



As the IAM International President and a U.S. Navy Veteran I am extremely proud of the dedication our union has in supporting the men and women who have served in our country's armed services. The IAM boasts one of the highest percentage of veteran members compared to other labor organizations.

Whether you're a current member of the Machinists Union or you're looking for a union to join, I assure you the IAM is devoted to our veterans. From working to connect out-processing military men and women with good paying jobs to fighting for their rights on the shop floor, the IAM supports our troops in every way possible.

Please take a few minutes to look over this booklet. It contains just a few reasons why the IAM is the leading union in the United States for our military and our veterans.

On behalf of the over 600,000 active and retired IAM members, I want to thank you for your service to our great nation.

In solidarity,

Robert Martinez Jr.
International President



History of IAM and Veterans

The IAM has a long standing history of honoring and supporting our nations' veterans. Our union has always been very close to our military due to the nature of the work our members perform.

Dating back to 1936, Machinist Union members have been providing the military with high-tech, superior planes at Boeing.

The IAM joined other labor unions in pushing for the passing of the GI Bill in 1944, because they understood the importance of supporting veterans and making sure they have opportunities available when their enlistments are over.

In 1944, nearly 10 percent of the almost 800,000 IAM members were military veterans.

Today our fighting machinists work hard to ensure our nation's military maintains air, land and sea superiority.

In addition, the IAM works hard to make sure our members who have served our nation get the support they need and deserve.









Building our Military

From the shores of Pearl Harbor to the coast of Maine, the IAM represents those who strive to provide our military with the best support system and equipment in the world.

Machinist at Bath Iron Works in Bath, ME have provided the U.S. Navy with 35 of the world's most powerful Destroyers since 1991. In May 2016, many of those same workers delivered the U.S. Navy the first Zumwalt Class Destroyer, which is the most technologically advanced warships every produced. The new class of destroyer can deliver more ordnance on target over a broader range of military objectives than any surface combatant ever put to sea.



"I was a Seabee in the Navy for 7 years. That part of my life taught me about building quality, even when circumstances were difficult. Everyone knew "We can't" wasn't an answer.

My time with the IAM building destroyers at Bath Iron Works is similar in many ways. The comradery is oddly quite familiar and the quest for quality, efficiency, and safety are all the same. The measure of pride in production that I see in our thirty and forty year veterans at the yard is remarkable. I feel very fortunate to have landed in a future that appeals to my Navy work ethic."

— Navy Veteran and IAM Local S-7 Member **Tammy Post**

IAM Members at military jet manufacturers such as Lockheed Martin, Boeing and Northrop Grumman build the very fighter and cargo jets that keep the U.S. king of the skies. These members supply our military



with the F-18, F-22, F-35 and many more of the U.S. jets which dominate the skies around the world.

Members of IAM Local 933 provide our military with precision munitions such as the Javelin anti-tank missile and the Tomahawk missile. These highly skilled workers perform work that is vital to our warfighters and our nation.

"After graduating high school in 1982 I joined the Air Force and worked in calibration, later cross-training in computer programming. When I retired to Arizona after over 21 years of service, I was blessed to get a job at Raytheon Missile Systems as an Electronics Technician. In the military environment we work together for the good of the country. That led me to getting involved in the IAM, where we work together for the good of our people."

— Air Force Veteran and IAM Local 933 member **Wendel Jackson**

Members of IAM Local 778 at Honeywell in Kansas City, MO manufacture non-nuclear components for nuclear weapons.



"As a retired Air Force veteran, I'm proud to continue serving my nation by supporting this critical mission. As a member of the IAMAW, I'm proud to serve my fellow brothers and sisters by representing our contract, fighting anti-worker legislation and doing my best to educate our members to the best of my ability. There is a sign above the exit doors that reads 'Thank you for choosing to do work that matters.' Each morning, I quietly reply, 'You're welcome' as I leave the plant."

— Retired Air Force Veteran and IAM Local 778 Recording Secretary **Brian Simmons**

Servicing our Military

The IAM is the leading union representing nearly 30,000 members covered under the Service Contract Act.

If you work in the service contract industry, you may already be aware of the fact that under the Service Contract Act, contracts are awarded with the wages for employees already set in place. This Area Wage Determination (AWD) is put in place based on area wages and cost of living. What many don't realize is there is only one way to rise above this wage ceiling, and that's by joining a union. A union negotiated collective bargaining agreement will not only bring you job security.

A union contract can provide job security in the defense industry. Contracting companies are often moving pieces of the puzzle when it comes to the defense service contract industry. IAM negotiated contracts have been able to provide job security for tens of thousands of members facing uncertainty when defense contracts change hands. IAM negotiated successorship language helps provide smooth transitions between contractors leaving members nearly unaffected by any changes.



"Working under an IAM contract has provided me and my family with all the securities we enjoyed while I served in the military. I have good medical benefits, great pay and job security. For many of us here at Nellis Air Force Base, we are performing the same kind of work we did in the service. It provides a smooth transition for many of us veterans."

— 20 Year Air Force Veteran and IAM Local SC 711 member **Bruce Burridge**

Only a union can provide and protect workers in the service contract industry, and the IAM is leading the way in representation and contracts.

"My title at work is a Plane Captain, but due to my injuries I sustained in Iraq, my duties are focused more on the administration aspect of the flight line. As a veteran, it is an honor to be a part of the IAM here at Corpus Christi Texas Naval Air Station where we train and maintain the T-6 and T-44 aircrafts for our military pilots to prepare them for the front lines of war. Unfortunately, I was injured by and IED while on a night mission in Iraq. The pilots while being under attack flew into the area I was, rescued me, and transferred me to medical."

— Army Veteran and 19 year IAM Local 2916 member **Connie Rendon**



IAM Veterans Program

At the 38th IAM Grand Lodge Convention in Chicago in 2016, the delegate's made their voices heard when they made a bold statement about the IAM strengthening its support for those who served our nation. Delegates passed a resolution directing the IAM to create the IAM Veterans Program. While the program is in its infancy, those leading the program are working hard to provide new and innovative ways to serve our members who are military veterans.

The IAM Veterans Program also strives to motivate the veterans within our ranks to use their leadership skills they gained during their military service and empower them to make a difference in their union and their communities.

Want to Get Involved?

We would love to welcome you into the IAM family, contact us at 301-967-4750 or at *GoIAM.org*.

If you are already an IAM member and have interest in the IAM Veterans Program or would like to find a way to get involved with veteran issues contact the IAM Veterans Program at 301-967-4521 or at GolAM.org.

There are plenty of opportunities to get involved. Step up today!



IAM Veterans Program

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