

provided APSS to PBL-related processes and capabilities, including supply chain management, demand forecasting, obsolescence management, logistics surveillance, and partnering arrangements. This has been a growth area for DCMA support over the last two years.

Another focus area for APSS within DCMA has been performance-based payments (PBP). With its many years of experience, DCMA is able to advise buying activities on how best to develop PBP plans of action. In fact, the Professional Services Council IPT is considering recommending coordination with DCMA and the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) to improve contract structuring and facilitate timely payments of certain contracts, including those containing performance-based payment provisions.

APSS in Action

DCMA has provided APSS support to many major defense acquisition programs over the years, most recently to such programs critical to DoD's future as Future Combat Systems, DD(X), Joint Tactical Radio System (JTRS), the High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS), E2 Advanced Hawkeye, Tactical Tomahawk, Joint Standoff Weapon (Baseline and Unitary), Advanced Extreme High Frequency (AEHF) Satellite, Multi-Sensor Command and Control Aircraft System (MC2A), and the Joint Strike Fighter. As DCMA transforms to a customer-centered culture and focuses on customer outcomes as a measure of our success, the importance of APSS to our future becomes apparent. It is by helping our customers to succeed that we will become an indispensable partner.

Editor's note: The author welcomes questions and comments and can be reached at bob.hunter@dcma.mil.

Learn More About DCMA and APSS

The Defense Acquisition University (DAU) Continuous Learning Center has a continuous learning module entitled "Leveraging DCMA for Program Success." The module provides details on the products and services provided by DCMA to a program manager and program management office staff. You'll learn how DCMA support can be used to reduce program risk and how to contact DCMA to arrange for program support. Also included is a lesson describing DCMA's APSS support and how you can best utilize APSS to improve your acquisitions. You can access the continuous learning center modules at <http://clc.dau.mil>.

DCMA's Web site, www.dcma.mil, has additional information describing agency policies on APSS, DCMA's APSS Guidebook, and links to other APSS-related policy and guidance.

Office of Force Transformation Unveils Primer on Network-Centric Warfare (Jan. 7, 2004)



To download a copy, go to the Office of Force Transformation Web site at:

<http://www.offt.osd.mil/index.cfm>