

Form Name:	National Armaments Consortium (NAC) Executive Committee Member Application Form 2026
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CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Name	Steve Dart
Title	President
Organization	DetTX
Organization Type	Small Business
Address	
Email	
Phone	

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Explain how your background, training, experience and/or personal qualities support your candidacy to assume a governance position on the Executive Committee. Provide resume as a separate attachment.

Over more than four decades in the defense industry, I have built a multidisciplinary career as a Chemical Engineer specializing in energetics, warhead design, and munitions manufacturing. My technical background spans explosive synthesis, compounding, and composite propellant production, as well as the design of shaped charge warheads, fragmentation systems, and long-rod penetrators. I have also planned and engineered facilities for melt-pour, pressing, and cast-cure operations and have managed LAP activities across both the U.S., South America and Europe. In recent years, I led the establishment of a full conventional ammunition demilitarization operation in Texas, gaining deep insight into the regulatory, environmental, and safety complexities of the energetics lifecycle.

Beyond my technical contributions, I bring substantial governance and business leadership experience. I have served on the Boards of Directors for two defense-sector companies, where I leveraged my understanding of U.S. defense acquisition, industrial base dynamics, and technology development pathways to help guide corporate strategy, strengthen compliance, and support successful pursuits of new programs and prototype contracts. These experiences have reinforced my commitment to transparent, informed, and mission-focused governance.

A defining personal quality throughout my career has been my commitment to continuous learning. I remain deeply engaged in emerging tools and technologies shaping the future of the energetics and defense manufacturing ecosystem, including Digital Engineering, Additive Manufacturing, advanced modeling and simulation, and data-driven methods such as Machine Learning. This curiosity enables me to bridge long-standing expertise with modern innovation trends-an increasingly important capability for steering consortium activities that must align both with evolving government needs and with the future of the defense industrial base.

Taken together, my technical foundation, operational leadership, board experience, and forward-looking mindset position me well to contribute meaningfully to the NAC Executive Committee. I am prepared to support responsible governance, represent member interests, and help strengthen the consortium's role in advancing critical ordnance technologies for the nation.

Supporting Attachment(s)

What do you see as the most significant challenge(s) facing the business type you will represent and how would you propose to address those challenges if elected?

One of the most significant challenges facing our segment of the defense industrial base is the accelerating erosion of critical skills and manufacturing expertise. As senior engineers, scientists, and operators retire, we are losing decades of hands-on experience in energetics, warhead production, and precision manufacturing. This attrition is outpacing the rate at which new talent is entering the field. Addressing this gap requires deliberate engagement with non-traditional contractors, universities, start-ups, and research institutions to introduce new capabilities, diversify the talent pipeline, and inject innovative thinking into long standing processes.

At the same time, the rapid emergence of new threat vectors particularly low-cost, autonomous, and unmanned systems means that many legacy munitions and weapon architectures are no longer optimized for future conflict. Designs that were highly effective against armor, vehicles, or massed troop formations may be poorly matched to swarming UAS threats or distributed, fast-moving targets. This requires a shift toward adaptable, modular, digitally engineered systems with greater responsiveness in both design and production.

Advanced manufacturing technologies including additive manufacturing, novel energetics formulations, nanomaterial-enhanced structures, and data-driven design represent a critical opportunity to regain technological overmatch. However, widespread adoption continues to lag due to limited transition pathways, qualification challenges, and the fragmentation of cutting-edge research across academia and small businesses.

If reelected to the Executive Committee, I would prioritize three actions:

1. Strengthen collaboration with universities, labs, and defense industry associations to accelerate the transition of disruptive technologies into the NTIB and expand the talent pipeline.
2. Promote adoption of modern engineering tools such as Digital Engineering, model based design, advanced simulation, and rapid prototyping to shorten development cycles and reduce risk.
3. Champion forward-looking capability development by encouraging member organizations to address emerging threats such as unmanned systems, counter-UAS solutions, and adaptable warhead technologies through consortium-driven collaboration.

By aligning innovation with the practical realities of manufacturing, workforce sustainment, and future threat scenarios, we can help ensure that the NTIB remains resilient, competitive, and capable of delivering decisive advantage to the warfighter.

Please describe the importance of the NAC to your organization and provide a synopsis of the participation in NAC/DOTC since becoming a member (e.g., number of proposal submissions, awards, industry days and membership meeting attended).

Over the past six years, the National Armaments Consortium has been critically important to the organizations I represent by providing a consistent, effective, and well-structured pathway for collaboration with the Government, acceleration of innovation, and access to development opportunities aligned with national priorities. NAC's contracting agility, industry engagement model, and commitment to technology transition have directly enabled our teams to pursue and win meaningful development programs that would not have been attainable through traditional acquisition channels.

My personal participation in the NAC has continued to expand since my last application. I have now served on the Executive Committee Board for six years and have taken on progressively greater responsibilities.

- I prepared formal responses to the HASC and SASC following their request for input related to the Report on Critical Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Uses, providing them with analysis on the essential role of PFAS in the energetics supply chain and the potential risks associated with their elimination.
- Over the past year, I have served as Treasurer, where I review and approve ATI's monthly financial reports and payment vouchers, as well as evaluate and approve ad-hoc financial requests from the Executive Director in coordination with the Chairman.
- I have also been an active member of the NAC's Extended Strategic Communications Team, participating in its biweekly coordination meetings. In this role, I contribute to strategic messaging, policy positioning, and external communication planning in collaboration with Vрге, the Halcrow team, and Thorn Run. This work includes reviewing emerging defense sector developments, shaping NAC's communication posture on industrial base challenges, and helping develop consistent messaging for engagements with Congress, DoD stakeholders, and the broader NTIB. This represents a significant and sustained time commitment and has deepened my understanding of the consortium's overall communications strategy and how we articulate the NAC's value to national defense.

Taken together, NAC has been essential in expanding our technical contributions, deepening government collaboration, and accelerating our innovation efforts. My sustained involvement across governance, communications strategy, financial stewardship, and technical proposal development reflects both the importance of the consortium to our organization and my continued commitment to advancing its mission.

WILLINGNESS TO SERVE CERTIFICATION

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Ditt", is written over a horizontal line.

Date

06/22/2026



STEVEN DART

Cell
e-mail
e-mail

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

October 2024 – Present

President,

DetTX LLC., Southlake, TX

DetTX is an engineering and design firm providing independent consultancy services to the defense industry in the field of energetic materials used in large caliber ammunition and weapon systems.



I founded DetTX to pursue opportunities in energetics within the National Industrial Base.

DetTX principal milestones:

- Selected as the principal engineering partner on MSM North America's team to design, build, and commission the U.S. Army's next-generation 155mm LAP facility at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant-leading melt-pour process design, safety architecture, and modernization planning for a \$635M organic industrial base investment.
- On the "Munitions Industry Modernization" panel at 2025 Future Forces Conference.
- Presented "Design Considerations For Uas Warheads In The Evolving Battlespace" at the 2025 Future Forces Conference.
- Achieved a 110 CMMC score, reinforcing the company's dedication to secure, compliant, and Defense-ready operations.

August 2019 – Present

President,

Synthio Chemicals Inc., Southlake, TX

Synthio Chemicals develops and manufactures high-value specialty and energetic chemicals using advanced continuous-flow technologies that enable safe, scalable production for defense, industrial, pharmaceutical, and emerging high-tech markets.



I was invited by the founders to sit on the board of Directors in 2019 since then Synthio's revenue has grown by 49% annually.

STEVEN DART

October 2020 – present

Executive Committee Member (Board of Trustees), Treasurer.

National Armaments Consortium

The National Armaments Consortium represents more than 1300 US companies that collaborate with the DOD on requirements in ordnance, ammunition, munitions, weapon and sensor systems, and related military materiel in all warfare environments: air, land, sea, undersea and space. NAC members are the industrial base that supports our war fighters



I was elected to the National Armaments Consortium Board of trustees in September 2020. I serve as Treasurer and represent the interests of small and non-traditional US Defense contractors. I also serve on the board of the Naval Energetics Systems and Technologies, NEST consortium.

March 2020 – October 2024

Vice President Research & Development,

Munitions & Government, Day & Zimmermann Inc., Southlake, TX

Day & Zimmermann is a leading provider of munitions to the US DoD. With a diverse portfolio of products and facilities, including American Ordnance, Day & Zimmermann's capabilities include close combat, medium to large calibre direct fire, large calibre indirect fire, as well as energetics and devices.



As Vice President of Research & Development it was my mission to head Day & Zimmermann's Research and Development capability.

My achievements were:

- Development of simulation capabilities for advance warhead design.
- Preparation of responses for Requests for White papers for NSTIC, DOTC & NEST and successfully secured funding for R&D efforts on new gun propelling charge technology.
- Served on the Innovation Council for the Day & Zimmermann group of companies
- Awarded U.S. patent for a next-generation mine-clearing line-charge architecture that significantly improves ground-coupled energy transfer through an optimized triangular-prism explosive-block geometry delivering higher clearance efficiency without increasing system weight, length, or logistical burden.

STEVEN DART

Aug. 2011 – March 2020

CEO, Expal USA Inc., (Part of the Maxam Group). Irving, TX

Expal is a renown vertically integrated European manufacturer of energetic materials, ammunition and weapon systems. Expal, the defense arm of Maxam was the 2nd largest manufacturer of explosives in the world.



As CEO it was my mission to set up Expal's operations in the US. I established one site in Texas for demilitarization activities and a second site in Louisiana for the manufacture of new high-performance explosives. I was responsible for setting the direction of the company as it entered the US ammunition market.

My principal achievements were:

- Creating a team to win a \$156 million IDIQ contract for the demilitarization of a variety of ammunition for the US DoD/ PM-Demil.
- Winning a pilot lot production contract for new high energy/high blast explosive for ARDEC (the R&D centre for the US DoD) using continuous twin-screw extruder technology.
- Chairman for the energetic material processing session at the 2013 IMEM (Insensitive Munitions & Energetics Materials) conference.
- I was the empowered official for all matters concerning the (ITAR) and responsible for the NIST SP 800-171 compliance for cybersecurity

Sept. 2010 – Aug. 2011

President, Chemring Military Products Inc., (Part of the Chemring Group). Marshall, TX

Chemring is a UK based manufacturing business supplying electronic and energetic products for defense markets around the world. The 3 market sectors are countermeasure sensors for threat detection and energetic components.



As President I was required to implement complex corporate procedures and demanding reporting practices to change the company from a small entrepreneurial entity into part of a large corporate structure. I enabled the Board to fulfil its governance function by establishing company policies, operational procedures and standards.

My responsibilities were:

- Position Chemring in the NSA (Non-Standard Ammunition) supply space.
- Enforcing procedures for ensuring compliance with ITAR, FCPA, ATF, DSS, etc.
- To develop a process for the manufacture of Nano-diamonds by detonation of explosive charges
- To oversee the attainment of ISO 14000 and OHSAS 18000 certifications.
- To provide expert opinion and support at 2 separate accident investigations at a sister Chemring company.

STEVEN DART

Dec. 2004 – Sept. 2010

President, Mecar USA, (Subsidiary of Allied Defense Group, ADG). Marshall, TX

MECAR USA was a subsidiary of US company ADG and sister company of the Belgian ammunition manufacturer, Mecar. It pursued contracts from U.S. and foreign governments for ammunition and pyrotechnics devices with a focus on the 105mm market.



As President I was involved in all aspects of starting the ADG US subsidiary from developing the green field site to implementation of all management systems

My principal achievements were:

- The design of buildings and supervision of construction for the 13 buildings that make up the Marshall site.
- Creation of a highly effective management team from locally hired people and instilling a culture of excellence in the team.
- Capturing our first LAP contract and then overseeing the growth of Mecar USA into a \$50M business within 5 years
- Development of a site safety plan according to DoD 4145.26 M requirements.

Jul. 1998 – Dec. 2004

Production Director (Energetics) & Directeur Technique,

MECAR S.A. (Belgian subsidiary of Allied Defense Group, ADG). Nivelles, Belgium

MECAR was established in 1938 in Belgium and develops and manufactures a wide range of ammunition for NATO and other countries. It specializes in anti-tank ammunition and mortars.



As Production Director, I was responsible for all explosive, propellant and pyrotechnic operations on the Petit-Roeulx site, also as “Directeur Technique”, I was legally responsible for the safety of the factory and was endorsed as the competent authority for explosive operations management by the Belgian Ministry of Economic Affairs.

My principal achievements were:

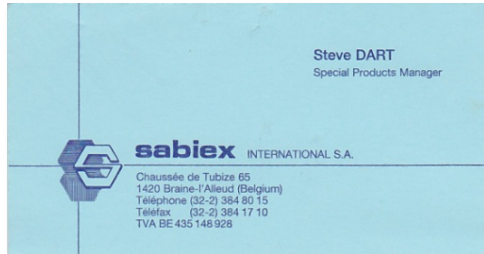
- Management of all load assembly and packing operations for Mecar S.A.
- Design and installation of a computer-controlled press for the manufacture of pressed warheads.
- Implementation of electronic site security system including perimeter and access control.
- Design of wastewater treatment facility for contaminated water.
- Successful transfer for pyrotechnic manufacturing operations from Holland to the Mecar Site in Belgium.
- Modifications to plant and processes to meet US Government DoD safety requirements.
- Modernization of casting facility to improve product traceability and reduce plant downtime.

STEVEN DART

Jan. 1996 – June 1998

Head of Engineering, SABIEX S.A. Braine L'Alleud, Belgium

SABIEX was Established in 1967 as a military surplus trading company, it has since evolved and gained reputation as an expert in the development and upgrade of military tracked and wheeled vehicles.



As Head of Engineering I was responsible for the implementation of computer aided design tools to aid in prototype design. I was also involved in the negotiation of contracts relating to projects in the upgrading of military vehicles.

My responsibilities included the following:

- Accident investigation of in-bore detonation of Mexican manufactured 90mm F1 HE round during development.
- Organization of demonstrations of a tank simulator for the Indonesian Government use and subsequent training program.
- Organization, setting up and manning of the Sabiex stand at the Eurosatory international defence exhibition.
- Contract negotiation for the sale of x-ray equipment including an installation of a real-time radioscopy unit to the Mexican Army.

Jan. 1993 – Jan. 1996

Program Manager, MECAR S.A. (Belgian subsidiary of Allied Defense Group, ADG). Belgium

MECAR was established in 1938 in Belgium and develops and manufactures a wide range of ammunition for NATO and other countries. It specializes in anti-tank ammunition and mortars.



I managed a multi-disciplinary team for the design and manufacture of various types of ammunition, from drawing board to shipment. I designed, installed and commissioned MECAR's state of the art melt-pour facility.

My responsibilities included the following:

- Design, solid modelling and stress analysis using finite element methods.
- Specification of test equipment, test management and data analysis.
- Planning of production schedules for various manufacturing centers.
- Direction of prototype manufacture and drawing package generation.
- Development of process control procedures as required by ISO 9001.
- Design of tooling for quality control and assembly of electronic fuze components.

STEVEN DART

Feb. 1989 - Jan. 1993

Project Manager, Royal Ordnance Rocket Motor Division

Royal Ordnance was the name given to the privatized defence manufacturing factories that were originally part of the British MoD state run ordnance factories. Now a part of BAE Systems



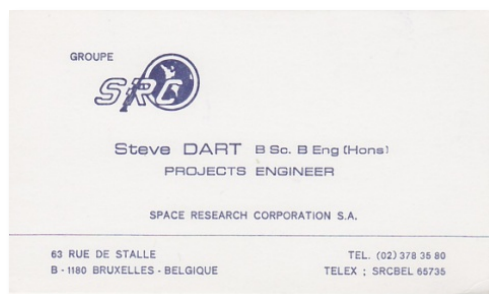
I represented Royal Ordnance for all operations involved in the planning, construction and commissioning of a new artillery rocket motor factory in Chile (Project RAYO). I was resident in Chile for over 3 years.

My key achievements:

- Planned plant layout for green field site for 13 buildings, including services, roads & safety zoning.
- Supervised construction of buildings and plant infrastructure.
- Commissioned the facility and streamlined plant operations during initial production runs.
- Supervised composite propellant manufacture for the trials program.
- Managed an environmental test program including temperature cycling, vibration testing and high temperature ageing.
- Planned logistics of dynamic firing trials in Atacama Desert.

June 1985 - Feb. 1989

Project Engineer, Space Research Corporation, Brussels, Belgium



I was lucky enough to start my career working under the mentorship of the world-renowned aerodynamicist Dr. Gerald Bull, where I was introduced to composite propellant manufacture, gun testing and technology transfers in an international environment. I helped design and commission a small composite propellant production facility for the manufacture of 155mm ERFB base bleed units. I also prepared technology transfer packages and presented them to our Chinese and Spanish clients

University Vacations STUDENT ENGINEER, Ministry of Defence Sponsorship
Royal Ordnance Factories; Bridgwater and Waltham Abbey, UK

I realized various projects including a study of the handling and storage of rocket motor oxidizers, a cost analysis for TNT manufacture and the formulation of improved plant operating procedures for plastic explosive manufacture.

Sept. 1980 - Sept. 1981 STUDENT ENGINEER, Ministry of Defence Sponsorship
Royal Ordnance Factory Bridgwater, UK

As an integral part of my university studies I followed an accelerated apprentice training scheme in a factory including; engineering design and drawing office practice; welding; plant maintenance, fitting and turning; electrical fitting; instrument installation; and chemical plumbing.

STEVEN DART

EDUCATION



NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY
B.Sc. B.Eng. (Hons) Chemical Engineering.

Special Awards

- National Engineering Scholarship from Department of Education and Science.
- M.o.D. Engineering Sponsorship for Chemical Engineering



DEVONPORT HIGH SCHOOL

S-Level Mathematics, A-Level Physics, Mathematics, Chemistry.

11 O-levels.

- Sir Austin Pearce Science Award for outstanding performance in sciences.
- Sir Harry Wright Chemistry Prize for special achievement in Chemistry.

LANGUAGES

English
Spanish

Mother tongue
Fluent

French

Fluent
