

Dear National Institute of Standards and Technology, Department of Commerce,

Boeing is a global industrial partner with customers in over 150 countries and more than 20,000 suppliers worldwide supporting our programs on a global scale. Effective supply chain management is essential to our business and is a core competency for us as a company. More now than ever, we are not relying on our second, third, and fourth tier supplier partners to support our programs and provide world class results. However, there are challenges associated with our extended supply chains, especially at the lower tier levels. Once you go down a few levels within the supply base, there is not as much familiarity or formalization within their supply chain processes and procedures. It would strongly benefit the Boeing Company and enable us to be more competitive if these lower tier supply chain partners could become more effective and competitive in our marketplace.

This can be done through effective education, training, and skill development, which is essential to growth within our lower tier suppliers. These organizations need the right tools and technology to be effective and we believe NIST can help them achieve these goals. By working together with top supply chain universities such as Pennsylvania State University, Michigan State University and Arizona State University this goal is within reach. More education and training for these organizations will allow them to be more effective, making us all more competitive over the long term.

We appreciate any assistance that can be provided surrounding this topic and look forward to hearing the plans for implementation.

Best regards,

The Boeing Company