



## **KELLSTROM DEFENSE ANNOUNCES THE APPOINTMENT OF RICHARD DRINKWARD AS CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**

EL SEGUNDO, CA, JULY 21, 2017 – Kellstrom Defense Aerospace, Inc. (“KDA”) is pleased to announce the appointment of Richard Drinkward as Chief Financial Officer (CFO). Mr. Drinkward will be responsible for the overall leadership of the finance, accounting, and treasury function for the overall KDA group of businesses. This key leadership role owns financial reporting, controls, and analysis, and is a primary contact for banking and private equity investor relations. He will be based at the group’s El Segundo, California headquarters and will report directly to CEO Chris Celtruda.

In announcing the appointment, Chris Celtruda, the group CEO comments, “Dick brings a breadth of strategic experience and capability to enhance our senior executive team. His strong leadership background in engineered products, finance, and strategic growth in the aerospace and defense markets fills a critical need as we endeavor to ramp up our organic and acquired growth strategies.”

He has over 25 years of experience managing finance and business teams for high profile, public and private equity backed organization in the aerospace and defense, medical and technology markets. He is an accomplished leader with expertise in complex financial transactions, multi-site information systems, program management, M&A, and restructuring.

Mr. Drinkward was most recently engaged as the CFO and financial leader for a series of private equity backed, early stage medical device businesses, including RxSight, Gamma Medica-Ideas, and Alpine Biomed. He was instrumental in implementing strong financial controls, driving business improvements, engaging in fund raising to support aggressive growth targets, and guiding the businesses toward liquidity events.

Previously, Mr. Drinkward spent a lengthy stint at EATON (NYSE: ETN) as the segment CFO for the EATON Aerospace business. He partnered with the EATON Aerospace president to drive a growth strategy that doubled the size of the business through four major acquisitions, with a focus on product development and new business capture. Together, they transformed the maturity, profitability and positioning of a portfolio of an aerospace engineered equipment OEM and aftermarket businesses.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Drinkward held leadership roles in finance, corporate development, and strategic planning at the Furon Company, McDonnell Douglas, and UNISYS.

Mr. Drinkward holds a BA in Economics from Claremont McKenna College and an MBA in Management from California Lutheran College.

### **About Kellstrom Defense Aerospace, Inc.:**

Kellstrom Defense Aerospace, Inc. (“KDA”) is a global provider for the sustainment of legacy defense aircraft through OEM sanctioned distribution, component MRO, and engineering and manufacturing solutions for the C-130, F-16, F-5/T-38, F-18, P-3, Boeing 707 defense derivative aircraft, and multiple rotary-wing platforms. With operations in Camarillo, CA; Miramar, FL; Macon, GA; Cambridge, UK; Windsor, AU; and Singapore, the KDA team provides support to the United States military and over 60 partnering nations. KDA is committed to compliance, with hundreds of active export licenses and dedicated contract, export, and security personnel. The Kellstrom Advantage is being the respected global leader for defense aircraft sustainment, deploying an experienced team and complete capabilities to solve customer challenges. Further information is available at: [www.kellstromdefense.com](http://www.kellstromdefense.com).

### **About Kellstrom Repair Services:**

Kellstrom Repair Services, Inc. (“KRS”), a wholly owned subsidiary of Kellstrom Defense Aerospace, Inc. (“KDA”), specializes in providing Maintenance, Repair & Overhaul (“MRO”) and sustainment solutions for legacy military aircraft and rotor wing platforms worldwide. KRS is a Honeywell and AMETEK Authorized Repair Station specializing in the repair and overhaul of Auxiliary Power Units, Engine Driven Compressors, and a full range of mechanical, electro-mechanical, instrument, pneumatic and fuel system components. KRS also specializes in the repair and overhaul of Accessory Class III components, Instrument Class I, II, III and IV avionics, and landing gear systems. KRS Repair Management leverages KRS in-house repair capabilities and a network of FAA & EASA authorized facilities to provide value added MRO solutions for both OEMs and end user customer. Further information is available at: [www.kellstromdefense.com/mro](http://www.kellstromdefense.com/mro).

### **About PNC Equity, Barings, and Dubin Clark & Company:**

KDA is backed by equity syndicated by Dubin Clark & Company, Barings, and PNC Equity. This partnership provides equity capital to fuel the growth of the company portfolio. These respected firms have a history of purchasing and cultivating businesses into growing and profitable enterprises. The current management team works closely with this investment team to chart the future of the business and improve overall performance. Further information is available at: [www.dubinclark.com](http://www.dubinclark.com).

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