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Association of Marine Corps Logisticians  
*Where professionals talk logistics.*



## Global Expeditionary Logistics Symposium (GELS) 2026

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**Theme:** *Digital • Autonomous • Predictive*

**Tagline:** *Logistics at the Speed of Decision*

**Dates/Location:** 4–6 August 2026 | Christopher Newport University, Newport News, VA

**Hosted by:** Association of Marine Corps Logisticians (AMCL)

### Executive Summary

The **Global Expeditionary Logistics Symposium (GELS) 2026** is AMCL's flagship professional military education and logistics modernization forum. The event convenes approximately **300 Marine Corps, Joint Force, industry, academic, and allied leaders** to address the most pressing challenges in contested and expeditionary sustainment.

Anchored by the theme ***Digital • Autonomous • Predictive***, GELS 2026 examines how data-enabled logistics, autonomy, and predictive sustainment models can **generate decision advantage and increase operational resilience**. The symposium is structured to support modernization priorities, Installations and Logistics 2030, and the Joint Concept for Contested Logistics.

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### GELS 2026 is structured around three mutually reinforcing pillars:

- **Digital** – Building the data architecture and digital infrastructure required to enable decision-quality visibility, digital twins, digital manufacturing, and secure cloud-to-edge integration across the Joint Logistics Enterprise.
- **Autonomous** – Examining unmanned and automated distribution and sustainment capabilities that increase survivability, reduce signature, and enhance resilience in contested environments.
- **Predictive** – Applying AI-enabled analytics to forecast readiness, anticipate demand signals, and shift sustainment from reactive response to predictive posture.

The event blends **senior leader keynotes, joint and industry panels, hands-on technology demonstrations**, and a structured innovation forum where service members present operational logistics challenges and proposed solutions to senior leaders and industry stakeholders for assessment and potential follow-on action. This format ensures relevance from the strategic to the tactical level and empowers innovation from across the force.

## Analytical and Professional Outputs

Previous GELS events have produced formal analytical outputs, including contested logistics wargaming reports and structured problem-framing sessions that informed professional discourse across the Marine Corps and Joint logistics enterprise. GELS 2026 will continue to incorporate structured analytical engagement to translate discussion into institutional learning and actionable insights.

### GELS 2026 is structured to:

- Strengthen **joint and combined logistics integration**
- Accelerate responsible **industry-to-operator collaboration**
- Develop the next generation of **joint warfighting logisticians**
- Translate emerging concepts into **operationally actionable outcomes**

## Professional Recognition

The symposium includes AMCL's annual Logistics Excellence Awards ceremony, recognizing innovation, professional excellence, strategic partnership, and sustained contributions to the logistics enterprise. These awards reinforce logistics as a warfighting function and highlight individuals and teams advancing expeditionary readiness and modernization. Senior Marine Corps leaders are invited to participate in recognizing award recipients whose work directly supports the joint fight.

## Summary

As a professional forum for cross-sector dialogue and experimentation, GELS 2026 provides a structured venue to **test ideas, surface operational friction points, and strengthen the logistics profession's contribution to the fight.**