



## Conferences, Workshops & Symposia

### 96TH AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS (MAY 2, 2006) EGLIN'S LEAN EVENT IMPROVES CONTRACT PROCESS

Brian Kern

**E**GLIN AIR FORCE BASE, Fla., May 2, 2006—Put 10 strangers into a room together for a week and tell them to change the world—that's what happened at Eglin's first Lean Rapid Improvement Event in March.

In the world of civil engineering, SABER, or Simplified Acquisition Base Engineering Requirements, will never be the same after the team improved its contracting procedures.

Similar to iterations of prior successful efforts, the Lean program intends to create a new way of thinking, cultivate a spirit of "doing it right the first time," and improve overall effectiveness and efficiency.

Lt. Col. Robert Menard, 96th Air Base Wing Contracting Squadron commander, championed the Eglin session and is encouraged that it doesn't take a Lean subject matter expert to implement prescribed changes and improvements.

"It's much more of a common sense approach," Menard said. "With about a day's worth of training, you can really see the potential benefits."

The Lean program was established under the umbrella of "Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century," or AFSO21, to make necessary continuous process improvements in Air Force operations and accountabilities.

"It doesn't have all of the statistical control of Total Quality Management," Menard said. "This is exciting because you can see immediate changes and improvements. The magic is in learning the basics and making it part of your process toward continual improvement."

Gary Wollam, Air Armament Center Strategic Planning director, said there are many methods for accomplishing continuous process improvements.

"The Air Force is leaning heavily toward Lean as the method of choice," Wollam said. "Its concepts are easy

to understand and relatively simple to apply after only a limited amount of training. And Lean is best learned by doing Lean events such as the SABER RIE."

Menard said programs like this and related programs such as TQM are generally thought to be production-based but can be geared toward non-production-based

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work places: "If it can be applied in our setting where all we do is paperwork, it can be applied anywhere."

Maxine Reed, 96th Air Base Wing lead strategic planner, attended the SABER RIE last month and she had one word for the experience: "Awesome!"

"What made it work so well was that everyone was passionate," Reed said. "This is something that really needs buy in from senior leadership, and we had that—we were empowered."

Reed said the RIE group followed a paper trail for 3.2 miles, searching for steps that could be deleted from the process. She said an average timeframe for a contract to be awarded after it hits the SABER was reduced from 95 days to 44 days.

*Kern is with 96th Air Base Wing Public Affairs, Eglin AFB, Fla.*

### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION FORUM

**T**he Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology & Logistics, Unique Identification (UID) Program Office, has sponsored two UID Forums in 2006—Seattle, Wash., and Provi-



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dence, R.I.—to provide practical guidance to military program managers and DoD contractors. These UID Forums provide practical guidance and help educate military and civilian program managers and DoD contractors, particularly small- to mid-sized contractors and all acquisition program managers, on how to achieve successful UID implementation as required by the DoD Policy Memoranda and the issuance of the Final UID DFARS Rule (dated April 22, 2005). The third forum will be held Sept. 12-13, 2006, in Dallas, Texas. Register at <https://www.registrationassistant.com/p/rg.asp?Event=4FFBF895C3992C504B2BE> for help with successful UID implementation as required by DoD policy (DFARS 211.274).

### MILITARY LOGISTICS SUMMIT 2006

**T**he Military Logistics Summit 2006, sponsored by the Institute for Defense and Government Advancement (IDGA), will be held Sept. 18-20, at the Sheraton Premiere, in Tyson's Corner, Vienna, Va. This highly anticipated forum is a place where hundreds of senior-level attendees will converge to share case studies, view new and emerging technologies, network with their peers, define challenges, and benchmark progress with military logistics experts. Retired Army Gen. Jack Keane, the former Army chief operating officer, will serve as the keynote speaker. His remarks will focus on "Transformational Management in a Complex Organization." Register for the summit at <http://www.iqpc.com/cgi-bin/templates/genevent.html?topic=329&event=10555&>.

### SECOND ANNUAL OBSCURANTS CONFERENCE

**T**he joint project manager for nuclear, biological and chemical contamination avoidance, product manager for reconnaissance and obscuration, Aberdeen, Md., is organizing the Second Annual Obscurants 2006 conference. The conference will be held Oct. 2-5, 2006, in Destin, Fla. The four-day conference will consist of presentations, discussions, and exhibits focusing on applications to modern warfare with an afternoon of off-site field demonstrations. Conference organizers are looking for presentations and posters on topics including but not limited to applications of smoke in the field (specifically Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom), current and future capabilities and systems, modeling and simulation, environmental issues, toxicology, and dissemination methods. For more information, visit the conference Web site at <http://www.obscurants2006.com>, or contact the conference organizers at [obscurants\\_2006@bah.com](mailto:obscurants_2006@bah.com).

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENTERPRISE TRANSFORMATION

**T**he International Conference on Enterprise Transformation will be held Oct. 17-18, 2006, at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C. Sponsored by the newly established Business Transformation Agency (BTA), the theme of the 2006 conference is *Defense Business Agility*. BTA will use this event as a conduit to inform both DoD and the defense contractor community of its priorities and plans for changing how DoD does business. Register for the conference at [http://www.afei.org/brochure/7a01/?action=add&evt\\_key=d1e22fb4-6106-4bfb-94fd-562656f7d9f0&Paying=Fees](http://www.afei.org/brochure/7a01/?action=add&evt_key=d1e22fb4-6106-4bfb-94fd-562656f7d9f0&Paying=Fees).

### PMI GLOBAL CONGRESS 2006

**M**ark your calendars now for the Project Management Institute (PMI) Global Congress 2006, to be held Oct. 21-24, in Seattle, Wash. In an era of rapid change and global trends, successful project managers must be prepared to manage projects on time and within budget, regardless of project type, scope, or location, and despite newly emerging challenges. The PMI Global Congress 2006 is the major project management educational and networking event for North America. This three-day event gives you the chance to gather the know-how and inspiration you need to consolidate and put into practice those key project management guidelines that make the difference in terms of project success. The Global Congress is also a meeting point for experts to discuss the most challenging project management trends. Watch the PMI Web site at <http://congresses.pmi.org> for future information on registration.

### 11TH ANNUAL EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE CONFERENCE

**T**he 11th Annual Expeditionary Warfare Conference will be held Oct. 23-26, 2006, at the Marriott Bay Point Resort Village in Panama City, Fla. For more information on this year's conference, contact Simone Baldwin, meeting planner, at 703-247-2596 or e-mail [sbaldwin@ndia.org](mailto:sbaldwin@ndia.org). Registration information will be posted as soon as it becomes available at <http://register.ndia.org/interview/register.ndia?#May2006>.

### ANNUAL SYSTEMS ENGINEERING CONFERENCE

**T**he 9th Annual Systems Engineering Conference will be held Oct. 23-27, 2006, at the Hyatt Islandia in San Diego, Calif. Registration information will



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be posted as soon as it becomes available at <http://register.ndia.org/interview/register.ndia?#May2006>.

### 2006 TACOM APBI

**T**he 2006 TACOM APBI (Tank-automotive and Armaments Command—Advance Planning Briefing for Industry) will be held Oct. 25-27, 2006, at the Hyatt Regency Dearborn in Dearborn, Mich. The TACOM APBI provides broad-based business planning information to industry relating to future tank-automotive and armament plans, programs, and acquisition opportunities. As the agenda and registration details are finalized, they will be posted online at <http://eweb.ndia.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=ndia&Webcode=EventList>.

### 44TH ANNUAL TARGETS, UAV'S, AND RANGE OPERATIONS SYMPOSIUM AND EXHIBITION

**T**he 44th Annual Targets, UAVs & Range Operations Symposium & Exhibition will be held Oct. 30-Nov. 1, 2006, at the Marriott Bay Point Resort Village Golf & Yacht Club. In today's environment there is an increased emphasis on joint operations by the Defense Department and the Defense Industry. This event will provide a forum for open exchange of technical and programmatic information between the Defense Department, its military services, industry representatives, and foreign organizations in the test and evaluation of air-to-air and ground-to-air weapons systems, which provide air/ground crew training for combat readiness. Watch the conference Web site for details on registration <http://eweb.ndia.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=ndia&Webcode=EventList>. For more information contact Simone L. Baldwin, meeting planner, at 703-247-2596 or e-mail [sbaldwin@ndia.org](mailto:sbaldwin@ndia.org).

### ARMY SMALL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

**T**he Army Small Business Conference will be held Nov. 1-2, 2006, at the Hilton McLean, in Tysons Corner, Vienna, Va. An agenda for the conference will be posted soon at <http://eweb.ndia.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=ndia&Webcode=EventList>. For questions or inquiries contact: Carissa Mirasol, meeting planner at 703-247-2588 or [cmirasol@ndia.org](mailto:cmirasol@ndia.org).

### 2006 PEO/SYSCOM COMMANDERS' CONFERENCE

**T**he 2006 Program Executive Officer/Systems Command (PEO/SYSCOM) Commanders' Conference will be held at the Defense Acquisition University,

Fort Belvoir, Va., Nov. 7-8, 2006. The PEO/SYSCOM conferences and workshops are a series of senior-level, invitation-only, non-attribution events that host approximately 400 Department of Defense and industry participants at each event. They provide senior leadership from the Department of Defense and Industry an excellent opportunity to meet and share their views and priorities. As the agenda is finalized, a Web site with information on the 2006 conference will be publicized.

### SAN DIEGO SPAWAR INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

**T**he 2006 SPAWAR Industry conference will be held Nov. 14-16, 2006, at the Bahia Hotel and Resort in San Diego, Calif. This year's event is presented by the National Defense Industrial Association and the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command. The Industry Conference is a major symposium for senior military, government, and industry officials to share their visionary and strategic perspective on the requirements, resources, development and implementation of initiatives that will provide direction for industry to shape business. For more information and details on upcoming registration, watch the conference Web site at <http://eweb.ndia.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=ndia&Webcode=EventList>.

### 25TH ARMY SCIENCE CONFERENCE

**T**he 25th Army Science Conference will be held Nov. 27-30, 2006, at the JW Marriott Orlando, Grande Lakes, in Orlando, Fla. The 25th ASC marks a significant milestone for the Army science and technology community, with this year's conference theme paying tribute to 50 years of promoting and showcasing the Army's S&T program: *Transformational Army Science and Technology—Charting the Next 50 Years of Science and Technology for the Soldier*. The Army Science Conference is an annual event sponsored by the assistant secretary of the Army (acquisition, logistics and technology). Watch for details of the conference and registration information at <http://www.asc2006.com/>.

### 2006 NCMA GOVERNMENT CONTRACT MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

**T**he 2006 National Contract Management Association (NCMA) Government Contract Management Conference will be held Dec. 4-5, 2006, in Tysons Corner, Va. Watch The NCMA Web site for upcoming details of the conference and registration information <http://www.ncmahq.org/meetings/calendar.asp>.



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### THE INTERSERVICE/INDUSTRY TRAINING, SIMULATION, AND EDUCATION CONFERENCE (I/ITSEC)

**T**he 2006 Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation, and Education Conference (I/ITSEC) will be held Dec. 4-7, 2006, in Orlando, Fla. This year's theme will be *Training the 21st Century Joint Force ... Mission Focused to Achieve Warfighting Excellence*. As in past years, this year's event will welcome participants from Army Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and industry. Its objectives are to promote cooperation among the military services, industry, academia, and various government agencies in pursuit of improved training and education programs, identification of common training issues, and development of multi-Service programs. Initiated in 1966 as the Naval Training Device Center/Industry Conference, the conference has evolved and expanded through increased participation by all the Services as well as industry. Registration for the conference will begin in fall 2006. Watch the conference Web site at <http://www.iitsec.org/registration.cfm> for more conference information and details on registration.

### 23RD ANNUAL TEST AND EVALUATION CONFERENCE

**T**he 23rd Annual Test and Evaluation Conference will take place March 12-15, 2007, at the Westin Resort Hilton Head Island, Hilton Head Island, S.C. This national conference is invaluable to those tasked with directing and executing system development programs for the Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Energy, and other government departments tasked with various elements of our nation's security. Test planners, M&S users and developers, range operators, program managers, military personnel charged with system acquisition responsibilities, industrial professionals, and others under contract with the government to provide support to our nation's defenses will also benefit. For registration or more information on this year's event, watch the conference Web site at <http://eweb.ndia.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=ndia&Webcode=EventList>.

### 23RD ANNUAL NATIONAL LOGISTICS CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

**T**he 23rd Annual National Logistics Conference and Exhibition will be held March 19-22, 2007, at the Hyatt Regency Miami, Miami Convention Center, in Miami, Fla. Share insights with senior DoD leadership, top industry executives, project directors and program

managers, information technology providers and developers, government policy makers and regulators, defense contractors and design professionals, third party logistics providers, and equipment suppliers and manufacturers. For more information on this year's event, contact Meredith Geary, meeting planner, at [mgeary@ndia.org](mailto:mgeary@ndia.org) or call (703) 247-9476. For details on registration, watch the conference Web site at <http://eweb.ndia.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=ndia&Webcode=EventList>.

### GUNS AND MISSILE SYSTEMS CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

**T**he 42nd Annual Armament Systems: Guns and Missile Systems Conference and Exhibition will be held April 23-26, 2007, in Charlotte, N.C. The 2007 conference will present topics that demonstrate how our nation's current gun, munition, and missile system technologies can be adapted and evolved to meet tomorrow's missions and operations. For more information on the conference, contact Heather Horan, meeting planner at [hhoran@ndia.org](mailto:hhoran@ndia.org) or call (703)247-2570. Watch for registration details at <http://eweb.ndia.org/eweb/DynamicPage.aspx?Site=ndia&Webcode=EventList>.

### DEFENSE ACQUISITION UNIVERSITY ACQUISITION COMMUNITY CONFERENCE/SYMPOSIUM 2007

**M**ark your calendar and plan ahead to attend the April 17, 2007, Defense Acquisition University Community Conference/Symposium, sponsored by the Defense Acquisition University Alumni Association. Watch the association Web site at <http://www.dauaa.org> for future announcements, updates, and registration information.

### FEDERAL ACQUISITION CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION (FACE) POSTPONED TO 2007

**T**he Federal Acquisition Institute (FAI), based upon recommendations of the Federal Acquisition Conference and Exposition (FACE) Steering Committee, composed of the FACE sponsors, determined not to hold FACE in 2006. The next FACE will be in 2007. It will continue to be sponsored by the Chief Acquisition Officers Council, Federal Acquisition Institute, U.S. General Services Administration, and Department of Defense. For more information on 2006 FAI scheduled events, visit the FAI Web site at <http://www.fai.gov/resource/face2006.htm>.