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p. **2** **Augustine's Laws and Major System Development Programs**

Norman R. Augustine

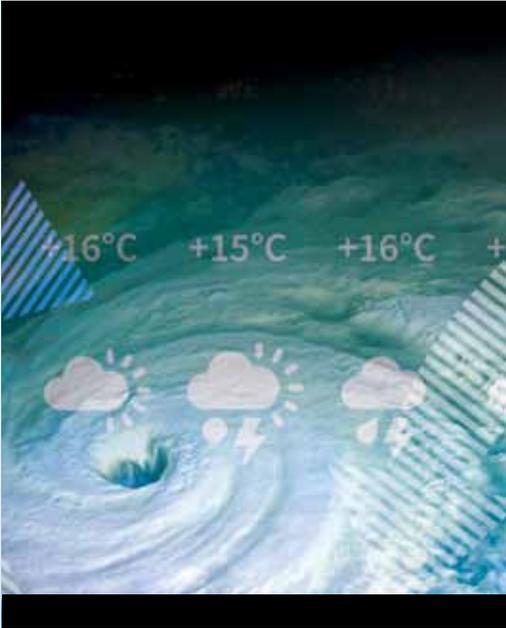
In this slightly irreverent essay, Mr. Augustine argues that the world of systems acquisition is governed by certain "laws" that are as immutable as the natural laws that govern the universe. It's an amusing look at some very real and very serious problems.



p. **64** **Moving from Best Practices to Standard Practices in Defense Acquisition**

Alex Miller and Joshua L. Ray

A decade of acquisition process improvement efforts has produced numerous best practices that have not spread to become standard practices. This research explores how organizations have successfully overcome the challenges of turning their isolated best practices into widespread standard practices.

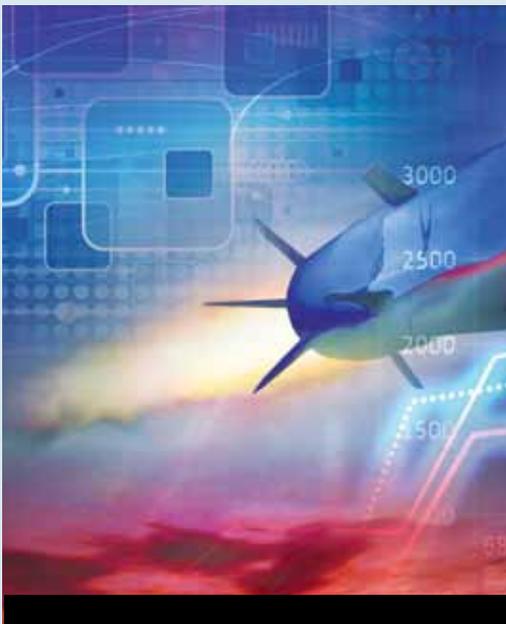


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Taming the Hurricane of Acquisition Cost Growth —Or at Least Predicting It

*Capt Allen J. DeNeve, USAF,
Lt Col Erin T. Ryan, USAF,
Lt Col Jonathan D. Ritschel, USAF, and
Christine Schubert Kabban*

A regression technique is used to predict cost growth in new acquisition programs by associating these programs with previous ones. This technique reduces cost estimate error in the earliest estimates by over one third.



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The Effects of System Prototype Demonstrations on Weapon Systems Development

*Edward J. Copeland, Thomas H. Holzer,
Timothy J. Eveleigh, and
Shahryar Sarkani*

The findings from this research indicate that system prototype demonstrations do indeed have a profound positive influence on the outcome of weapon systems development performance.

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