



Air Force Unveils New Acquisition Reform Concept

WASHINGTON (AFNS) – Aiming to make acquisitions better, faster, and cheaper, the Air Force is rolling out a more efficient process to acquire new weapon systems.

The acquisition and sustainment reinvention process will combine current reforms into a solid foundation across the entire acquisition and sustainment community. It will also create reform teams to study, develop, and test potential reforms before they are deployed across the Air Force. There also will be more emphasis on communication, education, training, and follow-through on performance gains for all reforms.

"We expect to achieve greater successes from every person, dollar, and hour that we expend to acquire and sustain our current and new weapon systems," said Darleen Druyun, principal deputy for acquisition and management.

This cultural shift is based on five key points:

– Communicate. Provides a clear, unobstructed two-way path for getting workforce and industry process improvement ideas to senior Air Force leaders.

– Integrate. Provides long-term cohesion by aligning current and proposed reform initiatives, eliminating redundancy, and providing greater efficiencies.

– Re-engineer. Realigns processes based on careful investigation of needed improvements to the business process, plus proper alignment of workforce incentives to process and product.

– Follow-through. Validates initiatives before deployment and identifies relevant performance measures for improved product delivery.

– Reward. Gives incentives and rewards workforce innovation and support.

This new concept will take installation, system, and sustainment process improvement ideas directly from the workforce and industry. Each new initiative will be tested and validated to make sure the result is smart, practical, and sustainable. The re-engineered process will deploy across the acquisition community with the tools, training, and guidance needed for an integrated acquisition process that is better, faster, and cheaper.

The Air Force used Acquisition Reform Week 98 (May 4-8) as a forum to unveil this new approach to the workforce through a live television broadcast from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisition). The broadcast included a panel discussion with Dr. Jacques Gansler, Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition & Technology), along with Air Force and Defense Department leaders.

The broadcast aired from May 4. It was also broadcast as streaming video on the Internet at <http://www.safaq.hq.af.mil/reformweek>. It will also be sent to Air Force installations on the Air Force Education and Training Network.

Editor's Note: This information is in the public domain at <http://www.af.mil/news> on the Internet.