
The Standardization Newsletter



SPRING EDITION

ISSN 0897-0254

MAY 1997

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*Message From The Chairman,
Defense Standards Improvement Council:*

IRREVERSIBLE CULTURAL CHANGE

*"...It's an absolute, categorical, imperative that we had to reform our system if we, in fact, were going to move into the 21st century." So said Secretary of Defense **William Cohen** in his March 17th speech recognizing Acquisition Reform Week. "**Having sparked that revolution, in part, on Capitol Hill, I want to now see it through as the Secretary of Defense. And that's a pledge of mine, and it's also one of my highest priorities.**"*

"... I also know that the greatest work is still ahead of us...."

The Secretary's remarks reinforce the theme set by former Defense Secretary **William Perry** and former Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology **Paul Kaminski**.

To demonstrate our continued commitment, I sent **Dr. Kaminski** the following summary of things my office will focus on this year to ensure that DoD achieves "irreversible cultural change" — his personal annotations on the paper can be seen.

ACQUISITION PRACTICES' MILSPEC REFORM ACTIVITIES

Re-engineering Defense Standardization: The entire philosophy of standardization in the DoD must be re-examined in light of dramatically reduced resources and new acquisition concepts. We are examining traditional standardization issues such as: parts control; vendor qualification; why, when, how, and at what level to standardize; and, when to develop new specs or standards. We are developing a computer-based tool to help the people in engineering and buying activities work through a rational process for making standardization decisions. Standardization still offers many benefits, but a better thought out process must be implemented for making reasoned and reasonable standardization decisions.

Ensuring Consistent Approaches to “Stating Requirements” Throughout the Acquisition Process: Clear guidance has been given on writing MilSpecs in terms of performance. It is not clear that other “requirements” documents such as Statements of Work, Data Item Descriptions, System Specifications, etc., are reflecting fully the new performance philosophy. We have put together a working group to clearly define the flow of requirements from the MNS all the way to the lowest “spec” requirement included in a contract. We plan to develop a handbook that explains the relationships of the “requirements” documents to each other and, most importantly, to ensure consistent application of the “performance based requirements” policy throughout the entire acquisition system.

Providing Better Guidance on Market Research: Program offices must do a better job of evaluating existing market alternatives to development. Defense’s buying activities have done fairly well with routine products such as clothing and food, but DoD needs to expand those techniques to larger and more complex products including systems and subsystems. We have put together a working group to try to bring together the product-focused market research activities of the Military Departments and Agencies. The working group is helping to develop a revision to our existing guide and training course for doing market research. We are also assisting the Acquisition Reform-led task team looking at ways to do market research to determine appropriate commercial contract terms and conditions.

Bringing Order to NATO Materiel Standardization: We are examining the ramifications of MilSpec Reform for NATO standardization agreements and U.S. participation in NATO committees. We want DoD’s representatives to these committees to carry the performance-based requirements philosophy into the NATO arena, ensuring that NATO only creates STANAGs where necessary, that they are based on industry practices to the greatest extent possible, and that they describe requirements in terms of performance. We started a working group charged with identifying Service policy, procedures, and participants. We are developing an automated data base identifying participants, ensuring that information is captured and available on all NATO STANAGs - both those the U.S. has and has not ratified. We will be developing guidelines for NATO committee participation and a uniform process for ratification of STANAGs on materiel which ensures that approval occurs at the Standards Improvement Executive level.

Improving Cooperation with Private Sector Standards Organizations: MilSpec Reform has placed dramatic new demands on Private Sector Standards Developing Organizations (SDOs). Through an industry-government committee that we started, we maintain very close coordination and cooperation with these SDOs on issues such as prioritizing development of industry standards and cancellation of MilSpecs. We are contracting with ANSI to train DoD people to be more effective participants in the private sector standards development process, and we have created a World Wide Web-accessible database of all Defense participants on industry standards committees. We also participate in the strategic management of several of the SDOs through membership and chairmanship of various boards and committees, for example:

- Membership on ANSI Board of Directors
- Chair ANSI Government Member Council
- Chair ANSI Committee on Electronic Development and Delivery of Standards
- Chair SAE Aerospace Parts and Materiel Division
- Participate on SAE Aerospace Standards Council
- Participate on ANSI Executive Standards Council

Making Standardization Data Relevant to the Acquisition Community: We have spent several years developing a comprehensive database of information about MilSpecs. While the data has been extremely useful in managing the Defense Standardization Program, little had been done to make the data useful to the rest of the acquisition community. To implement MilSpec Reform, we have added data about documents that have been waived, expected revision or cancellation activity, and other information to help program offices and milestone decision authorities make good decisions on the use of MilSpecs in acquisition. We are also adding information about which documents call out hazardous materials or ozone depleting substances. The data can be used in many ways to help eliminate requirements for these substances. Most importantly, we are upgrading the entire database to a Windows environment accessible to both government and industry via CD ROM or over the Internet.

ADPA/NSIA Technical Information Division - 36th Annual Symposium

June 16-19, 1997, Embassy Suites Resort, Scottsdale, AZ (602) 949-1414

This conference is not about philosophy. It's about specific solutions to specific problems and is directed towards the practitioners of engineering and information management involved with data or configuration management, who use specifications and standards on a regular basis. This conference should be seen as an investment for your organization.

- Keynote Address: "Single Process Initiative" (SPI), The Honorable Paul G. Kaminski -- (Attendance confirmed)
 - Other Highlights: SPI & Technical Data Requirements (Panel); Specs & Standards and the Electronic Frontier (Panel); C/DM and Electronic Data Interchange (Panel); Government Participation on Industry Stds Dev Committees (Tutorial); The New ASSIST (Spec Reform Automation Tool) (Tutorial); ISO Quality Systems Introduction & History (Tutorial)
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DSP INDIVIDUAL AND ACTIVITY OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE AWARDS PRESENTED IN PENTAGON CEREMONY

Pictured below attending the 1996 Defense Standardization Program Outstanding Performance Awards ceremony on March 21, 1997, are the individual winners and designated activity winner representatives. The group represented programs or accomplishments that totaled over \$2.4 Billion in cost benefits, improved technical performance, and enhanced safety for DoD civilian and military personnel.

From left to right are **Major Jennifer Furr**, Combat Survivor Evader Locator Team, Air Force Materiel Command, Space and Missile Systems Center, Los Angeles AFB, Air Force activity winner; **CDR Robert P. Petroka** (Ret.), Navy individual winner; **Mr. James D. Nicolo**, Defense Industrial Supply Center, Philadelphia, PA, DLA individual winner; **Ms. Marta Tomkiw**, Blueprint for Change Team, US Army Tank-Automotive RD&E Center, Warren, MI, Army activity winner; **The Honorable Noel Longuemare**, Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology (center); **Mr. Raenord B. Walker**, Army Logistics Management College, Fort Lee, VA, OSD individual winner; **Ms. Rebecca J. Armstrong**, US Army Materiel Command Logistics Support Activity, Huntsville, AL, Army individual winner; **Ms. Mariellen Cogan**, Defense Training Standards Working Group, Navy activity winner; **Mr. David E. Davis**, Air Force Materiel Command, Space and Missile Systems Center, Component Engineering Division, Los Angeles AFB, Air Force individual winner; and **Mr. John Woloszyn**, Standardization Management Services Branch, Defense Personnel Support Center, Philadelphia, PA, DLA activity winner.

ANSI ANNOUNCES LAUNCH OF NSSN: A NATIONAL RESOURCE FOR GLOBAL STANDARDS

A new World Wide Web-based service that will help U.S. business become more competitive by reducing duplication of effort and product development time, improving product quality, and providing faster access to global market standards has been launched by American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

Called the NSSN: a National Resource for Global Standards (formerly the National Standards Systems Network), the service (<http://www.nssn.org>) is a comprehensive source of information on U.S. and international standards from private sector organizations and federal government agencies, including military specifications and documents from the U.S. Department of Defense, as well as commercial standards from many of the most important standards developing organizations. Over 100,000 worldwide standards will be listed in the NSSN data base by the end of 1997.

At a Washington, D.C., press conference held February 25, 1997, to launch the NSSN, ANSI President and CEO, **Sergio Mazza**, said the NSSN allows users to access a wide range of regional, national, and international commercial and private standards and standards-related information from a single source. "The NSSN service will change the way standards information is obtained," he said. "By consolidating information on the world's industry, government, and commercial standards, a user can conduct a search of multiple standards information databases in a few minutes—eliminating untold labor hours. It

will be far easier for users to identify the standards they need and for agencies and standards developers to provide their documents to the broadest possible user base."

Studies at several corporations show significant time savings and productivity increases when employees obtain standards electronically. "The ability to easily locate and access external standards information electronically helps us serve our customers better as we define, produce, and support Boeing products worldwide," said **Jane T. Wiegenstein**, Senior Manager, Engineering Standards, The Boeing Corporation, Seattle, and an ANSI Board member.

The NSSN service is the result of a partnership between ANSI and the U.S. Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Initial funding came from the Technology Reinvestment Project (TRP), a multi-agency program run by the Defense Department's Advanced Research Project Agency. ANSI signed a cooperative agreement with NIST in 1994. The project was funded for two years for over \$4 million—\$2 million coming from the TRP and \$2.5 million coming from ANSI Federation members.

"The NSSN will support U.S. economic growth and enhance competitiveness by facilitating technology transfer and promoting rapid development and deployment of standards," said ANSI Board

Member **Belinda Collins**, Director, Office of Standards Services at NIST.

With the rapid growth of the Internet and increased access to databases, ANSI saw an opportunity to increase the visibility, use, and sale of standards for the more than 10 million standards users worldwide. **Mazza** said the NSSN will benefit not only large businesses that spend millions of dollars annually to acquire external industry, military, and federal standards and maintain duplicate collection sites, but also smaller companies needing access to industry and government standards. "Small and medium-sized businesses want to remain competitive and expand their role as suppliers to large companies," **Mazza** said. "The NSSN service will improve their capabilities and overall competitiveness—not only as domestic suppliers, but as suppliers to a global market."

The U.S. market for standards and related information is approximately \$180 million. "When combined with the ease of access and inexpensive exposure provided by the World Wide Web," **Mazza** said, "NSSN will bring added visibility to the electronic databases of standards developers by serving as the common resource for users and suppliers alike."

NSSN users will be able to obtain information on technical specifications from a wide range of standards developers, including the American Society for Testing and Materials, the International Organization for Standardization, the Society of Automotive Engineers, and the National Fire Protection Association.

Development of the NSSN service also contributes to the goal of identifying and adopting nongovernment standards to

replace military specifications (MilSpecs) with commercial buying practices.

"The Department of Defense is spending an increasing percentage of its procurement dollars in the commercial marketplace, so it's essential that commercial concerns have access to our military and federal specifications and standards," said ANSI Board Member **Gregory Saunders**, Deputy Director, Acquisition Practices Directorate, Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Industrial Affairs and Installations. "The NSSN has our entire index of documents on-line, including about 26,000 MilSpecs. Although we have adopted more than 7,500 private sector standards already, NSSN will be an invaluable tool for identifying further potential replacements for our MilSpecs. It will be a tremendous aid as we try to adopt and use more commercial practices."

Saunders said the NSSN service will soon have references to standards and regulations from other government agencies, such as the Department of Energy, Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Environmental Protection Agency, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

The NSSN will offer two initial services. The first is **NSSN Basic**, a free service which allows users to search for standards by document number or keyword. After locating the standard, users can link directly to the World Wide Web Home Page of the standards developer or its designee for information and ordering.

The second is **NSSN Enhanced**, which will provide more details about each standard, including an abstract, a list of equivalent standards, and pricing. Users will be able to

link directly to the standards developer or its designee to order the standard. The enhanced service will also include an automatic alert to provide immediate notification of changes to the status of a standard as it progresses through development and maintenance cycles. Subscription information is available by calling ANSI's Customer Service at (212) 642-4900.

*(Reprinted with permission from ANSI Reporter
Michael Hoynes, Publisher)*

VIRUS ALERT:

Paul Revere Virus—This Revolutionary virus does not horse around.

It warns you of impending hard disk attack—once if by LAN, two if by C.

Gotcha!!!!

PRESS CONFERENCE INTRODUCES NSSN: A NATIONAL RESOURCE FOR GLOBAL STANDARDS

Pictured above are

Belinda Collins, Director, Office of Standards Services, National Institute of Standards and Technology; **Gregory E. Saunders**, Deputy Director, Acquisition Practices, Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Industrial Affairs and Installations, DoD; **Robert Noth**, Deere; **Oliver R. Smoot**, ITI and Chairman of ANSI's Information Infrastructure Standards Panel and Executive Vice President of the Information Technology Industry Council; and **George Spix**, Microsoft. They are pictured participating in the February 25, 1997, press conference that launched the **NSSN: A National Resource for Global Standards**.

Not pictured was ANSI President and CEO, **Sergio Mazza**, who chaired the panel discussion.

QUALIFIED MANUFACTURERS LIST: A SEMICONDUCTOR INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

Recently, the Government Procurement Committee (GPC) of the Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) reviewed the continuing progress and growth of the Qualified Manufacturers List (QML) under MIL-PRF-38535 for monolithic microcircuits. We were very gratified to note that significant growth is represented by both SIA member companies as well as non-members. This fact speaks well for the broad recognition of the benefits of performance specifications which permit and encourage the use of best commercial practices.

In the mid- to late-1980s, when the drafting and creation work on the original document for the QML was underway, the SIA/GPC took a leadership role in working with many Department of Defense, Defense Logistics Agency, Defense Electronics Supply Center, Rome Labs and service personnel to make the document as 'flexible' and 'user friendly' as possible, while insisting on requirements for a continuous improvement process as a baseline. We also felt the document should address more than the manufacturing process by which microcircuits are produced, and the ensuing years have demonstrated the validity of the QML 'process' for an entire business.

Currently, 24 companies are qualified and/or certified QML producers of monolithic microcircuits, and another seven are pursuing QML. Of the 24 QML producers, seven come from the membership of the SIA/GPC and the other

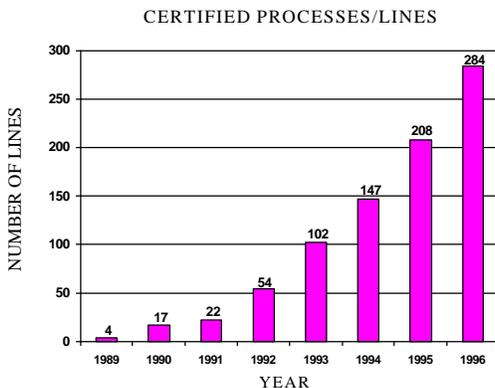
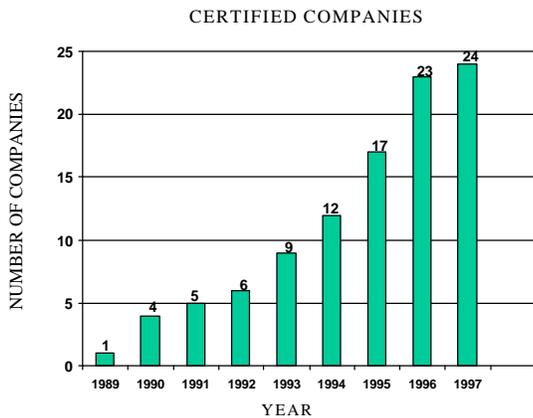
17 from outside our membership. Within the 24 companies, 284 individual processes or lines are certified—a very significant manufacturing base. Statistics indicate that in excess of 80 percent of the microcircuits used in the U.S. weapons systems are produced by SIA manufacturers—a significant testimony to the quality and reliability of components in these complex systems.

In parallel with the development of the QML, the Standard Microcircuit Drawing (SMD) program was also developed. This particular effort was a direct result of the need to standardize approximately 75,000 source control or specification control drawings (SCDs) residing in the industrial base in the mid-1980s. The use of SMDs ensured the electrical testing integrity of microcircuits would be consistent from one manufacturer to another, thus eliminating another unknown. Today, almost 10,000 device/package/combinations are offered from the QML lines, with more than 6,000 of those being on SMDs.

The graphic on the following page shows the data discussed in the preceding paragraphs:

The SIA GPC is recognized as the industry's representative in policy discussions relating to U.S. government procurement of semiconductors, primarily for defense purposes. The committee's objective is to streamline the procurement process in order to lower costs and improve reliability.

QML Suppliers Year by Year



9748 Devices / Packages produced from QML lines:

SMD	6306
M38510	2409
QML	1033

284 Processes/Lines approved:

Wafer Fabs
 Assembly / Test
 Offshore / Onshore

Plastic / Ceramic technology available:

6 / 24 companies

8 additional companies considering QML

Significant test optimization accomplished by several companies

SOURCE DSCC

With the advent of Acquisition Reform (activities began in earnest under Dr. William Perry in 1994), it was natural for the QML document to be the first "Performance Specification" so designated.

Paragraph 1.1 of the document sets the stage for 'performance-based processing.' Best commercial practices and flexibility are encouraged right at the outset of the specification. In the past two years,

concomitant with acquisition reform, the transition from traditional hermetic ceramic packaged integrated circuits toward the use of plastic encapsulated microcircuits (PEMs) in some military systems has occurred. While the semiconductor industry is generally supportive of this move, it is to be approached with extreme caution. Of primary importance to our customer base and ultimately the using services is the absolute criticality of ensuring the system application will accommodate the known quality and reliability pedigree of the microcircuits employed. To use any microcircuit (Commercial, Industrial or Military Grade) beyond its specified limits not only voids the warranty and violates the manufacturers instructions, but of far greater importance, could place the lives of our warfighters in jeopardy. One way to

help ensure the **right part is selected for the right application** is for the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) to refer to MIL-HDBK-179A guidelines for selection with regard to operating and storage conditions.

Introduction of the QML initiative and growth accomplished thus far has allowed the Department of Defense, the semiconductor industry, and the OEM customer base to achieve significant gains in supporting commercialization. The SIA Government Procurement Committee views this as a win-win-win scenario and is committed to continued support.

—Mr. Joe Chapman, Chairman,
SIA Government Procurement Committee

GROUP 'FOCUS' ON FINDING TRAINING NEEDS

Training for the acquisition workforce has moved into the **what-are-your-needs** phase.

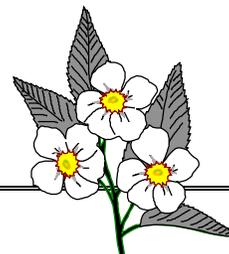
Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition Reform leaders are moving from major training initiatives such as those involving the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act to involving members of the workforce in a big way to identify training needed to keep up with the changes brought by acquisition reform.

One vehicle being used is the focus group, a device in which representative collections of front-line workforce members are guided through discussions of their needs. In acquisition reform, those groups also include members of industry.

Three areas in which focus group work is now being conducted are Oral Presentation, Multiple Award Task and Delivery Order Contracts and Market Research.

Focus groups on additional Acquisition Reform topics may be formed during the year. Requests for participant nominations should be channeled through the senior procurement executives, members of the Acquisition Reform Senior Steering Group, heads of agencies and industry associations.

*From Acquisition Reform TODAY,
January/February 1997 issue.*



M22 BINOCULAR: PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATION RESULTS IN COST SAVINGS

The use of a performance specification for the M22 Binocular shows the continuing savings that can accrue by using performance specifications and relying on commercial products to satisfy military needs. The result was a \$221 per unit contract price that is even lower than the previous competitive contract awarded in 1991. A cost avoidance in excess of \$518,000 will be realized over the life of the contract.

The M22 Binocular is being bought by the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command—Armament and Chemical Acquisition Logistics Activity (TACOM-ACALA) to a performance statement of work and product description which can be met through modified commercial items. The major modification required to meet military needs is the inclusion of laser protective filters. A solicitation was issued on May 7 1996, for five years including options. A Best Value evaluation considered bid samples, limited technical proposals, past performance, and price.

The application of acquisition reform principles to this procurement allowed the Integrated Product Team (IPT) to make common sense decisions to streamline requirements, adopt commercial packaging and quality assurance methods, and implement effective best value competition. Another major advantage is the resulting significant reduction of Administrative Lead Time/Production Lead Time for future orders from the previous 300/300 days to 30/150 days, respectively. The cost savings due to administrative lead time reduction and avoiding annual competitive procurement add an additional \$31,800 benefit.

An IPT scrubbed the solicitation. The requirement for configuration management as it applies to value engineering change proposals, engineering change proposals, deviations, and ozone depleting substances were tailored to only three paragraphs of the previously used MIL-SPEC. This change eliminates a 23-page attachment to the solicitation. A front-to-back review of the solicitation, conducted using the Army Materiel Command's Guidelines for Streamlining Requests for Proposal, resulted in the following changes:

- The contract data requirements list was updated to consolidate functional input from engineering, quality, and logistics.
- The alternative to use commercial quality systems in lieu of MIL-I-45208 was offered.
- An executive summary was added.
- The warranty provision was eliminated. (For items not serial numbered and stored in the depot for an undetermined time prior to issue, a warranty does not provide added value).

The M22 Binocular was introduced in 1987 as a replacement for the M19 Binocular. The M19 had been procured as a military unique item using a Level III Technical Data Package. The approximate cost per unit was \$579.

From the *Army Research, Development & Acquisition Bulletin*.
DeRoche

POC is Ms. Lynn

U.S. Army TACOM-ACALA; DSN 793-4524; E-mail: lderoche@ria-emh2.army.mil

■ **MEETINGS** *Mark your Calendars!*

Defense Personnel Support Center, Directorate of Clothing & Textiles
5th Annual Technology Modernization Conference & Customer Exposition

June 10-12, 1997
Radisson Airport Hotel, Philadelphia, PA

Additional Information: Joseph Nilsen, Program Manager
Phone: (215) 737-3016; Fax: (215) 737-8222

Conference showcases state-of-the-art technology, new business practices and updates on DLA Apparel Research Network and the DoD MilSpec Reform Initiative. "Partnership with Industry" subcommittees meet; members, from industry/government/academia, all work together to convert military specifications into performance-based documents for use in the acquisition of clothing, textiles, footwear, and individual equipment items.

1997 Acquisition Research Symposium

"Acquisition for the Future: Imagination, Innovation, and Implementation"

June 25-27, 1997
Doubletree Hotel, Rockville, MD

Additional Information: DSMC Home Page:
<http://www.dsmc.dsm.mil/Events/arsgen.htm>
Becky Stauffer
Phone: (703) 351-4415; e-mail: stauffbm@sverdrup.com

This symposium is sponsored by the Deputy Under Secretary for Acquisition Reform and is co-hosted by the Defense Systems Management College and the National Contract Management Association.

Illuminating Engineering Society of North America (IESNA)

Annual Conference

August 18-20, 1997
Westin Hotel, Seattle, WA

Additional Information: IESNA Web Page: **<http://www.iesna.org>**
Valerie Landers, Member Services
Phone: (212) 248-5000 (Ext. 117); Fax: (212) 248-5017

At this most comprehensive educational forum for the lighting industry, over 50 author-presented paper sessions will focus on the latest research in design theory, measurements and controls, photometry, and energy. On August 19th, new products and services will be showcased, followed by tabletop exhibits by lighting manufacturers. Recently published IESNA standards and other new lighting guides and documents will be available.

PROGRAM MANAGER (PM) FORCE PROVIDER USES COST AS AN INDEPENDENT VARIABLE (CAIV) AND NONDEVELOPMENTAL ITEM (NDI) ON ACAT III PROGRAMS

Acquisition Reform is working well on ACAT III programs. PM Force Provider (FP), an Army Materiel Command (AMC) CAIV flagship program, has been using CAIV principles on development, procurement, and systems integration contracts to reduce program cost and improve supportability.

The FP Integrated Product Development Team has achieved a total of \$57M in program cost avoidance and savings to date. This represents a significant 26% reduction vs. the acquisition program baseline of \$220M in the procurement appropriation. Another 7% cost savings, or \$12M vs. the current funding profile (FY98 Program Objective Memorandum (POM) in the procurement appropriation), are projected through the application of additional cost reduction measures (Note: the Cost Reduction Plans are still in the approval process through HQ, AMC and HQ, Department of the Army. As part of the cost reduction process, the PM has identified unfunded reinvestment initiatives which are being evaluated by HQ, AMC and HQ, DA).

Among the initiatives already reaping savings are: the competition of depot assembly efforts, saving \$1M in FY97 alone; providing sufficient funds to procure a cold weather kit previously unfunded until FY04; and direct vendor delivery of custom configured high quality TEMPER tents, projected to save between 15-24% on tentage costs beginning in FY98.

All development and procurement initiatives discussed in this article have included sustainment considerations. Additionally, modeling of 20-year sustainment costs indicates opportunities to avoid significant costs through smart sourcing of sustainment functions such as depot maintenance, refurbishment, and storage costs.

Furthermore, operations and support cost avoidance will accrue from improvements in asset visibility, supply discipline during deployment, and just-in-time provisioning for selected shelf life items and resupply during deployments. The PM has developed a web-based management information system (MIS). This will interface with the standard Army DoD MIS to accomplish this improved level of support to the system and soldier.

Use of performance specifications and commercial off-the-shelf components in recently completed preplanned product improvement (P3I) projects for a NDI containerized batch laundry (CBL) and containerized latrine system (CLS) are notable examples of Team FP's CAIV approach. The CAIV-focused development culminated in production decisions in Sep 96 and Jan 97, respectively, for the CBL and CLS. This resulted in over \$5M in real cost savings vs. the acquisition program baseline of \$220M in the procurement appropriation. The first two CBL production units, using commercial/ industrial strength washers and dryers manufactured, respectively, by Unimac

Division of Raytheon Corporation and Cissel Corp., a leading industrial dryer supplier, were delivered to the first two production modules in December 1996.

The CLS, also using all commercial NDI components, is planned for integration in modules scheduled for delivery in December 1997. It recently went through production verification testing in the Force XXI Advanced Warfighting Exercise, National Training Center, Ft Irwin, CA. Extensive use of field evaluation, running concurrently with development testing, has been a hallmark of the P3I effort. This ensures very high user involvement in system design and supportability while dramatically reducing development time and cost. Use of this process resulted in the avoidance of over \$1.9M in Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) costs. This occurred while simultaneously meeting or exceeding all procurement cost, schedule and performance goals.

Force Provider is the Army's premier bare base troop support system. Each fully transportable FP module, essentially a city in a can, provides high quality living for 550 soldiers. This includes: climate-controlled billeting, dining facilities, showers, latrines, laundry, morale, welfare and recreation equipment, and all necessary water, fuel, power generation and distribution utilities. World-wide contingency support to the warfighting CINCs will be provided from the 36 modules to be procured and stored in the Army War Reserve Operational Project Stocks.

BOTTOM LINE - Force Provider is a system which will perform better for the soldier, be less costly to maintain and will

be procured faster than original program schedules allowed. Yes, acquisition reform is alive and well for ACAT III programs. By their very nature, they require total commitment to innovative, cost effective approaches to achievement of materiel acquisition which meets the soldier's needs better, faster and cheaper!

Adapted from Deputy Chief of Staff for RDA Bulletin, March 31, 1997, 2nd Quarter.

*POC is LTC Tim Lindsay, Product Manager, Force Provider, DSN 693-6494
e-mail: tlindsay@emh4.wsmd.stl.army.mil*

Farewell, Dr. Kaminski—You Will Be Missed!

On May 16, 1997, the Honorable **Paul Kaminski**, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, said fare-well to the Department of Defense and did a final walkthrough of offices to say goodbye to the employees in his organization.

Dr. Kaminski was a strong supporter of the Defense Standardization Program. He continuously endorsed our mission and often spoke at joint DoD-industry conferences to recognize our on-going work. His support included public recognition of our community members through various awards ceremonies. We salute him, wish him well, and thank him for his support.

Points of Contact for the Defense Standardization Program

Following is an updated list of the Departmental Standardization Office Heads and the Standards Improvement Executives (SIEs). The SIEs comprise the Defense Standards Improvement Council (DSIC). **Changes are in boldface type.**

Departmental Standardization Office Heads

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LCOL Dan Mahrer MAHRERD@WPGATE1.WPAFB.AF.MIL	(Air Force COMSO)	937-257-1903 DSN 787-1903	937-656-2892 DSN 986-2892
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May 1997

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