



The Open Group FACE® Consortium Newsletter  
*Issue #19 – 2026 Q1*



In this issue:

- ***Program Manager's Getting Started Guide*** is Released
- FACE Approach Highlighted at the **Military Aviation and Air Dominance Summit**
- **Open UDDL** to be Featured on the Updated FACE Website
- *Plus Recent articles, Upcoming Events, and FACE Consortium Updates*

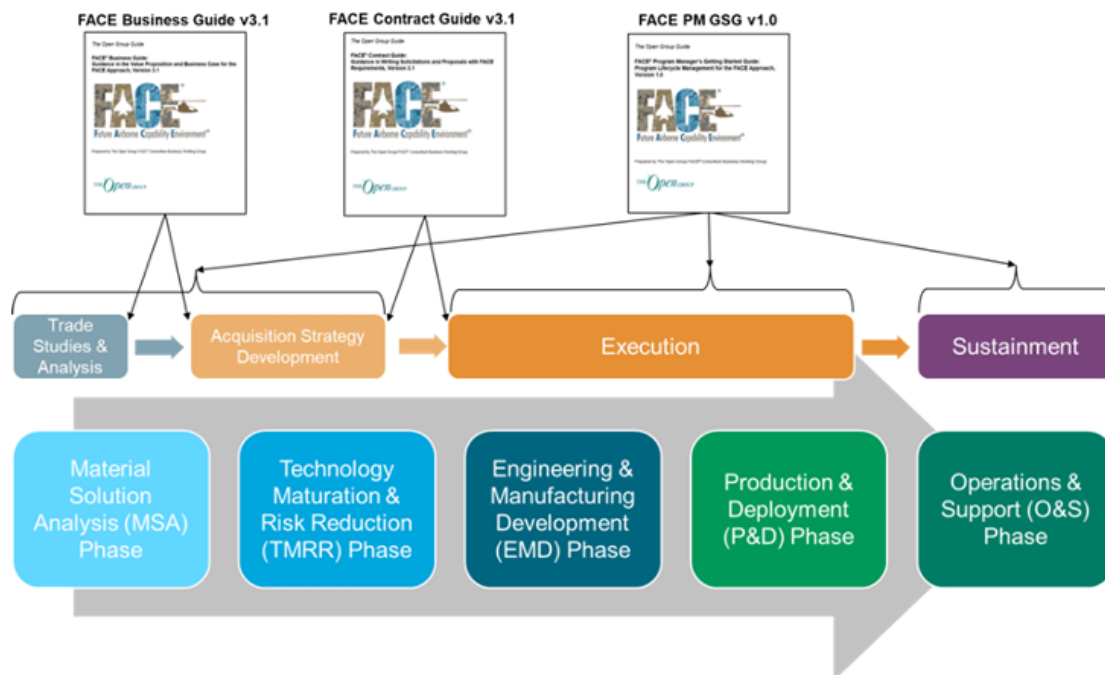
### **Program Manager's Getting Started Guide is Released**

The first release of the FACE® *Program Manager's (PM) Getting Started Guide (GSG)* has been published and is freely available in The Open Group Library: <https://publications.opengroup.org/guides/face/g264>

The FACE PM GSG provides guidance for acquiring Program Managers and their staff to:

- Develop an “Acquisition Strategy” with FACE Computing Environment(s) and FACE Units of Conformance (UoCs)
- Defend FACE requirements during the Execution phase
- Effectively use FACE Computing Environment(s) and FACE UoCs in the Sustainment phase

The FACE PM GSG describes Modular Open Systems Approach (MOSA) acquisition requirements and addresses the acquisition support gaps mentioned above that are outside the scope of the previous guides. Similarly to the FACE Business Guide that markets the details and value of the FACE Approach and the FACE Contract Guide that details how Program Managers can include FACE requirements in solicitations, the FACE PM GSG can be successfully leveraged beyond just the software domain.



We appreciate all the hard work by Jason York, Mark Johannes, and Justin Pearson on the Acquisition Guidance Subcommittee in creating and publishing this crucial guide.

## **FACE Approach Highlighted at the Military Aviation and Air Dominance Summit**

Over 200 Tri-Service and defense industry attendees at the Military Aviation and Air Dominance Summit (held in Huntsville, AL on January 21-22) learned some of the key benefits of the FACE Approach from FACE Consortium Director Alicia Taylor during a panel session titled, “Enhancing Air Dominance for the Future Warfighter through MOSA.” Alicia was joined by panelists Nick Borton, SOSA Consortium Director, Jamie Grubb, Deputy Program Manager for NAVAIR PMA-209/Air Combat Electronics, and MG (R) Bill Gayler, Sr. Strategic Advisor and Former CG of the US Army Aviation CoE, and Dr. Steve Davidson, moderator. The panelists candid replies and lively Q&A focused on capabilities enabled by modular systems allowing aircraft systems to remain operational and be upgraded in pieces without having to overhaul the entire platform, as well as the need for speed and affordability. Throughout the two-day agenda, several distinguished presenters engaged on the criticality of open standards and the accelerated acquisition process for more rapid integration of new capabilities.



**Open UDDL to be Featured on the Updated FACE Website**

The publicly accessible FACE Consortium website is undergoing an update, and one area that will gain greater emphasis is the Open Universal Domain Description Language (Open UDDL). Open UDDL originated as part of the FACE Technical Standard and was extracted as a separate standard that can be applied to a very broad set of applications and industries.

Open UDDL is a technical standard for a formal data modeling language used to define, document, and exchange data in a clear, unambiguous way.

Traditional data modeling approaches frequently rely on informal documentation or implementation-specific artifacts to convey intent, leaving critical semantics open to interpretation. UDDL was created to eliminate this ambiguity by formally documenting the meaning, context, and identity of data in a machine-readable form, enabling consistent understanding across organizations, tools, and systems. UDDL facilitates scalable interoperability by incorporating explicit constructs for measurements, units, reference frames, constraints, and conversions, thereby ensuring that exchanged data remains meaningful and valid across different environments and platforms.

To learn more about Open UDDL, go [here](#).

## **Recent Articles**

[Safety-critical avionics solution announced by Curtiss-Wright and Green Hills Software](#)

*Military Embedded Systems - Jan 13, 2026*

[Pentagon 'On the Cusp' of Open Systems Breakthrough](#)

*National Defense, Dec 4, 2025*

[The FACE Technical Standard: Enabling modular, open, and future-proof avionics systems](#)

*Military Embedded Systems, Dec 4, 2025*

[Making the case for MOSA](#)

*Military Embedded Systems, Nov 20, 2025*

[MOSA E-book](#)

*Military Embedded Systems, Nov 20, 2025*

See more articles from prior quarters on the FACE Consortium media coverage page [here](#).

## **Upcoming FACE Consortium Events and Webinars**

- Mar 2-5 Virtual FACE Members Meeting – [Register here](#)

## **Upcoming Industry Conferences and Exhibits**

Feb 23-25 AFA Warfare Symposium - *Aurora, CO*

Mar 24-26 AUSA Global Force - *Huntsville, AL*

Apr 8-9 MOSA for Defense and Warfare Summit - *Oxon Hill, MD*

Apr 15-17 Quad-A - *Nashville, TN*

Apr 19-21 Sea Air Space – *National Harbor, MD*

May 5-7 Vertical Flight Society Annual Form – *West Palm Beach, FL*

## **Upcoming Panel at the MOSA for Defense Summit**

A panel on day 1 of the MOSA for *Defense and Warfare Summit* features the FACE Consortium Director Alicia Taylor and the SOSA Consortium Director Nick Borton to discuss “Understanding the Role and Impact of Consortia on MOSA”. As we know, MOSA is no longer a technical preference; it is a strategic mandate to counter rapidly modernizing adversaries. In Secretary of War Hegseth’s Nov 2025 memorandum, “Transforming the Warfighting Acquisition System,” he identified MOSA as a primary lever for “accelerating the speed of relevance.”

## **New FACE Verification Authority**

NAVAIR has become the latest FACE Verification Authority (VA), bringing the total to five VAs. For the full list and contact information <https://www.opengroup.org/face/approved-va>

## **New International Certified Units of Conformance (UoC)**

Hanwa Systems joins the list of international companies that not only uses the FACE Technical Standard but also has four products certified conformant to the FACE I/O Services Segment: 1553, A/D, Ethernet, and Serial I/O.

## **Welcome New Member Organizations**

- [Astronics Corporation](#)

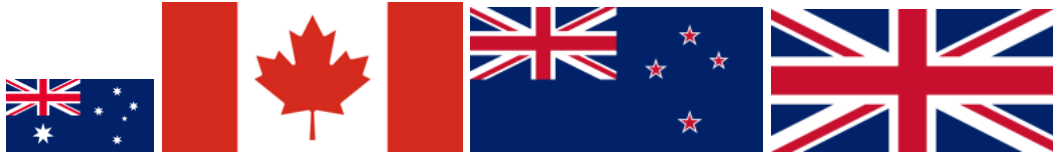
## **New FACE Member Orientation**

There is a new Member orientation webinar each month, usually the third Tuesday of each month. Even existing Members can benefit from a refresher of the various resources and processes of the FACE Consortium. Look for the new Member orientation entry on the internal Consortium calendar or email to [ogface-admin@opengroup.org](mailto:ogface-admin@opengroup.org) for instruction on how to join the biweekly outreach meeting.

## **FACE Outreach Team Seeking Additional Participation**

The Outreach (Marketing) Subcommittee of the Business Working Group is looking for additional Members to help with the promotional activities to increase awareness of the advantages of the FACE Approach. If you or another Member of your organization have an hour every other week to contribute, please send an email to [ogface-admin@opengroup.org](mailto:ogface-admin@opengroup.org) for instruction on how to join the biweekly outreach meeting.

The FACE Consortium has more than 90 Member organizations and is open to membership from Australia, Canada, New Zealand, United Kingdom, and United States.



The Open Group and the Open Brand X logo, and the FACE logo are registered trademarks, and FACE and Future Airborne Capability Environment are trademarks of The Open Group. Copyright © 2026 The Open Group. All rights reserved. For information on becoming a Member of the FACE Consortium, please send an email to [ogface-admin@consortia.opengroup.org](mailto:ogface-admin@consortia.opengroup.org)

Editor's note: This newsletter is public information that may be shared freely with your colleagues.

*Copyright © 2026, All rights reserved*