



# U.S. AbilityOne Commission Quarterly Public Meeting

April 22, 2026





# Administrative Remarks

- This official meeting of the U.S. AbilityOne Commission is open to the public and is being recorded
- ASL interpreters are viewable by clicking the Interpreter button – live captioning is viewable by clicking the CC icon – both buttons are located at the bottom of the Zoom window
- The Zoom setting for public attendees today is listen-only
- The Chat Box is enabled for comments or questions
- Screen reading software users can silence Zoom alerts (including chats), if desired, by muting your computer audio and joining the meeting by phone
- Meeting materials can be found on [www.abilityone.gov](http://www.abilityone.gov)





# Agenda

- Introductions
- Opening Remarks
- Executive Director Report
- Office of Inspector General Presentation
- BREAK
- Public Engagement Session:
  - Innovation in AbilityOne Products and Domestic Manufacturing
- Closing Remarks





# Executive Director Report



# Driving the Mission through Federal Acquisition

- Recent growth in facilities support line of business – highlights include:
  - Civil Engineering Base Maintenance Support, U.S. Air Force Academy, CO
  - Base Operation Services, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command, West Sound Facilities, WA
  - Logistics Services Support – Los Angeles Space Force Base, CA
- Enhanced supply chain oversight for general Procurement List items
  - Nitrile Exam Gloves for VA / DHS now 100% manufactured by domestic sources
  - Buy American Act (BAA) data captured and analyzed for all general products
  - New Commission Directive will be issued shortly to clarify the standard operating procedures and triggers for supply chain review and attestation going forward





# FY 2026–2030 Strategic Plan Feedback Process

- Initial draft containing Strategic Plan Components published on Commission's website – July 17, 2025
- Public engagement session at July 2025 quarterly meeting focused on these components
- Commission has incorporated feedback and drafted metrics
- Full draft plan will be published on [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) to provide an opportunity for broad stakeholder awareness and feedback
- Commission plans to hold listening sessions with Program employees
- Estimated completion date – June 30, 2026





# FY 2026–2030 Strategic Objectives

## Strategic Objective 1

Increase workforce participation by Americans who are blind or have significant disabilities.

## Strategic Objective 2

Drive value, efficiency, and accountability across the AbilityOne Program.

## Strategic Objective 3

Engage in partnerships to increase employment opportunities for Americans who are blind or have significant disabilities within and beyond the AbilityOne Program.





# Fraud Awareness and Prevention Emphasis

- President’s Management Agenda, December 2025, addresses eliminating fraud and waste across Government
- Executive Order 14395, President’s Task Force to Eliminate Fraud, issued March 16, 2026 (focuses on State-administered programs)
- Commission’s Strategic Objectives for FY 2026–2030 include “Drive value, efficiency, and accountability across AbilityOne Program”
  - Chairperson issued Apr 16, 2026, memo [“Zero Tolerance for Fraud, Waste, or Abuse on AbilityOne Contracts”](#)
  - Commission will encourage and facilitate delivery of training for Program participants in fraud detection and deterrence





# AbilityOne Representatives (ABORs) Update

## Rosa Criggedorn, ABOR Program Manager

- Foundation: Office of Federal Procurement Policy [memorandum](#) “Increasing the Participation of Americans with Disabilities in Federal Contracting” (Oct 30, 2020)
- Program Formalization: Dedicated Program Manager and standard operating procedure
- Current Scale: 133 ABORs across 20 Chief Financial Officers Act (CFO) agencies and 2 non-CFO Act agencies





# ABOR Program Operating Model

- Commission: Leads ABOR strategy, engagement, training and education, ABOR Toolkit, and structured meetings
- Central Nonprofit Agencies (CNAs): Tasked with leading Future Opportunities meetings, internal ABOR Program coordination, and site visit initiatives
- Targeted Coordination: Collaboration with CNAs, nonprofit agencies, ABORs, and acquisition teams to support requirement identification and grow capabilities





# ABOR Impact Tracking

- FY 2025: First year of structured ABOR impact tracking
- Six (6) new Procurement List additions identified, representing approximately \$6 million in projected value and approximately 42 FTEs
- Efforts underway to connect ABOR engagement with requirement identification and development
- Data and metrics include engagement activity, performance indicators relative to pledge targets, and Procurement List additions
- Next Steps: Track **opportunities** from identification to outcome





# Tracking ABOR Future Opportunities

Year	Month	Interest Emails Sent	Meetings Scheduled	Meetings Held	PL Leads Identified	Opportunities Identified
2025	April	213	33	33	29	10
2025	May	138	20	20	27	2
2025	June	131	25	25	13	13
2025	July	43	31	31	15	13
2025	August	127	36	36	13	7
2025	September	206	43	43	9	128
<b>FY25 Year-End Totals</b>		<b>1,037</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>433</b>
<b>FY25 Year-End Monthly Avg</b>		<b>86</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>36</b>





# ABOR Program Path Forward

- Shift to Impact-Based Measurement: Align ABOR metrics to measurable outcomes, including agency participation and Procurement List additions
- Establish Pipeline Visibility: Track opportunities from identification through development to outcome
- Strengthen Agency Accountability: Increase agency involvement in identifying and advancing opportunities





# Questions/Discussion



# U.S. AbilityOne Commission

## Office of Inspector General



**Carla Smith, Acting Inspector General**

**April 22, 2026**





# OIG Communications

- **Semiannual Report to Congress**

- Provides information on OIG activity during a 6-month period. It includes Audit and Investigation reports issued, cases closed, outreach, etc.
- The reporting period September 30, 2025, to March 31, 2026, has closed. The SAR should be issued by May 30 or sooner. The SAR will be posted on the OIG website.

- **Upcoming Fraud Trainings**

- The OIG is in the process to begin providing fraud trainings. The first one is projected to be offered by the end of fiscal year 2026.
- The OIG is in the process of hiring a senior level investigative attorney.





# OIG Oversight – Audits & Evaluation

## Mandatory Audits

- FY 25 FIMA was completed and published
- FY 26 FSA financial statement audit is to begin in May with report being issued by the end of the fiscal year.

## Discretionary

- Audit of Credit Card Purchases (announced March 26, 2026). The review is completed, and the report will be finalized and issued by May 30.
- Review of Program Fees (anticipated to start by next quarterly meeting).



# OIG Contact Information

**AbilityOne Office of Inspector General**

**<https://abilityone.oversight.gov>**

**To SUBMIT a COMPLAINT to OIG:**

**Please submit complaints using our Portal**

**<https://abilityone.oversight.gov/hotline>**

**You may also submit a complaint via our:**

**Hotline Toll-Free Number: 1-844-496-1536**

**Email: [hotline@oig.abilityone.gov](mailto:hotline@oig.abilityone.gov)**





**Break**



# Public Engagement Session

## Innovation in AbilityOne Products and Domestic Manufacturing



# Examples of Innovative Production Methods

- **Advanced Manufacturing Techniques**
  - **Additive Manufacturing (3-D Printing):** Creating objects layer-by-layer, often to build parts, jigs or guiding tools; used in prototyping and customization
  - **Automation and Robotics:** Using autonomous systems and robots for increased speed and precision; includes Computer-Aided Design/Manufacturing
- **Reshored and Repurposed Materials**
  - **Repatriating Supply Chains** – Developing local suppliers with new capabilities
  - **Repurposing** – Restoring and/or reusing materials to decrease production time and costs, e.g., assembling soft armor ballistic inserts cut from used, Government-furnished tactical vests into a new vest carrier system





# Innovation in AbilityOne Products and Domestic Manufacturing

## Speakers

- **Austin Lighthouse – Jim Meehan, President and CEO**
- **Seattle Lighthouse – Pat O’Hara, President and CEO**
- **TAC – Jim Zahora, President and CEO**
- **Goodwill Industries of South Florida – David Landsberg, CEO**





**Jim Meehan, President and CEO**

**Austin Lighthouse  
Travis Association for the Blind  
Austin, TX**



# Austin Lighthouse Video



**Pat O'Hara, President and CEO**

**The Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc.  
Seattle, WA**



# Pat O'Hara & Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc.



## Pat O'Hara, President and CEO

- 30+ years of experience in manufacturing
- At the Lighthouse since 2005
- Diverse operational background - machining, fabrication, injection molding, assembly, facilities management, etc.



## The Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc.

- **The Lighthouse for the Blind, Inc.** is a private, not-for-profit social enterprise providing employment, support, and training opportunities for people who are blind, DeafBlind, and blind with other disabilities.
- Operating since 1918.
- Make aerospace parts, office products, and other machined products
- We also provide managed services like appointment setting, quality assurance, account reconciliation, contract close out, and other administrative services



# Federal Customers Served

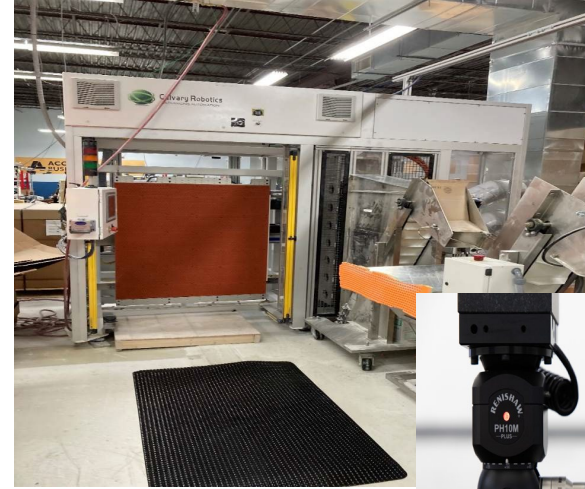


*Commercial customers include Boeing, Triumph, Northrop Grumman*



# Capabilities

- AbilityOne manufactured and machined products meet the strictest quality standards and specifications
- Simple one-piece parts to complex machined assembly
- Low-volume prototyping to high-volume production with surge ramp-up capability
- Invested in state-of-the-art equipment





# Manufacturing & Machining Operations

- CNC Machining (Turning and Milling)
- Injection Molding
- Blow Molding
- Die Punch Press
- Hydro Forming
- Sheet Metal Fabrication
- Radio Frequency Welding
- Ultrasonic Welding
- Brake Forming
- Assembly





# Manufacturing Software

## CAD Software



## CAM Software



## Verification Software





# Accessible Machining



- Added speakers for voice output of controls
- Large screens with contrast controls for high-visibility and large print
- Standard and braille keyboards



# Looking Forward

Grow with our core competencies while creating value for our customers:

- Machined and sheet metal products
- Injection molded products
- Assembled items – ultrasonic and radio frequency welded plastic items



**Jim Zahora, President and CEO**

**TAC (The Abilities Connection)  
Springfield, OH**

MODERNIZING  
MANUFACTURING AND  
STRENGTHENING  
AMERICA'S SUPPLY CHAIN.

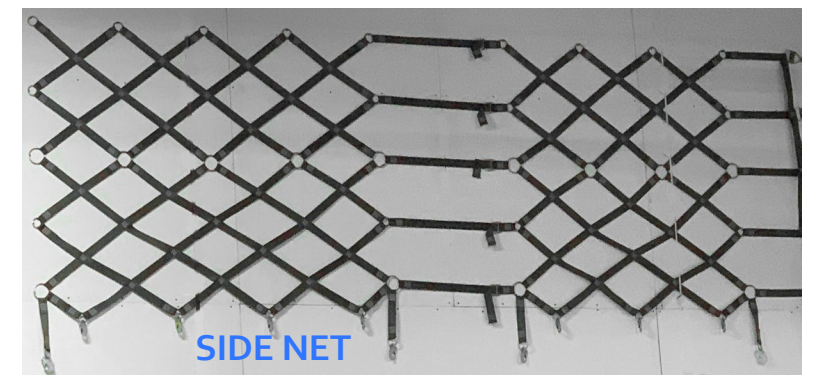
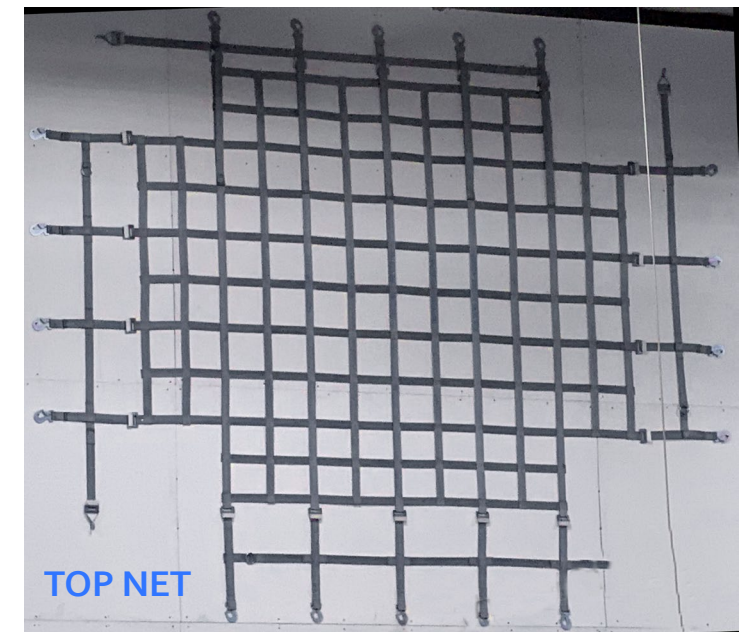


Jim Zahora, CEO



# CARGO NETS: SECURING MISSIONS WORLDWIDE

A cargo net is a restraint system that secures military cargo on the C-5, C-17, C-27, C-130, CH-47, CH-53K, CV-22 and other aircraft to support humanitarian, combat, and global mobility operations, ensuring safety, stability, and mission readiness.



# REIMAGINING MANUFACTURING THROUGH INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY

- Implemented cutting edge technology
- Secured TAEP funding through SourceAmerica to invest in automation
- Partnered with our local MEP and SourceAmerica's Process Improvement Team
- Increased throughput and production capacity through automation and modernization
- All sewing operations centralized at TAC



# SECURING A CRITICAL DEFENSE SUPPLY CHAIN

## 2021 Need Identified

Military customer identifies need for domestic hardware to secure supply chain.

Partner:



## 2022 Manufacturer Search

TAC proposes and receives approval to identify and develop a domestic hardware supplier.

Partner:



## 2024 Manufacturer Selected

Domestic hardware supplier utilized state-of-the-art automation to reduce production costs and prepare for manufacturing.



## 2025 Hardware Testing at Robins AFB

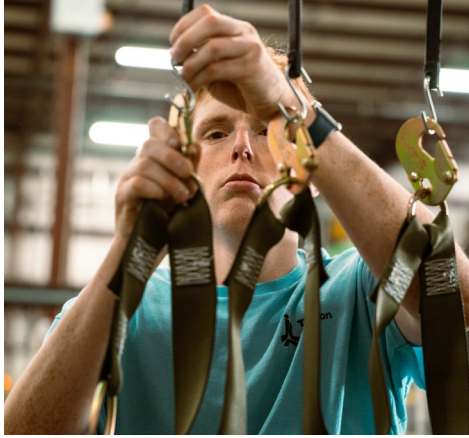
Domestically produced hardware successfully passed multiple rounds of acceptance testing at Robins Air Force Base.



## 2026 Contract Awarded

New contract received, identifying the use of domestic hardware. TAC Cargo Nets will be 100% Made and Sourced in America.





## MODERNIZATION & RESHORING IN ACTION

- Supplying mission-critical products at the highest quality – zero defects
- Secured a critical domestic supply chain for the U.S. Air Force
- With the new contract, TAC cargo nets will be 100% made and sourced in America
- Created 40+ new manufacturing jobs for people with disabilities



**David Landsberg, CEO**

**Goodwill Industries of South Florida  
Miami, FL**



# Public Discussion



# Closing Remarks