



DAU E-newsletter

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July-August 2012

President's Message

Dr. James McMichael Named Acting President of DAU



On behalf of DAU, I would like to congratulate Mrs. Katrina McFarland on her confirmation as the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Acquisition. This is a great honor for her and reflects well on DAU. As acting President, I can assure you this also will have a positive impact on the acquisition training DAU provides.

In addition to the high-quality training, mission assistance support, and learning assets they have come to expect from DAU, students will see a continued commitment to an easier registration process and state-of-the-art learning systems.

We remain committed to providing a global learning environment to develop qualified acquisition, requirements, and contingency professionals who deliver and sustain effective and affordable warfighting capabilities.

Better Buying Power Update

Symposium: The Limits of Competition in Defense Acquisition Research

Recent efficiency and affordability initiatives are the latest in a number of efforts to foster competition among DoD suppliers in order to hold down costs. The changes in the acquisition environment raise the question of whether competition is an efficient means of managing costs, especially in a single buyer market (i.e., DoD) that limits the options for suppliers.

The Limits of Competition symposium, to be held at the DAU Fort Belvoir campus Sept. 18-19, is intended to address these issues by bringing together international researchers and decision-makers to assess ramifications and risks of competition in defense acquisition and provide insights to inform related policymaking.

[Learn more.](#)

We Want Your Feedback!

As a member of the Defense Acquisition Workforce, you receive this e-newsletter to stay abreast of relevant policies, updates, and learning assets. Please let us know how we can improve or expand this publication to best address your training and on-the-job knowledge support needs. You may submit suggestions via e-mail to communications@dau.mil.

Please note that this address is for e-newsletter **feedback only**. For subscription and other support issues, please contact dauhelp@dau.mil.

Learning Assets

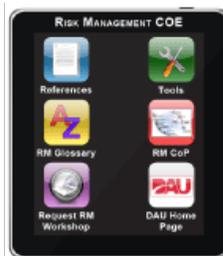
Improving Milestone Process Effectiveness

On June 23, 2011, PDUSD(AT&L) issued direction designed to improve the effectiveness of the milestone review process.

The new procedures ensure adequate opportunity for MDA review of program plans prior to release of the final RFP, the point at which DoD requirements, schedule, planned program content, and available funding should be available for review. These procedural changes constitute expected business practice and shall be applied to programs in acquisition categories I and IA and II-IV.

[Learn more.](#)

New Risk Management Center of Excellence



The new Risk Management Center of Excellence contains over 60 risk-related informational objects; clearly detailed explanations of risk assessment techniques as Monte Carlo simulation, Delphi, and Pareto; evaluations of the capabilities of popular software risk analysis tools; and links to other key sites in the risk management community, such as the Program Management Institute, International Council on Systems Engineering, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

[Learn more.](#)

DoD Maintenance Resources

A presentation by the OSD Maintenance Policy & Programs Office from the 2012 DoD Product Support Manager Conference in June offers a concise overview of the key depot maintenance statutes most significantly affecting the life cycle logistics community and DoD product support managers.

On his blog, Bill Kobren, director of the Logistics & Sustainment Center at DAU, links to and contextualizes the presentation with related Continuous Learning Modules, learning assets, and course materials that address this topic area.

[Learn more.](#)

Incorporating T&E Information into DoD Acquisition Contracts

The *Incorporating Test & Evaluation Information into DoD Acquisition Contracts* guide is designed to help test and evaluation (T&E) professionals identify items to consider when drafting a statement of objectives, a statement of work, and a request for proposal, as well as during solicitation and contract execution. The guide contains various lists to provide a baseline for discussions, analyses, decisions, and review for T&E items or requirements.

[Learn more.](#)

August 1
Entry
Deadline!



Under Secretary for Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics

Workforce Development Award Program

Click [here](#) for more information.



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