

Latasha R. Beckman



EXPERTISE

- Successful in motivating dynamic teams on a variety of standardization and information technology endeavors.
- Adept at interfacing with industry, SDOs, NATO, EU, and European Defense Agency (EDA) personnel on areas of mutual interest.
- Proficient at monitoring national and international regulations, policies and best practices that may influence the U.S. industrial base, DoD standardization policy and defense acquisition.
- Strong capacity to lead and support multidisciplinary and multicultural team meetings and endeavors.
- Astute in building coalitions and consensus with multinational organizations.

LEADERSHIP

- ASSIST Advisory Team, Team Leader
- Defense Standardization Roundtable
- NATO Committee for Standardization, Standardization Management Group
- Materiel Standardization Harmonization Team (MSHT)
- NATO Engagement Activities Team (NEAT)
- National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)
- Project Management Institute (PMI)
- Standards Engineering Society (SES)
- Women in Defense (WID)

Latasha Beckman is currently the deputy director Defense Standardization Program Office. Since 2004, she has firmly promoted the use of standards and standardization as one of the key enablers to multinational interoperability, securing the United States industrial base and reducing acquisition costs. She is responsible for the implementation of standardization policy for systems, subsystems, equipment, components, parts, materials, and related engineering practices and technology areas. Committed to multilateralism for the sake of strategic standardization, she is actively involved in engaging the United States with North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and European Union (EU) member states on international and defense standards, research projects and deploying innovative solutions to address Alliance capability requirements.

In an expert capacity, Ms. Beckman advises United States representatives of various international fora on standards and consensus policies. She has participated as a member of multinational and DoD working groups, task groups and Integrated Product Teams to maximize efficiency and ensure the best use of limited resources. She has led teams comprised of industry, DoD, federal agencies and foreign governments to identify opportunities for improvement on international and national standardization policy, procedures and programs. She has also led teams in developing technical and operational requirements for the modernization of information technology tools and database systems.

Ms. Beckman has been responsible for a number of initiatives to promote the use of civil standards on a global scale, which includes engaging with standards developing organizations (SDOs), such as CEN, DIN SAE and ASME, as necessary. She participates in a variety of efforts and meetings to develop, review and present policy advice and strategic options for standardization stakeholders. She has also mentored and trained industry and government personnel on standardization by participating as a speaker and lecturer at workshops, forums, roundtables and conferences that span the globe.

Before engaging in international standardization, serving as a bridge-builder and champion of diplomacy, Ms. Beckman worked as an Industrial Engineer for the Department of Army, Directorate of Public Works and gained experience in contract planning, selection and execution. She has also had career-enhancing manufacturing and engineering training assignments at GKN Automotive, Ford Motor Company, Cooper Turbocompressor, Inc., and Electronic Data Systems (EDS), to name a few.

Ms. Beckman holds a B.S. degree in Industrial Engineering from State University of New York at Buffalo, and a M.S. in Industrial Technology with a concentration in Manufacturing Systems from North Carolina A&T State University. She is Lean Six Sigma (Green Belt) certified, and Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA) certified in multiple career fields: International Acquisition; Program Management; and Production, Quality and Manufacturing, and Facilities Engineering.

She enjoys road trips, music/choir, reading, mentoring young people, and spending quality time with family and friends.