



May 2016

# eNEWSLETTER

## BETTER BUYING POWER UPDATE

### Choosing the Right Contract Type

Determining which contract type is best for a particular situation isn't always easy. Lately, many discussions have centered on the potential over-use of "lowest-price technically acceptable" or LPTAs. The latest version of the annual defense authorization bill passed by the House Armed Services Committee takes the debate one step further and orders the Department of Defense to comb its records and determine the prevalence of LPTA source selections in Defense acquisition.

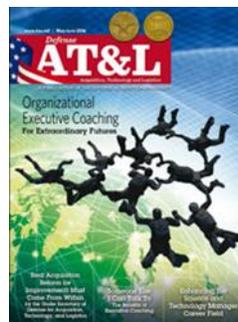
To help contracting officers and program managers better navigate selection of an appropriate contract type, Claire Grady, the Director for Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, issued new guidance that clarifies the criteria for [using incentive and other contract types](#).

## RESOURCES

### Defense AT&L Magazine

The [May-June edition](#) features "Pursuit of the Possible—USSOCOM's Technical Experimentation Program" by Tom McGowan

The U.S. Special Operations Command's Technical Experimentation program brings together users, program managers and technology developers (private and public) in a collaborative environment to rapidly evaluate new technologies. McGowan demonstrates how this unique approach simplifies the acquisition process and benefits the warfighter.



## LEARNING ASSETS

### Hot Topic Forum

#### *Aligning Warfighter Needs to Budget*

In this session, Mr. Jose Gonzalez, Deputy Director, Land Warfare and Munitions, will discuss the disparity between the needs and expectations of the warfighter with the established defense acquisition process. He will explore the agility and limitations of the calendar-based Planning, Programming, Budgeting and Execution (PPBE) and funding cycles when compared to the agility the warfighter expects as emerging threats often require timely delivery of capabilities. He will also discuss possible solutions, such as how the Department of Defense and Congress can work together to better meet these expectations.

Date: Wednesday, May 18

Time: 11:30 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

Location: DAU Fort Belvoir

[Bldg. 226, Howell Auditorium](#)

CLPs: 1.5

### Upcoming Lunch & Learns

The DAU Lunch & Learn program is your weekly opportunity to interact with subject matter experts and brush up on the latest trends in defense acquisition.



#### [May 25: Acquisition Planning Simulation Overview](#)

A hands-on acquisition planning experience enabling teams to better understand the mechanics of the Acquisition Planning Process.

#### [June 8: Cybersecurity from a Systems Engineering Perspective](#)

Learn more about the System Security Engineer's critical role in supporting implementation of the Risk Management Framework.

#### [June 15: The Materiel Fielding Plan](#)

Discover how the materiel fielding plan serves as the program's single standalone document supporting the deployment of a fully manned, trained, and supported materiel system.

### President's Message

Mr. James P. Woolsey  
@DAUPrez



*The time between major conflicts is critical for acquisition.*

*It's important for workforce members to focus their talent, professionalism and creativity to provide our warfighters a decisive advantage over future threats.*



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