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NAVY ACQUISITION REFORM

INFO-ALERT



Program Assist Visits

What Are Program Assist Visits?

Program Assist Visits (PAV) are the focus of an Acquisition Reform Office (ARO) 2000 goal established by ASN (RDA) to expedite acquisition assistance to acquisition programs. PAVs are unique in that the assistance to programs can be a one-time effort to address a particular acquisition issue or the visits may take longer to address initiatives that require extensive involvement. The approach includes providing Subject Matter Experts (SME's) that link knowledge sources to programs and participate on Program Assist Teams. In addition, the assistance is only provided when **requested** by the Programs and is on a **non-attribution basis** with ARO's loyalty to the Programs.

Why Have Program Assist Teams?

With a decline in manpower, decreasing budgets and increasing operational demands, we need to help each other to **Work Smarter**. Our annual surveys have consistently shown that the acquisition workers want hands-on, personal assistance in learning how to use tools and to implement new processes. The Program Assist Teams are focused on specific problem areas to achieve results.

What is the Program Assist Approach?

- Step 1: Introductory visit with program**
 - Establish partnership
 - Identify potential opportunities for assistance
- Step 2: Second visit**
 - More detail on issues
 - Meet with Functional Managers
- Step 3: ARO Team provides recommendations for assistance**
 - Identify tools, knowledge sources and training
 - Identify Program Assist Team
- Step 4: Program Assist Team**
 - Charter/Schedule/Plan
- Step 5: Implement**
- Step 6: Conduct Periodic and Final Evaluations**
- Step 7: Follow-up**

Upcoming Events:

Navy Knowledge Fair	1 August
Navy-Industry R&D Partnership Conference	9-11 August
World Standards Day Conference	14-15 August
Military & Aerospace Avionics COTS Conf.	22-25 August

PAV's are:

- Available to all programs.
- May be a one-time visit or longer.
- Are provided only by the request of the Program.
- On a non-attribution basis.
- Loyal to the Programs.

What Areas Can My Program Get Assistance In?

Currently we have SMEs in the following areas, however, virtually all acquisition areas are included in PAV.

Systems Engineering

- EMI/EMC
- Modeling and Simulation
- Requirements Analysis
- Risk Management
- Testing

Integrated Logistics Contracting (Pre/Post award)

- ALPHA Contracting Techniques
- Source Selection

Performance based Acquisition

- Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS)
- Non-Developmental Items (NDI)

Acquisition Planning Process

- Program Metrics
- Risk Management

Business Financial Management

- ABC/ABM/EVM
- CAIV
- Cost Estimating
- Performance Measurements
- POM Support
- PPBS
- Resource Allocation

Team and Process Mgmt

- Integrated Product Teams (IPT)
- Integrated Product & Process Dev.

Information Technology

- H/W, S/W Acquisition
- IT Management Reform

Legal

Where Did The SME Nominations Come From?

Nominations were submitted in response to an ASN (RDA) letter, dated 7 December 1999, soliciting names for prospective SME team participants. It is an opportunity to recognize acquisition professionals for their capabilities. The following Commands submitted names for our list.

- USMC
- NAVAIR
- SPAWAR
- DoN CIO
- DASN (C4I/EW/Space)
- DCMA
- NAVSUP
- NAVSEA
- DRPM AAV
- PEO IT
- SSP



What is Program Assist Involved in Now?

We are currently involved in ten assist tasks and have established Partnerships with six Program Offices. (Their names have been withheld because we take non-attribution seriously) The following list provides an example of Acquisition areas PAV is involved in.

- Activity-based costing application to Program IPT structure
- Software support activity consolidation
- End of Production issues
- Contractor logistics support best value analysis process
- Human machine interface design
- Review statement of objectives
- Preparation of analysis of alternatives

We are looking forward to expansion of PAV partnerships with Programs, providing value to Programs and Program Managers, building a Navy-Wide Knowledge/Best Practices Bank, and working together to reach the Navy's goals. If you have any questions concerning Program Assist Visits, please contact Mary Lawson-Hines, ARO Communications & Outreach Director, 703-602-5506.