
AEROSPACE'S LEADING EDGE

At MRO Americas, the Port highlighted its collaboration with aerospace leader StandardAero — a partnership 25+ years in the making.

StandardAero's vast Port operations site is among the world's leading locales for military and commercial aircraft engine maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) services. Opened in 1999, the operation occupies large former Air Force facilities on the Tech Port campus and provides world-class services for

the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard and Department of Homeland Security.

StandardAero's campus at the Port includes a highly specialized array of facilities to test commercial and military aircraft engines, including those of the F110-100 project.



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Augmented reality technology on display by StandardAero at MRO Americas 2024.



A recent graduate of StandardAero's Aviation Mechanic Training Program.

The company continues to grow its presence while inspiring, attracting and preparing new San Antonio-based talent with its customized in-house Aviation Mechanic Training Program, which entails a comprehensive 12-week program featuring a variety of experiences ranging from classroom learning to hands-on training with tooling, equipment and engines — including groundbreaking augmented reality technology.

The training program houses five major engine MRO programs that serve both commercial and military customers under more than 810,000 square feet of industrial space and is rapidly expanding as it also adds major new engine maintenance programs.

StandardAero launched its Aviation Mechanic Training Program in June 2023 and can support up to 200 new mechanics annually. The company started the program to help meet the need for additional maintenance workers at its facility in San Antonio, as well as for other company locations in the future.

Port San Antonio President and CEO Jim Perschbach (right) is joined by Dan Gonzales (left) and Marc Drobny (center) of StandardAero during the Military Aviation Logistics and Maintenance Symposium at MRO Americas 2024.



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INSPIRING TOMORROW'S LEADERS



Stephanie Garcia of Port San Antonio provides information on the Dee Howard Foundation drone program at MRO Americas 2024.



Central to the Port's vision and StandardAero's growth plans to inspire, attract and prepare new talent, educational nonprofit Kelly Heritage Foundation — which honors Kelly Air Force Base's legacy and Tech Port's future by raising and distributing funds to support educational and career opportunities — has funded several educational programs over the past year, including a new drone program developed by the Dee Howard Foundation and a computer build event that allowed students to build, and then take home, their own state-of-the-art personal computer valued at approximately \$3,000 each.

AN INNOVATION DESTINATION



At MRO Americas, the Boeing Center at Tech Port, a state-of-the-art innovation center in the heart of the Port campus, also took center stage. The facility was completed in 2022 and spans more than 130,000 square feet as a strategic site like no other in the nation that leverages human capital, industry expertise and a broad range of capabilities in education.

This collaborative space is accelerating the development of new technologies and serves as a showroom to sell innovations similar to those showcased at MRO Americas and connect them to global markets, particularly in the aviation, energy, defense, cybersecurity, robotics, manufacturing and biomedical sectors.



Boeing Center at Tech Port.

Boeing Center at Tech Port provides industries and partners on the Port campus and beyond with a place to conduct training and public demonstrations to strengthen collaborations, increase the understanding of emerging technologies, particularly the application of new breakthroughs to enhance capabilities in mature sectors, and serve as a showcase for new approaches that can be adopted by others.

The facility is anchored by a 3,500-seat modern technology arena that can be configured for different

uses, including esports competitions, concerts, product launches and large training programs. Retractable seating allows the space to host conventions and conferences as well.



Boeing Center at Tech Port arena is the largest space in the nation purpose-built for esports. In April 2024, the venue hosted the R20 Premier League Grand Finals — the largest high school esports tournament in San Antonio history.

A key component of the facility is the participation of accelerator Capital Factory, whose . The Austin-based accelerator Center for Defense Innovation (CDI) is housed within the collaborative lab space at Boeing Center at Tech Port.

Programming led by Capital Factory allows an array of startups to better collaborate with one-another, research partners, mature enterprises, the Department of Defense and other entities. Similarly, activations by Capital Factory rely on the lab space, as well as the adjacent museum, classroom spaces, LAN gaming center and arena, to showcase innovations developed by its stakeholders to an array of audiences, including potential buyers regionally, nationally and globally.



Local entrepreneurs exchange ideas during a panel discussion at a Defense Academy workshop hosted by Capital Factory. The accelerator’s presence at Boeing Center at Tech Port allows local startups to collaborate and share their technologies with an array of potential buyers, including the Department of Defense and mature industries.

It is also an important platform to accelerate and significantly grow regional educational initiatives focused on aerospace and an array of other technologies—from innovative STEM programs for young people launched by Port-based San Antonio Museum of Science and Technology (SAMSAT) to advanced training for seasoned professionals within the U.S. Air Force and other entities.



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Boeing Center at Tech Port has quickly emerged as the nation's top esports gaming venue, thanks in part to a top-tier LAN gaming center that has attracted some of the most proficient players from around the world. Boeing Center at Tech Port is the largest facility in the nation purpose-built from the ground up to host an array of esports activities.

In 2022, SAMSAT launched AREA 21, which is an expansive space that features large-scale 3-D printing demonstrations, a cybersecurity operations center that simulates real-life scenarios and threats, self-driving vehicles, robotics exhibits and flight simulators, among other innovations developed locally.

AREA 21™

AREA 21 has the capacity to accommodate well over 150,000 K-12 visiting students every year through activities

that include enrichment programs coordinated with all area school districts, summer camps and internship and volunteer opportunities.



Flight simulator at AREA 21, located within Boeing Center at Tech Port. At MRO Americas 2023, Port San Antonio is featuring a similar electric vertical take-off and landing flight simulator, courtesy of SAMSAT.



Area students take part in educational programs at AREA 21's security operations center simulator.



Conceptual rendering of an upcoming multi-story office building near the Port's main entrance at General Hudnell Drive. Credit: Port San Antonio/Pelli Clarke and Partners.

AREA 21 has also enhanced the range of exhibits that give visitors a close-up, hands-on experience of industries on the Port campus and across the region. The WEX Foundation and Astroport, cybersecurity leader CACI, Plus One Robotics, Northworks Automation, Andy Robot and Southwest Research Institute are among the organizations who have contributed to the continually evolving set of exhibits and programs that showcase ongoing developments in San Antonio's tech community.

Furthermore, AREA 21 is strengthening Boeing Center at Tech Port's growing profile as a destination for regional, national and global innovators, and it is becoming a home to a vibrant mix of activities that connect industries, educators, the public and potential buyers across the nation and around the world while bolstering San Antonio's tech ecosystem.

BUILDING FUTURES

A vertiport to host passenger and cargo electric vertical take-off and landing vehicles (eVTOLs) and a modern multi-story office tower are among the Port's ambitious development plans that will further grow the region's profile as a global innovation destination.

The new facilities will support an array of operations hosting thousands of additional workers who are advancing nationally-important projects in fields already thriving on the Port's vast campus: aerospace, space-based manufacturing, cybersecurity, energy, robotics and other applied technologies.

The planned facilities represent hundreds of millions of dollars in additional investments by the Port, which is focused on ensuring the participation of enterprises of all sizes from across the region.

The first of these projects — dubbed Innovation Tower — was approved by the Port's Board of Directors in April 2023 and is now in the pre-development phase with global real estate development partner Trammell Crow Company (TCC). Along with design architect firm Pelli Clarke & Partners, the Port is working toward refining demand and design concepts for the ambitious project.



Conceptual rendering of the upcoming vertiport / fixed-base operator at Port San Antonio, able to accommodate traditional winged aircraft and a new generation of passenger electric vertical take-off and landing vehicles (eVTOLs).

The planned tower will be a marquee centerpiece for the region's growing profile in advanced technologies and will create opportunities for an array of local businesses. Its development and construction come at a time when the Port has attracted substantial demand for space as its customer base grows at an accelerated pace. Since 2017, approximately 9,000 new jobs have been added on the campus, bringing the current employment base to 18,000.

The area's top gamers recently converged at the Boeing Center at Tech Port — located in the heart of the Port's tech innovation campus — as they showcased their skills in front of hundreds of attendees during the R20 Premier League Grand Finals — the largest high school esports tournament in San Antonio history.

Among the participating school districts at the event were the Harlandale, San Antonio, South San Antonio, Northside, North East, Judson and Schertz-Cibolo Unified independent school districts.

Organized by the San Antonio Museum of Science and Technology (SAMSAT), the event saw seven finalist teams vie for top honors in the region as they were cheered on by fellow students, their friends and their families. The top four teams will advance to the State Championship on May 3-4, organized by the Texas Scholastic Esports Federation (TexSEF). Additionally, the top eight competing students will advance to individual play competition at the State Championship.

"We started R20 Premier in the Spring of 2021 with 84 students total," said SAMSAT Director of Esports Josh Martinez. "Today, we have students competing in Rocket League, Super Smash Bros. and Valorant. At stake is the right to say that you're the best in San Antonio."

"I'm just really grateful for this opportunity," said South San High School student Mason Martinez. "Growing up, I always loved video games. I always saw the people on the main stage competing like this, and I never thought that was possible at all."

"It's a new experience; I've never had anything like this before," remarked fellow classmate Esperanza Hernandez. "I've played games, but just in my room. Playing here is really nice."

"It's fun going against other people because it also teaches you new experiences and makes you a better player,"

Valorant Bracket Winners	Rocket League Bracket Winners
1st – CAST Tech	1st – McCollum High School
2nd – Texas Military Institute	2nd – Warren High School

hundreds of students across the region. Teams are organized by the respective schools which, for the 2023-24

Super Smash Bros. Bracket Winner	Middle School Bracket Winner
1st – Steele High School (Toast)	1st – Folks Middle School (Judgement)



Students from CAST Tech hoist the championship trophy for the Valorant competition. Both CAST Tech and second-place Texas Military Institute qualified for the State Championship on May 3-4. Photo credit: Hope Trinidad.



San Antonio City Councilwoman Dr. Adriana Rocha Garcia addresses gamers ahead of the competition. Photo credit: Port San Antonio.

added Harlandale High School senior Gavin Guerrero. "I've grown as a person and I've met more people. Overall, it's really fun." The event marked the conclusion of the 2023-24 season of the R20 Premier Esports League, which has steadily grown to engage hundreds of students across the region. Teams are organized by the respective schools which, for the 2023-24 school year, hailed from 17 different school districts in and near San Antonio.



Winners from the Rocket League bracket. Photo credit: Hope Trinidad.



A Family Affair: The first and second place finishes in the Middle School bracket were awarded to Judgement (left) and Nightmare (right), respectively. The siblings represented Folks Middle School. Photo credit: Hope Trinidad.

The Port is the region's largest and fastest-growing technology hub. Today, the campus is home to over 80 employers and 18,000 careers in sectors that include aerospace, cybersecurity, robotics, space science and national defense. Video gaming and esports are an important part of the Port's growth strategy and an exciting gateway to attract and engage students, introduce them to technologies in their own back yard, and show them future educational and career pathways in these fields.

Many operations on the Port campus work through platforms similar to video games, and employers recognize parallels between esports and the development of skills relevant to the careers they are growing: teamwork, effective communications skills, analytical thinking, adaptability and a broad knowledge of computing.

"R20 and the work around esports and gaming is critically important to the long-term talent pipelines we're creating here at Port San Antonio," said Will Garrett, Port San Antonio's Vice President of Talent and Technology Development & Integration. "The R20 League is bringing together kids with the right aptitude and inspiration and excitement in the STEM career fields and opening their eyes to the myriad of opportunities in aerospace, advanced manufacturing and cybersecurity jobs here on the Port's campus.



Photo credits: Mark Sobhani.