

Sustainment Panel Update

Kirsten Walkup, Former Panel Chair

General Dynamics - Ordnance and Tactical Systems

Sustainment Panel - Projects

2025 Panel Projects

- Defect Characterization of Navy Ship Structures with Active UMI – Antech
 - Team Members: Norfolk Naval Ship Yard
- Evaluation of Digital Twin Technologies for In-Situ Ballast Tank Inspection – Southwest Research Institute
 - Team Members: HII – Ingalls Shipbuilding, HII – Newport News Shipbuilding, BAE – Jacksonville

2026 Panel Projects

- Defect Characterization of Navy Ship Pipe Elbows with Broad Spectrum Active UMI– Antech
 - Team Members: Norfolk Naval Ship Yard

Sustainment Panel – Upcoming Events

ECB RA Selection Meeting – September 23, 2026

Panel Project Vote Deadline – September 25, 2026

RA Award Selection Announcement – Late September/early October

ECB Panel Project Selection Meeting – November, Date TBD

Panel Project Award Selection Announcement – Shortly after November
ECB Meeting, Date TBD

NSRP 2027 All Panel Meeting – March 23-25, 2027

Sustainment Panel – Meeting Agenda

Wednesday 9/23/2026

	Presentation	Speaker
8:30 am	*Keynote – Admiral Karl Thomas	
9:45 am	ATI - Introductions	Hillary Hawkins ATI
10:00 am	Panel Recap	Kirsten Walkup GDOTS
10:30 am	2025 Project Update Diagnosis of Ship Structures with Active UMI	Dr. Steve Ziola Antech Systems
11:00 am	2026 Project Kick-off Defect Characterization of Navy Ship Pipe Elbows with Broad Spectrum Active UMI	Dr. Steve Ziola Antech Systems
11:30 pm	Lunch	
12:45 pm	*Industry Panel: "Workforce & Workload Challenges across the Public & Private Sector Shipyards"	
2:00 pm	2025 Project Update Evaluation of Digital Twin Technologies for In-Situ Ballast Tank Inspection	John Reyes Southwest Research Institute
2:30 pm	In-Situ Acoustic Weld Monitoring for Improved First-Pass Yield	Sophia Millar Sonibel Instruments
3:00 pm	Accelerating Ship Design Through AI-Enabled Concurrent Engineering	Eric Burbank CoLab Software
3:30 pm	Hybrid Autonomous Manufacturing for Shipbuilding: Translating NSF HAMMER ERC Research to the US Maritime Industrial Base	Alex Bandar NSF Hammer-ERC
4:00 pm	Call for Voting	ATI