

Aviation Week Network is Defining a More Representative and Inclusive Future for the Next Generation of Professionals

Informa Market's Aviation Week Network and The Diversity Org Partner at MRO Americas to Provide Career Opportunities to Students from Underrepresented Areas



Aviation Week Network Logo

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[Week Network](#), part of Informa Markets, hosted local college students from local HBCU's (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) Morehouse College, Spelman College and Clark Atlanta University during Aviation Week Network's MRO Americas event in April. The students had an opportunity to connect with leaders from a host of Aviation companies in the Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul industries. The program, launched by global 501©3 nonprofit, [The Diversity Org](#), allowed Informa Markets to pursue its goal of creating a more diverse and inclusive world through representation and opportunity.

"We believe that diversity and inclusion are not only critical to the success of our business, but to the broader success of our industry and society as a whole," said Nancy Walsh, President, Informa Markets North America. "Partnering with The Diversity Org at MRO Americas was a natural fit for us as we work towards creating a more diverse and inclusive world through representation and opportunity. We are proud to take this step in contributing to meaningful change and are committed to creating more opportunities for underrepresented communities moving forward."

Aviation Week Network is the first business of its kind to partner with The Diversity Org, whose aim is to combat the cycle of economic disparity in minority groups. The students who participated in the event were taught professional development skills and exposed to career paths in the aviation and maintenance industry, with the hope of building their network and exposing them to potential pathways that lead to fulfilling careers.□□

A panel of executives from multiple MRO companies along with Aviation Week Network and Informa Market colleagues spoke to the students about their own career paths, answered questions and shared personal stories of perseverance, resilience, and success. Prior to participating in workshops and panels, the students had the opportunity to walk the expo floor

and learn firsthand from exhibiting companies participating in the event. Professionals from different facets of the MRO industry demonstrated product and services and explained their company's purpose and role, and what students should do if they're interested in pursuing a career in the industry. The interaction led to one of the most impressive occurrences during the event with a student from Morehouse College. The student was previously not aware of finance roles within the aviation industry, and they were able to get an internship with one of the companies that participated at MRO Americas.

"I learned that you really need to form a connection with a person while networking – not just both of you benefitting from the actual connection," said Diversity Org Participants. Others echoed this statement and added, that sitting down with people in positions that you see yourself in was very helpful and impactful.

For more information on how to be part of the Diversity Org, visit <https://www.thediversity.org/become-a-corporate-partner>.

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Aviation Week Network is the largest multimedia information and services provider for the global aviation, aerospace, and defense industries, serving 1.2 million professionals around the world. Industry professionals rely on Aviation Week Network to help them understand the market, make decisions, predict trends, and connect with people and business opportunities. Customers include the world's leading aerospace manufacturers and suppliers, airlines, airports, business aviation operators, militaries, governments and other organizations that serve this worldwide marketplace. Aviation Week Network's portfolio delivers award-winning journalism, data, intelligence and analytical resources, world-class tradeshow and conferences, and results-driven marketing services and advertising.

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