
2026 SAAMI Ballistics Conference
September 15 - 17, 2026
Baltimore, Maryland

Tuesday, September 15

- 8:30 am – 8:45 am *Welcome/Introduction* – Joe Bartozzi, President and CEO of SAAMI
- 8:45 am – 9:15 am *Keynote Address* – TBD
- 9:15 am – 9:45 am *SAAMI Z299.6 – Standard for Commercial Manufacturers of Suppressors* - Alan Serven, SAAMI
- 9:45 am – 10:00 am Break - sponsored by **[To be determined]**
- 10:00 am – 11:00 am *Propellants 101 – An Introduction to Propellant Technology and Selection* – Alan Serven, SAAMI
- 11:00 am – 12:00 pm *The FBI Terminal Ballistic Test Method* – Bufford Boone, FBI (ret.)
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch - sponsored by **US Element Space & Defense**
- 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm *Legal Considerations in Data Collection & Retention* – Tim Lachance, SAAMI
- 2:00 pm – 2:30 pm Break - sponsored by **[To be determined]**.
- 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm *OSHA is Coming. Now what?* – Dale Krupinski, Owner, On Target Safety Academy
- 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm *Export Considerations for Firearms, Ammunition and Suppressors* – Kim Pritula, President, KMP Global Consulting, LLC.
- 4:30 pm – 5:00 pm *Oehler Research Ballistic DAQ System Overview* – Gary Stafford, Oehler Research
- 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm Reception - sponsored by **DEWESoft**

Wednesday, September 16

- 8:30 am – 9:30 am *Sensors for Gun Dynamics & Human Exposure* – Melissa Maze, PCB Piezotronics
- 9:30 am - 10:30 am *Practical Measurements – Ballistics & Firearm Dynamics* - John Miller, DEWESoft
- 10:30 am – 11:00 am Break - sponsored by **[To be determined]**
- 11:00 am – 12:00 pm **[To be determined]** – Stephen Braxton, Kistler Instrument Corp.
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch - sponsored by **Oehler Research**
- 1:00 pm – 2:45 pm *Ballistic Pressure Sensor User's Training* – Melissa Maze, PCB Piezotronics
- 2:45 pm - 3:15 pm Break
- 3:15 pm – 4:15 pm *Ballistic Pressure Sensor User's Training* – Melissa Maze, PCB Piezotronics
- 4:15 pm – 5:00 pm *Ballistic Pressure Sensor Calibration* – Mike Mains, The Modal Shop
- 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm Reception - sponsored by **PCB Piezotronics**

Thursday, September 17

The off-site events for this year's conference will be split with half of the attendees going to the range and the remainder going to Element US Space & Defense (formerly National Testing Services [NTS]).

8:00 am – 8:30 am Shuttles to first destination.

10:30 am – 11:00 am Shuttle from Element travels to range for lunch with those already there.

11:00 am – 11:45 am Lunch at the range - sponsored by **[To be determined]**.

11:45 am --12:15 pm Shuttle from the range to Element.

2:30 - 3:00 pm Shuttles return to hotel.

Special thanks to the sponsors of the 2026 SAAMI Ballistics Conference:

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PRESENTERS

(Alphabetically)

Stephen Braxton, Kistler Instrument Corp. – Stephen serves as the North America High Speed Dynamics Lead and Southeast Manager for Kistler. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Physics. Stephen has over 27 years of experience in the Test and Measurement industry with a focus on Defense, Space, and Aerospace applications.

Tim Houghton, H-S Precision – Growing up around manufacturing at his family's company H-S Precision, Tim attended Arizona State University receiving a bachelor's degree in manufacturing engineering in 2008. Upon graduation, he returned to Rapid City, South Dakota as a department supervisor. Four years later, he was promoted to Engineer, and in 2016 he was appointed Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of H-S Precision. Tim is continuously learning and is a Six Sigma Green Belt; he also owns and operates Technosphere 3D Printing which has been instrumental in research and development. Tim's sights are always set to the future. Under his leadership, H-S Precision has seen a growth in efficiency, an expanded network of OEM partners worldwide, and has introduced state-of-the-art technology into production yielding innovative results.

Dale Krupinski, On Target Safety Academy – Dale brings more than 25 years of experience in recognizing, evaluating, and controlling workplace safety and health hazards. Over the past decade, he has specialized in assisting the shooting sports industry with OSHA compliance, focusing on lead dust, noise, and other occupational hazards. He previously served as a Compliance Safety and Health Officer and as an industrial hygienist in the National Office of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Dale is a board-certified industrial hygienist, certified safety professional, and OSHA Authorized Outreach Trainer. He serves on the Compliance Consultant Team for the National Shooting Sports Foundation, on the Advisory Board of the National Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors Association and has been a featured speaker at the NRA Range Development and Operations Conference. He founded On Target Safety Academy to provide practical safety training and technical assistance to the shooting sports industry.

Tim Lachance, SAAMI – Tim is General Counsel for SAAMI, having joined the organization in late 2024. Prior to that, he served as xxxxxxxxxxxx for Sig Sauer, USA for xx years.

Mike Mains, The Modal Shop (TMS) – Mike a Product Specialist, Software and Mechanical Engineer at The Modal Shop (TMS). Prior to joining TMS in 2022, he was an Associate Professor at the University of Cincinnati and Faculty Advisor for Bearcat Motorsports, which is the organization for the University of Cincinnati's Formula FSAE and SAE Baja teams. Prior to joining the UC in 2019, he spent 14 years as a Senior Software Developer at Brüel & Kjær. Mike has worked with TMS's Structural Test Products, Calibration Systems and, more recently, support of TMS's Nondestructive Testing Systems. One of his major areas of focus since joining TMS has been the Ultra-High Pressure Calibration system that supports the SAAMI "standard" test method for conformed ballistics pressure measurements.

Melissa Maze, PCB Piezotronics – Melissa is the Business Development Manager of the Aerospace and Defense division for PCB Piezotronics and Endevco. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and a master's degree in business administration from the State University of New York. Melissa has been an instrumentation engineer for 9 years, focusing on technical application support and training on

ballistic pressure, shock, acoustic, and force measurements. She has been the instructor for the Ballistics Instrumentation course for PCB for the last 4 years.

John Miller, PE, DEWESoft, LLC – John holds a bachelor's degree from South Dakota State University and a masters from the University of Minnesota. John started his professional career as a test engineer for a consulting firm, Braun Intertec, in Bloomington, Minnesota where he was responsible for an array of instrumentation projects ranging from designing and implementing large-scale bridge monitoring systems to conducting various dynamic measurements of blast events, amusement park failures, etc. After being a test engineer and an avid user of various data acquisition systems, John joined DEWESoft in 2016. John is the VP of Engineering for DEWESoft and works directly with most large manufacturers in the Aerospace, Automotive, and Defense industries assisting test engineers in making successful measurements and helping steer DEWESoft's future development to account for industry innovation and evolution.

Kim Pritula, KMP Global Consulting, LLC – Kimberly M. Pritula holds a Bachelor of Science degree in the specialized area of International Trade Management, Trade Compliance Regulations, graduating Summa Cum Laude. Following a long and distinguished career with Ruger Firearms, Kim is now the President and founder of KMP Global Consulting, LLC, a consulting firm which provides exporters services, guidance, training and expertise to companies in the firearms industry on matters related to International Compliance and ATF Compliance. Kim is a member of the Defense Trade Advisory Group (DTAG), a senior level advisory committee to the US Department of State, Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC). From 2010 to 2016, Kim was also a member of the President's Export Council Subcommittee on Export Administration (PECSEA), and is currently the Chairperson of the Import/Export Committee of the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), the firearm industry's trade association. Kim holds two important industry certifications as well: Certified US Export Compliance Officer (CUSECO), and Certified ITAR Professional (CIP).

Alan Serven, Sporting Arms & Ammunition Manufacturer's Institute (SAAMI) – Prior to joining SAAMI in May 2021, Alan spent 13 years with Hercules Powder (now Northrop-Grumman/Alliant Powder) at their manufacturing plant in Kenvil, New Jersey. During that time, he held a variety of positions in smokeless propellant manufacturing supervision, product development & technical support, and Quality Assurance, including supervising the ballistics test laboratory. In 1995, Alan joined Remington Arms at their ammunition plant in Lonoke, Arkansas where for 18 years he managed Quality Assurance & ballistics testing, new ammunition product development, primer manufacturing and explosives safety. In 2017, he moved to the firearms division in the position of Director, Long Gun Product Development. In 2021 he moved back to the ammunition division. After 25+ years at Remington Alan joined SAAMI as the Senior Director of Technical Affairs. Alan holds a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering degree from Villanova University.

Gary Stafford, Oehler Research, Inc. – With a degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Kansas, Gary joined Oehler Research in 2009. Prior to joining Oehler, Gary specialized in nuclear gauges and elemental analysis, being involved in product definition and design through production, sales, calibration, and maintenance. Since joining Oehler, Gary has mastered the field of ballistic instrumentation including computers and the science and art of analog circuits. This experience and familiarity of the challenges of ballistic instrumentation suits him well in the of support existing instruments and the design of future instruments.



About SAAMI – The Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute, SAAMI, founded in 1926 at the request of the federal government, is dedicated to creating and promulgating technical and performance standards for firearms, ammunition, and components, and is committed to being the preeminent global resource for the safe and responsible design, manufacture, transportation, storage, and use of these products.

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