

DAU and NDIA to Sponsor Defense Systems Acquisition Management Course Offering for Industry Managers

Defense Acquisition University and the National Defense Industrial Association will sponsor an offering of the Defense Systems Acquisition Management course for interested industry managers March 2-6, 2009, at the MiraMonte Resort and Spa, Indian Wells, Calif. DSAM presents the same acquisition policy information provided to DoD students who attend the DAU courses for acquisition certification training. It is designed to meet the needs of defense industry acquisition managers in today's dynamic environment, providing the latest information related to:

- Defense acquisition policy for weapons and information technology systems, including discussion of the DoD 5000 series (directive and instruction), and the *Defense Acquisition Guidebook*
- Defense acquisition reform and initiatives
- Defense acquisition procedures and processes
- The planning, programming, budgeting, and execution process, and the congressional budget process
- The relationship between capability needs determination, resource allocation, science and technology activities, and acquisition programs.

All course materials will be provided to students on CD ROM. It is highly recommended that students bring a laptop computer with them to the class. If students do not have access to a laptop, please contact the respective meeting planner as soon as possible. There will be a limited number of laptops available for use through NDIA, so please call early.

For further information see "Courses Offered" under "Meetings and Events" at <www.ndia.org>. Industry students should contact Michael Dauth, mdauth@ndia.org or 703-247-2593. A limited number of experienced government students may be selected to attend each offering. Prospective government students must first contact Karen Byrd at karen.byrd@dau.mil or 703-805-3728 prior to registering with NDIA.

DoDI 5000.02 Supporting Documents

The new Integrated Defense Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Life Cycle Management System Chart (front and back) is available for review on the Defense Acquisition University's AT&L Knowledge Sharing System Web site at <<https://akss.dau.mil/default.aspx>>. The chart is currently available only as a PDF file. The interactive chart, however, is under development and will be deployed after the new links and URLs have been created.

DAU Announces New iCatalog

DAU is pleased to introduce the new Interactive Catalog, or iCatalog. The iCatalog, a Web-based version of the university's printed catalog, provides the most current information available to the workforce regarding DAU courses, the acquisition career fields, the Certification and Core Plus Development Guides, and other information traditionally found in the DAU printed catalog.

The iCatalog introduces an interactive-based platform for navigation of catalog information. It has been designed so you can easily find the information you're looking for in just one to three clicks of the mouse. Through the iCatalog, you can also access your component's course registration system and the browse feature of most distance learning (training and continuous learning) courses—a one-stop-shopping experience for all your acquisition career-long learning needs. Try it out at <<http://icatalog.dau.mil/>>. The iCatalog will continue to improve to meet your needs. If you have thoughts or comments, click on the comment link at the bottom of the iCatalog home page.

Strategic Goals Implementation Plan V2.0 2008

Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics John Young continues to emphasize the importance of the AT&L Source Document. This document seeks to provide the acquisition team a foundational set of principles for how AT&L runs its business. Review the entire AT&L Source Document at <https://akss.dau.mil/documents/policy/20080207_sgip.pdf>.

Young encourages acquisition professionals to use the Source Document principles, approaches, and goals to guide management and execution of defense acquisition programs.

DoD Announces Major Revision to Acquisition Policy

The AT&L Knowledge Sharing System Web Site, sponsored by the Defense Acquisition University, has posted a major revision to DoD Instruction 5000.02, DoD Acquisition System at <<https://akss.dau.mil/default.aspx>>. The revision was approved by Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics John Young effective Dec. 8, 2008.

This revision, the first major change to acquisition policy in over five years, reflects the department's determination to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of its enterprise-wide acquisition business processes so it can continue to provide warfighters with the best weapons systems and support in the world. Highlights of the new directive:

- A mandatory acquisition process entry point: Programs will be required to proceed through a materiel devel-

opment decision review to ensure they are based on approved requirements and a rigorous assessment of alternatives.

- Competitive prototyping: Programs will be required to implement acquisition strategies requiring a technology development phase where two or more competing teams will produce prototypes of the system or key components. Consequently, technologies will have to be demonstrated and proven before engineering development is initiated.
- More frequent and effective program reviews to assess progress. Two key engineering reviews, the preliminary design review and the critical design review, become significant program decision points to allow acquisition authorities to assess progress.
- Configuration steering boards: These boards provide a forum that can preclude destabilizing requirements changes and avoid a problem that has traditionally contributed to increased costs and extended schedules. Program managers can use this forum to control requirements creep and seek moderation of requirements, which become costly drivers in the system design.
- Technology readiness assessments: Independent reviews must certify the maturity of program technologies for a program to progress to the costly final phase of development.
- Engineering and manufacturing development: The final phase of system development is returned to the previous label of "Engineering and Manufacturing Development." This name change is intended to emphasize the focus on engineering and manufacturing development during the final, costly phase that leads to initial production. Technology development and basic system design work should be accomplished in the earlier technology development phase.
- More effective test and evaluation: Test activity will be integrated into every acquisition development phase to facilitate early identification and correction of technical and operational deficiencies.

Young co-signed the new policies with Dr. Charles E. McQueary, the director, Operational Test and Evaluation, and John G. Grimes, assistant secretary of defense for Networks and Information Integration. McQueary noted that "this policy revision incorporates all the policy initiatives I have supported—principal among them being integrated developmental and operational testing with results available to all." Young said, "The directive reflects his conviction that our policies must be more disciplined and effective to ensure that results are more predictable and that we are better stewards of taxpayer dollars." Grimes commented,

"This directive is particularly important because it sets in place policy guiding early consideration of the radio frequency spectrum to enable better management of competing battlefield requirements that have become a growing concern in theater. As the DoD CIO, this new instruction also reinforces early consideration of information security, information technology architecture, and interoperability to ensure we can continue to benefit from assured net-centric operations."

DAU Continuous Learning Center

The Defense Acquisition University Continuous Learning Center <<http://clc.dau.mil>> is dedicated to the delivery of continuous learning opportunities supporting the acquisition workforce.

To fulfill the DoD acquisition professional's requirement for obtaining 80 continuous learning points every two years, the Continuous Learning Center offers 228 learning modules (as of Nov. 12) that encompass seven categories:

- Acquisition Management
- Business
- Contracting
- Engineering and Technology
- Harvard ManageMentor Plus Topics
- Logistics
- Program Management

ACQuipedia—It's About Collaboration

Have you ever needed more information on a topic than merely a definition from the Defense Acquisition University Glossary, but considerably less information than contained in an entire manual? Then ACQuipedia is your solution! ACQuipedia is an encyclopedia of common acquisition topics and terms. It is a collaborative, peer-created reference tool for sharing authoritative information on topics of interest to the acquisition community. Information is presented in articles that contain a brief definition or description of the topic and a narrative that provides further detail. An ACQuipedia article will also contain links to relevant policies and directives, guides and tools, training, and other resources. This will provide the workforce with quick access to the information they want tailored to their specific needs. ACQuipedia articles will be created by DAU faculty, staff, and qualified subject matter experts from outside the university. Article topics can be selected based on personal knowledge or interest or may be selected from a list of topics needed.

Get involved today! For more information, visit <<https://acc.dau.mil/acquipedias>>.