



Conferences, Workshops & Symposia

ANNUAL SUMMIT ON UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION

Heather Vaughan

On Nov. 17, 2004, Michael Wynne, acting undersecretary of defense for acquisition, technology and logistics, kicked off the first annual summit on Unique Identification and Radio Frequency Identification. The summit provided a forum for program managers, industry partners, and the military services to discuss challenges, benefits, and lessons learned.

Wynne began the discussion with a policy update and an implementation timeline for UID. His vision is for a fully integrated situational knowledge of people, places, and items by 2010. For example, a quick computer search of comprehensive registries could yield a listing of items such as spare parts or weaponry at nearby bases, along with the location of those bases and a listing of troops available there. Thus, both people and items can be identified and located for rapid deployment response.

Wynne's remarks were followed by presentations from the Navy, Army, and Air Force about their overarching concepts of operations specific to UID for items. Each Service is embracing UID as an agent of change that will increase its logistics efficiency. Although adoption is initially focused on new acquisitions, all the Services are using maintenance as a trigger for legacy item marking and are making a point of ensuring that all automated information systems acquired in the future are designed to exploit the possible applications of UID.

The CH-47 is the Army's pilot program, and it is rapidly implementing and utilizing UID in daily operations. Having gone beyond the requirements of only marking items and sub-assemblies valued at over \$5,000, the CH-47 program has targeted 1,175 separate parts for marking. Legacy parts are being marked in the field during scheduled and unscheduled maintenance, and over 780 parts have already been marked in this manner. Col. Tim Crosby, presenter for the CH-47 program, stressed that the focus of UID must not be on marking parts, but rather on developing intelligent data, and this will only be accomplished once the registry is fully operational.

Navy also presented a concept of operations that went beyond the DoD requirements. Navy considers UID a strategic imperative that is critical in the transformation to a proactive, predictive fleet-readiness culture. Navy

faces challenges in implementation standardization and UID integration but is forging ahead with its F/A-18 program. Its goal is to begin legacy marking by October of 2005, with full UID compliance by October of 2010.

The Air Force is using the C-17 as its model program and is in the process of finalizing its implementation plan. Since May of 2004, all C-17s have had their landing gear marked during retrofitting, and 100 percent of the drawings for support equipment have been updated to include Unique Item Identifiers (UIIs).

Air Force Col. Greg Sparks, speaking about his experience with the C-17 program, said that serialized item management enhanced by UID has already begun to show its potential. It recently became necessary to locate all aircraft containing a part from a specific lot. The part was located under the dashboard, and without a listing of marked parts, it would have been necessary to disassemble the entire dashboard to view the part and its lot number. Because the parts had been catalogued, the registry could be scanned for all parts from that lot. The corresponding aircraft were identified, and it was possible to ground only the affected aircraft instead of the whole fleet.

Following the presentations, LeAntha Sumpter, program manager for UID, provided a roadmap of the next steps for UID, including developing a policy for the marking of legacy items, marking items with virtual UIIs and incorporating them into the registry, and integrating UII with real property UIIs.

DOD E-BUSINESS/STANDARD PROCUREMENT SYSTEM JOINT USERS' CONFERENCE

TRANSFORMING THE ACQUISITION DOMAIN

Linda Polonsky-Hillmer

More than 850 Department of Defense acquisition and procurement professionals attended the DoD E-Business/Standard Procurement System Joint Users' Conference in Houston, Texas, Nov. 15-19, 2004.

Entitled, "Transforming the Acquisition Domain," the five-day conference emphasized the changing role for contracting professionals in DoD and the automated systems, such as the Standard Procurement System (SPS),



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Deidre Lee, director of defense procurement and acquisition policy, leads the crowd in a round of applause for the organizers of the E-Business/SPS Joint Users' Conference. "SPS is no longer just a contract writing system," she said. "It has evolved into a business intelligence system, making it possible for us to be strategic business advisors." Photographs courtesy CorpComm, Inc.

that support that change. Automated tools such as SPS will provide tomorrow's professionals a more strategic business focus, becoming business brokers through the use of automated tools such as SPS.

The general session drew DoD leaders like Kay Cole James, director, Office of Personnel Management; Deidre A. Lee, director of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy (DPAP); Mark E. Krzysko, deputy director, DPAP, E-Business; Ronald Poussard, deputy director, DPAP, Defense Acquisition Regulations System; Army Col. Jacob Haynes, SPS program manager; and Army Col. Victoria Diego-Allard, commander of the U.S. Army Contracting Command, Europe.

The focus of the conference was on how acquisition and procurement professionals support the warfighter, and it was a theme many speakers honed in on, including Lee. "Sometimes it's probably hard for us, in the safety of our cubicles, to see how we connect with the warfighter. But when you see one of these heroes, ask for a story, because they'll look in your eyes and tell you how important business arrangements are to make sure everything works," said Lee.

"We learned a lot in Iraq—we now deploy shoulder-to-shoulder with contractors. Behind every success is a contract officer's initials," she added.

Approximately 50 separate breakout sessions were held, covering everything from the new Federal Procurement

Data System-Next Generation reporting process, to SPS Version 4.2 Increment 2 report writing. Exhibitors gave users generous opportunities for hands-on demonstrations, including the opportunity to use the new Web-based SPS Version 4.2 Increment 3. This new version introduces a new, more open architecture; allows DoD to migrate its business systems to the Web; and has the scalability to consolidate server support.



Deputy Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Electronic Business Mark Krzysko (forefront) and Standard Procurement System (SPS) Program Manager Army Col. Jacob Haynes co-sponsored the Department of Defense E-Business/SPS Joint Users' Conference.



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DEFENSE ACQUISITION 2005 (MARCH 1-2, 2005)

The Institute for Defense and Government Advancement (IDGA) is sponsoring *Defense Acquisition 2005*, March 1-2, at the Watergate Hotel in Washington, D.C. This year's theme will be "Transforming the Acquisition Process for More Efficient Contracting, Faster Implementation, and Reduced Costs." Featured speakers will include executives from National Aeronautics and Space Administration Headquarters; Defense Acquisition Regulations Directorate; Army Acquisition Support Center; Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development and Acquisition); Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology); and Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics)/Systems Engineering Enterprise Development.

Topics for discussion will include:

- Encourage Competition Among Contractors
- Assure Maximized Production Quality
- Decrease Equipment Delivery Time
- Reduce Acquisition Costs
- Improve the Acquisition Rulemaking Process

To register or learn more about this event, go to the IDGA Web site at <http://www.iqpc.com/cgi-bin/templates/genevent.html?event=6121&topic=222>.

21ST ANNUAL TEST & EVALUATION CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION (MARCH 7-10, 2005)

The 21st Annual Test and Evaluation Conference and Exhibition will be held March 7-10, 2005, in Charlotte, N.C. The pace of technology is accelerating while the cycle times for fielding systems for national defense and homeland security have remained constant or, in some cases, have actually increased. Test and evaluation is at the core of this development process and must serve not only as a vehicle for discovery and a check and balance in the development process, but also as a catalyst to move emerging technology rapidly from the bench to the combat theater.

The commercial marketplace has significant experience in fielding new technology quickly and successfully. This forum will examine various methods being applied in the commercial sector to move technology forward that might be adaptable in the government sector. Various innovative methods being adopted by some defense and homeland security agencies will also be examined for potential application or adaptation to permit our nation

to better defend its borders during these times of changing and increasing threats.

For more information on registration go to the National Defense Industrial Association Web site at http://register.ndia.org/interview/register.ndia?PID=Brochure&SID=_1D00RC2RA&MID=5910.

COTS APPLICATION & SUPPORT DEMO (MARCH 8-9, 2005)

On March 8-9, 2005, Intuitive Research and Technology Corporation and Manufacturing Technology, Inc., will host a two-day commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) product demonstration with guest speakers from both government and industry. The demonstration will be held in Dallas, Texas, at the Westin City Center Dallas. Equipment vendors, integrators, and federal activities will discuss implementation of commercial technology and techniques used to assure long-term product availability. To register online, visit the conference Web site at <http://www.hsv-epic.com/agenda.asp>.

UAV SUMMIT: COMBAT & MICRO (MARCH 22-23, 2005)

The Institute for Defense and Government Advancement (IDGA) is sponsoring an *Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Summit*, March 22-23, at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, D.C. This year's theme will be "Weaponizing UAVs, Collecting ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance) Data." New to *UAV 2005* will be 19 sessions focusing on issues specific to combat and micro. Hear lessons learned from battle-tested UAVs, build alliances, and meet the corporate military partners/decisions makers you need as your UAV initiatives move forward. To register online, visit the IDGA Web site at <http://www.iqpc.com/cgi-bin/templates/genevent.html?event=6318&topic=221>.

4TH C4ISR INTEROPERABILITY TEST & EVALUATION (MARCH 29-31, 2005)

The International Test and Evaluation Association (ITEA) will sponsor the 4th Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (C4ISR) Interoperability Test and Evaluation Workshop in Oxnard, Calif., on March 29-31, 2005. Conference details and information on registration are on the ITEA Web site <http://www.itea.org> or call Christopher Weal at (805) 989-7947, e-mail christopher.weal@navy.mil.



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DTIC ANNUAL USERS MEETING AND TRAINING CONFERENCE (APRIL 4-6, 2005)

The Defense Technical Information Center will host its Annual Users Meeting and Training Conference April 4-6, 2005, in Alexandria, Va., at the Hilton Alexandria Old Town. DTIC holds this popular conference each spring for its user community, which includes professionals in technical research and information primarily from the Department of Defense, other federal agencies, and their contractors and potential contractors.

This year's agenda will address changing information sources and technologies in the federal research, development, and acquisition communities. There will be training and breakout sessions on rapidly changing defense needs in the technical information environment. Government and commercial exhibitors will be on hand to demonstrate the latest information technology.

With a variety of speakers and sessions on topics of current interest and controversy, participants will be able to meet the experts, ask questions, express opinions, and enhance their professional development, while enjoying learning opportunities and networking with their peers. For more information contact DTIC's conference coordinator at: (703) 767-8236, DSN 427-8236, or e-mail confinfo@dtic.mil.

DMSMS 2005: DIMINISHING MANUFACTURING SOURCES AND MATERIAL SHORTAGES CONFERENCE (APRIL 11-15, 2005)

The Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages Conference is a unique opportunity for maintainers, designers, and program managers to update their knowledge of the latest tools, techniques, and policies for managing spare parts obsolescence. The objective of *DMSMS 2005* is to focus on the need for proactive DMSMS management to support the warfighter and to promote the use of DoD's newly developed DMSMS Center of Excellence.

The conference will be held at the Gaylord Opryland, Nashville, Tenn., and will feature technical presentations, a poster session, an exhibitor hall, and a formal DMSMS training opportunity. The new DMSMS Fundamentals course will be taught the last day of the conference. For more information, go to www.dmsms2005.utcd Dayton.com.

DAU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM (APRIL 19-20, 2005)

Mark your calendars now for the Defense Acquisition University Alumni Association (DAUAA) Annual Symposium April 19-20, 2005, at Scott Hall, Fort Belvoir, Va. Next year's theme will be "Best Practices and Solutions for Rapid Acquisition, Technology and Logistics." Watch the DAUAA Web site at <http://www.dauaa.org> for information and online registration.

6TH ANNUAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE/DOD TECH EXPOSITION (APRIL 19-21, 2005)

The National Defense Industrial Association will sponsor the 6th Annual Science and Engineering Technology Conference/DoD Technology Exposition April 19-21, 2005, at the Charleston Area Convention Center in North Charleston, S.C. The theme of this year's event will be "Bridging the Gap Between Technology and The Future Warfighter." Register online at <http://register.ndia.org/interview/register.ndia?>.

INTERNATIONAL TEST & EVALUATION ASSOCIATION (ITEA) 9TH ANNUAL TEST INSTRUMENTATION WORKSHOP (MAY 2-5, 2005)

The 9th Annual Test Instrumentation Workshop, hosted by the ITEA China Lake and Antelope Valley Chapters, will be held May 2-5, 2005, at the Kerr-McGee Center in Ridgecrest, Calif. The theme of the 2005 event will be "Test Instrumentation for the Full Product Life Cycle." For more information, call or e-mail Bettye Moody at (760) 939-7252, bettye.moody@navy.mil.

DEFENSE PROCUREMENT AND ACQUISITION POLICY, E-BUSINESS CONFERENCE (MAY 24-27, 2005)

The 2005 Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy e-Business Conference will be held May 24-27, 2005, at the Rosen Centre in Orlando, Fla. Strategic acquisition through electronic systems is the future, and e-Business is leading the journey to achieve this ideal. Hosted by the Office of Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, e-Business (DPAP, EB), the e-Business Conference will focus on the approaches, strategies, and initiatives that will make this environment a reality. The conference will cover:

- Enterprise Architecture—a movement away from application silos



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- Portfolio Management—an assessment of technical and functional capabilities supporting strategic acquisition
- Transition Planning—a plan to transform the acquisition domain from what is to what should be
- Governance—reflective of both procurement and acquisition processes and strategies.

Who should attend? Acquisition and procurement executives who oversee strategic plans and manage transformation policies. For future details on registering, watch the DPAP Electronic Business Web site: <<http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/ebiz/index.htm>>.

2005 ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL TEST & EVALUATION ASSOCIATION (ITEA) INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM (SEPT. 26–29, 2005)

The ITEA Symposium 2005 will be held Sept. 26–29, 2005, at the Albuquerque Convention Center in Albuquerque, N.M. This year's event will provide a forum for addressing the issue of transformational test and evaluation, examining the topic from three perspectives:

- **Programs** that are or will be testing in the Joint Force and Coalition Battlespace
- **Methodologies**, processes, resources, tools, and limitations that enable or hinder our testing in the Joint Force and Coalition Battlespace
- **Lessons Learned**, including recommendations for the way ahead.

For more information on this event, check the ITEA Web site: <<http://www.itea.org>> or call (703) 631-6220.

8TH ANNUAL SYSTEMS ENGINEERING CONFERENCE (OCT. 24–27, 2005)

The 8th Annual Systems Engineering Conference will be held Oct. 24–27, 2005, at the Hyatt Regency Islandia, San Diego, Calif. The call for papers and the conference announcement will be mailed and will be available at <http://register.ndia.org/inter-view/register.ndia?PID=Brochure&SID=_1D00RC2RA&MID=6870>. If you would like to add your information to the mailing list, please contact Phyllis Edmonson at (703) 247-2588 or pedmonson@ndia.org.

Currently Scheduled Defense Acquisition Board (DAB) Meetings

The following Defense Acquisition Board (DAB) meetings are scheduled through the first half of calendar year 2005. These meetings are subject to change. Check *AcqWeb* at <<http://www.acq.osd.mil/ara/dabs.htm>> for the most recent update.

- E-10A Milestone Decision/MP RTIP Program Review—March 3, 2005
- Global Hawk Program Review—March 8, 2005
- Blackhawk (UH-60M)—March 10, 2005
- F-35 (Joint Strike Fighter) Program Review—March 15, 2005
- Electronic Warfare Capability Area Review—March 17, 2005
- F/A-22 Milestone Decision Review—March 29, 2005
- DD(X) Milestone Decision Review—March 31, 2005
- CH-53X Milestone Decision Review—April 12, 2005
- Small Diameter Bomb (SDB) Milestone Decision—April 14, 2005
- CVN-21 Program Review—May 5, 2005
- JBMC2 Capability Area Review—May 17, 2005
- Future Combat Systems Program Review—May 26, 2005
- MPF(F) Milestone Decision Review—June 9, 2005
- Alliance Ground System Program Review—June 14, 2005
- Stryker Program Review—June 21, 2005
- Armed Recon Helicopter Milestone Decision Review—June 23, 2005