Acquisition Excellence

Monthly newsletter of the DON Acquisition Reform Office

SSP Celebrates A&LE Day

Strategic Systems Programs (SSP) will be celebrating Acquisition and Logistics Excellence Day on 17 Sept 02. Events kick off with selected branches briefing their new initiatives (SSGN, LE missile, Navy Treaty Implementation), and the application of Acquisition Excellence in those initiatives. Richard Sylvester, OSD (AI) will be the keynote speaker. For more information, call Victor Barnes, POC, at (202) 764-1545.

DAU CLC Offers New Course in PBL

The Defense Acquisition University (DAU) Continuous Learning Center (CLC) has announced a new online course in Performance Based Logistics (PBL). This three-hour course, worth three Continuous Learning Points (CLPs), presents PBL as the strategy of choice for product support. It is designed for the entire acquisition community, including AT&L workforce members, program managers, acquisition logisticians, sustainment logisticians, contracting personnel, and Defense contractors. The new module is available to all users of the DAU CLC at clc.dau.mil.

SECNAV Identifies Navy/Marine Corps CITEs

The Secretary of the Navy has selected thirteen depot maintenance activities (DMAs) as Centers for Industrial and Technological Excellence (CITEs). These centers have SECNAV delegated authority to enter into public-private partnerships to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of depot maintenance operations. Public-private partnerships are a successful tool in lowering overall maintenance costs and improving the products and services provided to the Fleet customer. For a complete list of the CITEs, see www.navsea.navy.mil/newswire_content.asp?txtDataID=6056. To read about a successful public-private partnership at Norfolk Naval Shipyard (NNSY), where the maintenance and repair of the Wasp-class, amphibious assault ship *USS KEARSAGE* was completed ten days ahead of schedule and within fixed-price budget, see www.navsea.navy.mil/featurestories_content.asp?txtDataID=5478&txtTypeID=4.

RTOC Forums

The 11th quarterly OSD Reduction in Total Ownership Cost (RTOC) Forum was held at the Institute of Defense Analysis (IDA) in Aug 02. At each Forum, approximately a quarter of the ten DON Pilot Programs, as well as the other Services' pilots, are designated to present updated briefings on their progress implementing RTOC. The goal of each designated pilot program is to reduce Operating and Support costs 20% by FY05 based on the FY99 baseline. To date, the programs project a cost avoidance of over $630M by FY05. This forum allows OSD and Service staffs to stay abreast of the Pilot Programs' progress while minimizing briefing demands on the Pilot Programs. It also allows the Pilots to share their experiences implementing RTOC and to gain the benefits of what has worked (or not worked) for other programs. Many Pilot Programs have commented about the benefits of the information exchanges at these Forums. More information on the forums can be found at rtoc.ida.org.

PROGRAM FOCUS: MRPII Process Approach

NAVAIR's Naval Air Depot Jacksonville (NAVDEP JAX) pursued the Manufacturing Resource Planning (MRPII) Process approach to address repair material and capacity needs for constantly changing aircraft usage patterns and configurations because planning based on historical usage was becoming too inaccurate and costly. This innovative and complex program is based on adapting an automated Commercial-off-the-Shelf (COTS) manufacturing planning tool, MRPII, to a repair environment, and having it work in conjunction with a COTS Project Management package. This software must then interface with the extensive and diverse legacy environment to create an automated plan whereby all resources rely on an integrated platform, operating in parallel fashion with the rest of the Navy and DoD. The MRPII approach is being implemented successfully; suppliers are acknowledging its logic; and customers are seeing improved performance. The MRPII Process Approach was a CY01 Packard Award nominee. For details about this ongoing process, contact the principal POC, Nancy Crook, Public Affairs Support Division Director, at (904) 542-3168 ext. 161 or crooknl@navair.navy.mil.

PM CoP CORNER

The Program Management Community of Practice (www.pmcop.dau.mil) has seen rapid membership growth and community activity since the May 02 introduction of a new interface and new features. The ARO/DAU team continues to focus on the content and functionality that many of you have identified as helpful. Performance centered learning materials for more acquisition related areas are quickly being developed every month. The site now includes an e-mail-integrated discussion area, and all four subcommunities have adopted "community connection" areas to keep their respective membership better informed. Membership has increased by 28%, and daily site visits have increased by 43%. We expect this type of growth to continue as more individuals recognize the benefit of participation in a community-facilitated collaboration throughout the Acquisition Workforce.

KUDOS

SECNAV has awarded a Meritorious Unit Commendation to the SPAWAR Communications Satellite Program Office (SPAWAR PMW-146) for outstanding management of the acquisition, launch, and on-orbit delivery of a $2.1 billion DoD satellite communications system. Twenty-one military officers and thirty civilians who have worked on the program since Mar 93 received the award. For details about this impressive program, read the news release at enterprise.spawar.navy.mil/spawarpublicsite/docs/nr-2002-014.pdf.

Upcoming Events

12 Sep 02 AFEI Knowledge Management and Enterprise Engineering Conference, George Washington University, Washington, DC (www.afei.org/brochure/2af1/)

12–14 Sep 02 SoCal Risk Management Symposium Registration, "Advancing the State of the Art of Risk Management," Hyatt Regency, Long Beach, CA (www.risksig.com/socal/index.html)

For an expanded list of the upcoming events and additional details, visit www.ar.navy.mil/events.cfm.

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