Defense Standardization Program
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January/March 2008

Government-Industry Data Exchange Program

The GIDEP Operations Center
GIDEP—A Network for Sharing Data
GIDEP Support of Anticounterfeit Efforts

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Journal

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Similar Goals Make GIDEP and DSP a Good Fit

On July 5, 2007, the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics signed a memorandum transferring oversight of the Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP) from the Joint Logistics Commanders to the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Supply Chain Integration and transferring executive management of GIDEP from the Department of the Navy to the Defense Standardization Program Office. In the memorandum, the Under Secretary thanked the Department of the Navy for more than 30 years of oversight and management.

Although most of our readers may not have been aware of this transfer, it has been in the works for quite some time. The reason for integrating GIDEP into DSPO was to better align several life-cycle support functions for the many organizations that rely on DSPO as a trusted source of information. These organizations span the federal, state, and local levels in the government and range from large corporations and associations down to small "mom and pop" companies. They also span the globe.

There is a natural life-cycle synergy that has drawn GIDEP to DSPO. GIDEP's mission is to facilitate information sharing on common or similar parts, materials, processes, and procedures. Common and similar items and processes result from the standardization that DSPO has championed for many years. Common items across systems also result in common support issues, which is the focus area of the Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages program, another key program now in DSPO's portfolio.

By definition, GIDEP is a cooperative program between government and industry tasked to reduce or eliminate expenditures by enabling sharing of technical information during the research, design, development, production, and operational phases of the life cycle of systems, facilities, and equipment. You may also find it interesting to note that since GIDEP's inception, participants

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have reported more than $1 billion in savings and cost avoidance. By using the GIDEP suite of services, the data provided by GIDEP can improve the quality and reliability of systems and components during the acquisition and logistics phases of the life cycle and reduce costs in the manufacture of complex systems and equipment.

Organizations that participate with GIDEP include DoD, NASA, Department of Energy, Department of Labor, Department of Commerce, General Services Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, U.S. Postal Service, National Institute of Standards and Technology, National Security Agency, and Canadian Department of National Defence. In addition, hundreds of industry partners—entities that are in the business of manufacturing or supporting parts, components, and equipment on behalf of the government—participate in GIDEP. I am also looking to expand GIDEP's reach to support our allies and friendly nations.

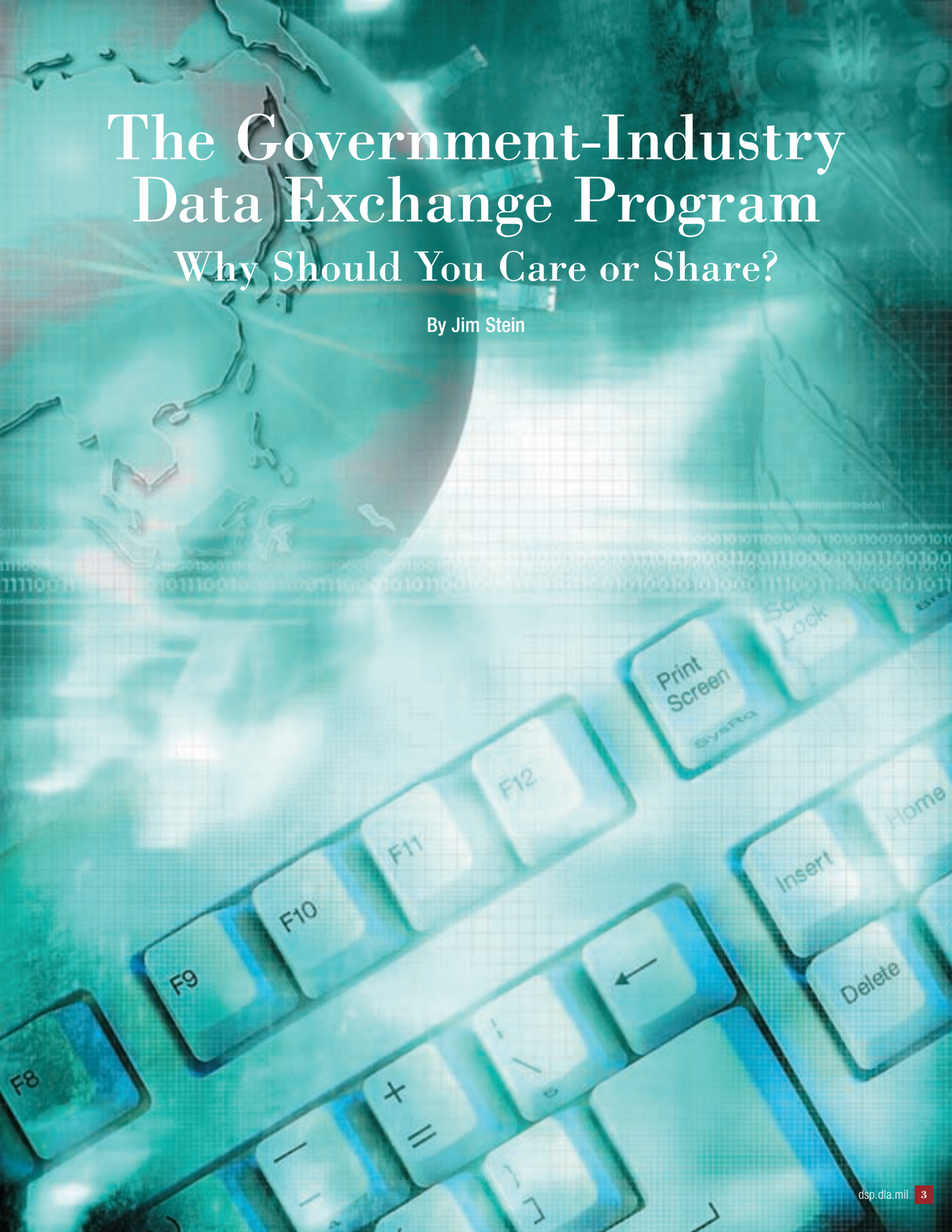
How does GIDEP fit with standardization? DSP and GIDEP are linked through having similar overall goals. As you will see in the article "The Government-Industry Data Exchange Program: Why Should You Care or Share?" by Jim Stein, program manager for GIDEP, the reason GIDEP was initially established was to "support government systems readiness, logistic effectiveness, productivity and cost reduction through timely retrieval, storage and distribution of data among government and industry organizations." More important, Jim goes on to state that the "specific purpose of GIDEP is to foster technical information sharing among government agencies and their industry partners to increase systems safety, reliability, and readiness and reduce systems development, production, and ownership costs." The stated purpose of DSP expresses those same sentiments by stating that through championing standardization throughout DoD, the DSP will be able to reduce costs and improve operational readiness.

With the transfer of GIDEP now complete, I am looking forward to a long and mutually beneficial relationship with GIDEP and the GIDEP staff and being able to offer additional services and products under the DSP umbrella.

The Government-Industry Data Exchange Program

Why Should You Care or Share?

By Jim Stein



"Ask not what your country can do for you. Ask what you can do for your country!" This famous directive from President Kennedy is about putting the needs of the broader community over your own. President Kennedy was not advocating ignoring your own needs. Rather, he was advocating strengthening our overall society by each individual lending to its strength. The Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP)—created in 1958 by the three military departments to share unclassified technical information—embodies this philosophy.

The idea for GIDEP came about when engineers and scientists from similar programs in the different military departments would attend joint service meetings and discuss various technical challenges each was facing. To their shock, they discovered that they were facing similar challenges but were struggling with ones that the others had already solved months ago. From this humble beginning, GIDEP became a means of exchanging basic information about problems. Since then, GIDEP has grown in breadth and technology.

In 1970, the Joint Logistics Commanders of the Army, Navy, and Air Force took the program under its purview by chartering it as a subgroup. This arrangement continued until the recent transfer of program oversight to the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Supply Chain Integration and of GIDEP executive management to the Defense Standardization Program Office.

What Is GIDEP?

GIDEP is an organization of

- individuals;
- U.S. government agencies—both military and civil, including NASA and the Department of Energy—and Canadian government entities such as the Canadian Department of National Defence and the Canadian Space Agency; and
- U.S. and Canadian contractors (developers, producers, and support firms).

GIDEP is also an array of information technology components. At the center of this activity is the GIDEP Operations Center, housed at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona, CA.

GIDEP operations are funded by the federal government, so GIDEP members have no transaction fees or direct costs. All GIDEP asks of its members is to share their data and to provide utilization reporting that outlines how GIDEP has provided assistance. The program also wants to hear about "good news" stories describing the benefits realized through the use of information accessed through GIDEP.

What Is GIDEP's Purpose?

GIDEP was established to "support government systems readiness, logistic effectiveness, productivity and cost reduction through timely retrieval, storage and distribution of data among government and industry organizations." The specific purpose of GIDEP is to foster technical information sharing among government agencies and their industry partners to

- increase systems safety, reliability, and readiness and
- reduce systems development, production, and ownership costs.

In 1991, as a result of a congressional inquiry into counterfeit bolts and fasteners, the Office of Management and Budget's Office of Federal Procurement Policy issued Policy Letter 91-3 to the heads of federal executive agencies and departments. The letter establishes policies and procedures for using a government-wide system for exchanging information among agencies about nonconforming products and materials. The GIDEP was designated as the central database for receiving and disseminating information about such products. The policy letter can be found at http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/procurement/index_policy.html.

In 1995, by direction of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, GIDEP was designated as the central repository for information on Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages. Its databases contain many levels of information from the basic obsolescence notice to various solutions and alternatives.

Why Donate Data to GIDEP?

I often liken GIDEP to a blood bank. "Share the gift of life." The similarities are clear. There are data in GIDEP that can help save lives just like blood in a blood bank. The information was placed in GIDEP, like blood in the bank, without knowing precisely who would need it, just that someone would. Finally, and sadly too much like a blood bank, the GIDEP Operations Center, the government and company advocates, and others who appreciate the need, are always promoting the benefits of sharing information. Their goal is to find new donors and motivate old ones. GIDEP is always facing a shortage of data, and most people want to know what is in it for them instead of thinking how what they know has the potential to

save a life, improve readiness, or reduce the government's massive operating costs. Donating to GIDEP is very easy and can truly help save a life.

Sharing is a natural human action and a characteristic of groups and organizations with common values. Whether it is a cup of sugar for a neighbor or a saw for a friend, the idea is the same, and as the saying goes, "what goes around comes around." You hope that they will share with you when you are in need. The circle continues as long as all parties are givers and takers.

Sharing becomes more complicated as the group gets larger. When one entity recognizes a need to share something it has, it must decide whether to share or not. It is easiest when you know precisely who needs the information. The greatest challenge occurs when you know someone needs what you have but do not know who that someone is! That is where GIDEP comes into play. Our currency is "sharing information that would not otherwise be shared." GIDEP deals only in information that could be of use to someone else. This information relates to problems that might occur in a certain technology—electrostatic discharge damage, for example—or problems with a part that is commonly used. A part that is common was not produced just for your program. Like sharing in our personal lives, how much we share depends on who wants to know, so the GIDEP alert—for example, about a nonconforming or counterfeit product—may just be the tip of the iceberg. We encourage our members to communicate directly with each other, once they discover a common issue, to get, as Paul Harvey says, "the rest of the story."

Continuing with the iceberg metaphor, but from a different angle, consider Figure 1. It represents "the information iceberg." At the top are the things you "know you know." For example, if you manage a weapon system, you know its design speed, maximum design weight, and so on; these are your "known-knowns." You do not know exactly what will happen if you exceed weight or weight-balance limits, and so you develop test procedures to find out; these are your "known-unknowns." Because you cannot test every permutation and cannot test every part under all conditions, you must accept a certain level of risk. During the Columbia shuttle accident investigation, for example, the dangers posed by the gash in the shuttle's wing were strongly suspected (known) by scientists and engineers in the field. Unfortunately, during the turbulent NASA Headquarters risk management evolution, this information was not communicated effectively to those who had to make the final decision. This information can be described as "unknown-knowns"; someone knows what information you need to know but they are unaware that you do not know it and you do not know they have it.

FIGURE 1. The Information Iceberg

What Is in GIDEP's Future?

For several years, GIDEP's management team has been planning a modernization effort to bring the program's information technology to the next level. In addition, the Operations Center has had requests from allied and friendly nations, as well as foreign military customers, to open the program to them. In response, GIDEP is taking steps to develop processes and procedures that can be used to test this broadening of GIDEP to the international community.

Whatever specific changes occur in GIDEP, it is crucial that all participants share their data. Without the continual influx of data, GIDEP will lose its efficacy.

Why should you care or share? You may be the only one with the critical piece of information that could save a warfighter's life or avoid millions of dollars worth of costs. Please consider these questions: "If not me, then who? If not now, then when?"

About the Author

Jim Stein has been the GIDEP program manager (acting) since May 2003. From November 2000 to April 2003, he served as the deputy program manager. Previously, from 1998 to 2000, he served in the Assistant Secretary of the Navy's Acquisition Reform Office working on the joint service Section 912 Reduction of Total Ownership Cost pilot programs team. Mr. Stein began his federal career at the Naval Air Systems Command Headquarters in 1984 working in a variety of logistics, engineering, and program management positions.

The GIDEP Operations Center

By Rudy Brillon

With the 1970 establishment of the Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP) under the purview of the Joint Logistics Commanders, the GIDEP Operations Center was created by the consolidation of the Army's, Air Force's, and Navy's Interagency Data Exchange Program offices at the Navy's Fleet Missile Systems Analysis and Evaluation Group located in Corona, CA. The purpose of the Operations Center was to provide GIDEP with an organizational structure and database to support sharing, by GIDEP participants, of technical and other related information. Some 37 years later, the GIDEP Operations Center remains in Corona at what is now the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division, located 50 miles southeast of Los Angeles, CA.

Roles and Responsibilities

As in its early days, the GIDEP Operations Center is responsible for performing the day-to-day technical functions of GIDEP. To support the effective and efficient performance of these functions, the Operations Center personnel develop and implement the necessary administrative and operational procedures. Operations Center management and key personnel also serve as part of the GIDEP management team.

Organization

Staffed by 15 civil servants and 20 contract support personnel, the Operations Center comprises two groups:

- The Products/Services group is responsible for managing GIDEP data and community interfaces.
- The Information Technology group provides the technology support needed to process, maintain, and distribute GIDEP data.

Functions

The GIDEP Operations Center supports a community of some 2,000 government and industry organizations represented by more than 6,500 GIDEP members. Among the functions of the Operations Center are data production and management, participant support, program awareness, information systems management, and program management support.

DATA PRODUCTION AND MANAGEMENT

The data production and management function includes receiving, classifying, processing, imaging, archiving, and distributing data. Data are received from GIDEP members or are mined by Operations Center personnel. Once received, Operations Center data managers screen the data for acceptance. When reviewed and approved, the data are entered or scanned into the system where they are researched for potential enhancement, validated, verified, and then committed to the database. Once committed to the database, the data are available for use by GIDEP members.

Data managers are assigned to each of the major data areas: engineering, failure experience, metrology, product information (Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages), and reliability. Each data manager is responsible for staffing recommended changes for their data area and changes in procedures. Data managers also recommend other types of data to be added to the database or identify other databases to access based on members' needs.

PARTICIPANT SUPPORT

Operations Center personnel provide a variety of services to GIDEP members. One important service is training on how to access and utilize the GIDEP system and data. This training is provided largely through the Operations Center's annual workshop and clinic. However, Operations Center personnel also provide training in GIDEP regional outreach workshops, usually on-site at member organizations; at the Operations Center; and remotely through web-based training.

Operations Center personnel also provide special participant support services in three areas:

- The Urgent Data Request service helps members quickly find information that they could not find by searching the GIDEP database. GIDEP members may submit a formal request for the source of supply information or for technical or other information regarding a specific product or service. Using the GIDEP system, appropriate members from the community are automatically contacted with the submitted request. Responses back to the requestor are managed by the Operations Center.
- The Batch Match/Auto Match service permits GIDEP members to submit part lists to the Operations Center, where they are stored and compared to the part identifiers in the GIDEP database. (Part lists are protected so that only Operations Center personnel have access.) Submitters are notified of any subsequent matches of information within the database relevant to their parts of interest.
- Push Mail is an e-mail service offered to GIDEP members to obtain an overview of information without having to access the database. If a part or title in the e-mail list is of interest, the corresponding document can be retrieved through database access.

The Operations Center provides a help desk to assist GIDEP members with any support needed regarding their membership or access to the GIDEP data. Utilization reporting is managed by the Operations Center. Each GIDEP member is required to report the benefits they realize through the use of the GIDEP products and services. This information is compiled into utilization reports that show the value of GIDEP in terms

of avoided expenditures. To date, GIDEP members have avoided expenditures of more than $1.9 billion.

PROGRAM AWARENESS

Program awareness is an ongoing activity for the GIDEP Operations Center. Personnel are actively engaged in presenting and exhibiting GIDEP at various meetings and conferences throughout the year. It is through these efforts that additional organizations are made aware of the program, resulting in the submission of new data and the participation of new members.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT

Operations Center information management technologists acquire and develop the hardware, software, and communication systems that are used to image, process, archive, and distribute the data submitted and retrieved by GIDEP members. This group also develops the user interfaces needed to rapidly retrieve, download, and view the data in the GIDEP database.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

Serving as the technical staff to the Program Office, Operations Center personnel provide technical input to the program manager regarding new or existing program initiatives.

Future Direction

The GIDEP Operations Center is committed to improving its operational effectiveness and efficiency. Since FY01, the Operations Center has reduced its manning by 20 percent and its costs by 40 percent. Over the same period, GIDEP membership has increased by almost 50 percent. These efficiencies have been achieved through streamlining processes and automating labor-intensive functions. The goal for the future is to pursue continuous process improvement through the use of Lean Six Sigma and the modernization and transformation of GIDEP to next-generation capabilities.

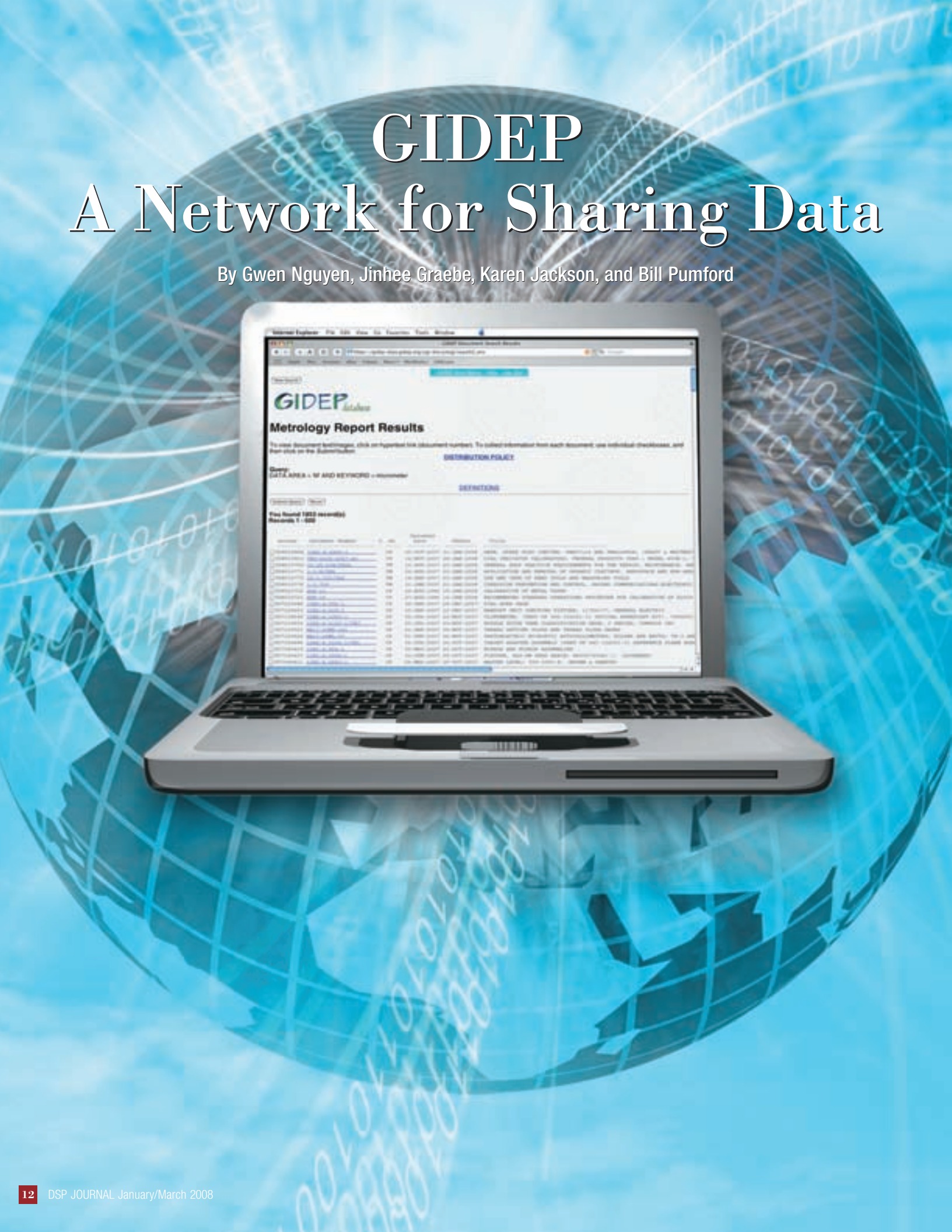
GIDEP Operations Center personnel are looking forward to the full integration of GIDEP into the Defense Standardization Program. From initial discussions, it is already apparent that this integration will be mutually beneficial to both programs.

About the Author

Rudy Brillon is the director of the GIDEP Operations Center. With a background in information technology, Mr. Brillon has spent the last 23 years developing, implementing, operating, and maintaining information systems in support of DoD maintenance, configuration, logistics, ordnance, and metrology management.

GIDEP
A Network for Sharing Data

By Gwen Nguyen, Jinhee Graebe, Karen Jackson, and Bill Pumford

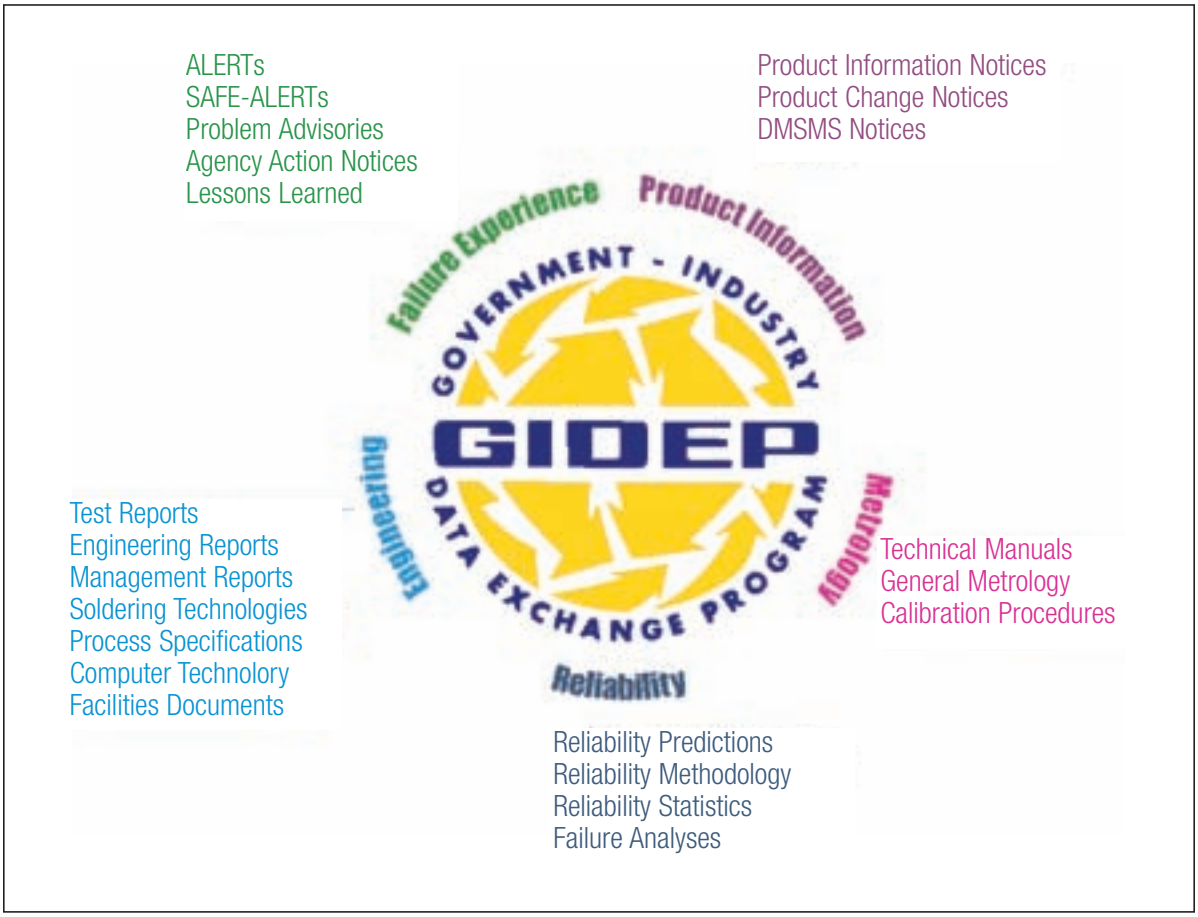


The Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP) is a network of people sharing data to help each other solve problems and avoid costs associated with procurement and development. Members use GIDEP data to

- establish a metrology program,
- avoid problems and prevent usage of problem products,
- plan and execute design and manufacturing processes,
- avoid additional testing,
- justify continued usage of lead-containing parts in space,
- implement lead-free manufacturing,
- help analyze failures and perpetuate the growth of reliability programs,
- learn about manufacturers' changes,
- learn about suspect counterfeit products,
- achieve certification from various auditors, and
- generate new methods or techniques for better, leaner business practices.

As shown on Figure 1, GIDEP data has five major data types.

FIGURE 1. GIDEP Data Types



The major types are as follows:

- Failure experience data
- Product information data, including Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages (DMSMS)
- Metrology data
- Reliability data
- Engineering data.

GIDEP data are unclassified and nonproprietary. The data are accessible by members only through a series of menus on the World Wide Web and can be downloaded.

Failure Experience Data

Failure experience data include information about nonconforming parts, components, chemicals, processes, materials, specifications, test instrumentation, safety, and hazardous situations, including health hazards. This data type also includes failure analyses and problem information submitted by laboratories in support of problem descriptions, actions taken or planned to correct nonconformances, and accident prevention information. Failure experience data are distributed to GIDEP members in five types of reports:

- ALERTs
- SAFE-ALERTs
- Problem Advisories
- Agency Action Notices
- Lessons Learned.

GIDEP members use the failure experience data and related reports to improve the availability, reliability, maintainability, quality, and safety of their systems and equipment. Timely failure data may result in the prevention of significant unplanned expenditures and, more important, a reduction in injuries and lost lives. The availability of timely failure data also can help preclude equipment or system malfunctions and help obviate the need for equipment redesign. Often, this information is not readily available or easily obtained from other sources.

Product Information Data

Product information data support multiple types of users, including systems commands, logistics activities, in-service engineering activities, and support contractors. Product information data are distributed in two types of reports:

- Product Information Notices (including DMSMS notices)
- Product Change Notices.

GIDEP has been designated as the centralized database for the timely distribution of product information through Product Information Notices and Product Change Notices. These notices are used to inform product users of parameters in items and materials or of changes in technical characteristics. The intent of these notices is to provide GIDEP members with advance information about products to allow maximum lead-time for deciding among alternative sources or redesigning affected components of a system.

DMSMS notices originate when a part manufacturer announces that a part or a production line will be discontinued. The majority of GIDEP DMSMS notices have been issued on piece parts, especially in the electronics area (primarily, microcircuits). However, obsolescence also occurs at the module, component, equipment, or other system level. DMSMS notices have been issued on a wide range of commodities. GIDEP has been reporting discontinuances since 1978 and, in 1995, was designated as the Department of Defense centralized database for managing and disseminating DMSMS information. The database contains data not only for parts manufactured in accordance with military or government specifications but also for commercial parts.

The majority of GIDEP DMSMS notices have been issued on piece parts, especially in the electronics area (primarily, microcircuits). However, obsolescence also occurs at the module, component, equipment, or other system level.

GIDEP receives the majority of the discontinuance notices via the web, but many notices come directly from the manufacturer or through third-party notifications such as Raytheon or the Defense Supply Center Columbus (OH).

To assist customers with obsolescence management, GIDEP offers several tools and resources that are of immense benefit:

- *Urgent Data Request.* This service may be used to solicit the public as well as the GIDEP members for information on parts that may have been discontinued and have no viable alternative source.
- *DMSMS web pages.* The GIDEP web pages devoted to DMSMS provide a wealth of information, including notices of meetings, a weekly list of discontinued parts, and a library of DMSMS-related documents and regulations.
- *Batch Match/Auto Match.* This service allows GIDEP members to load lists of parts to be searched against the GIDEP database as a single event or in a continuously monitored mode in which all new documents are screened against the list of parts.

Metrology Data

Metrology data cover a wide range of measurement-related subjects, including test and inspection equipment and engineering information on calibration laboratories, calibration systems, and measurement systems. Metrology data are distributed in the following documents:

- Technical Manuals
- General Metrology
- Calibration Procedures.

Metrology data are also available via subscription on DVD. Metrology data updates are distributed to subscribers on a regular schedule.

The Army, Navy, and Air Force metrology centers are the major contributors of calibration procedures to GIDEP. Major test and measurement equipment manufacturers also participate in GIDEP and contribute significantly to the technical manuals.

Reliability Data

This data type addresses the reliability and maintainability of parts, components, assemblies, equipment, subsystems, and systems. These data are reported in four types of documents:

- Reliability Methodology
- Reliability Predictions
- Reliability Statistics
- Failure Analyses.

The reports are based on submitted results from operational field performance tests, from accelerated laboratory life testing, and from reliability and maintainability demonstration tests. The subjects of these tests and reports are mechanical, electronic, electromechanical, hydraulic, and pneumatic items. In addition, other documents cover reliability and maintainability theories, methods, techniques, practices, and procedures such as prediction techniques, reliability improvement warranty studies, failure modes and effects analyses, mathematical models, and reliability growth plans.

Engineering Data

Engineering data include information about research materials, quality assessments, engineering tests, evaluation and qualification tests, parts and materials specifications, manufacturing, design, process controls, solderability, and other related engineering data on parts, components, materials, and processes. Reports pertain to both military applications

and commercial applications. Because of the wide span of topics crossing many professional occupations, GIDEP engineering data are reported in seven types of documents:

- Test Reports
- Engineering Reports
- Management Reports
- Soldering Technologies
- Process Specifications
- Computer Technology
- Facilities Documents.

These reports are generated during research, development, testing, production, procurement, and logistical operations—all phases of the acquisition life cycle.

About the Authors

Gwen Nguyen is the GIDEP manager for engineering data and the coordinator for Urgent Data Request. She has more than 16 years of experience with data and process management and project lead software developments.

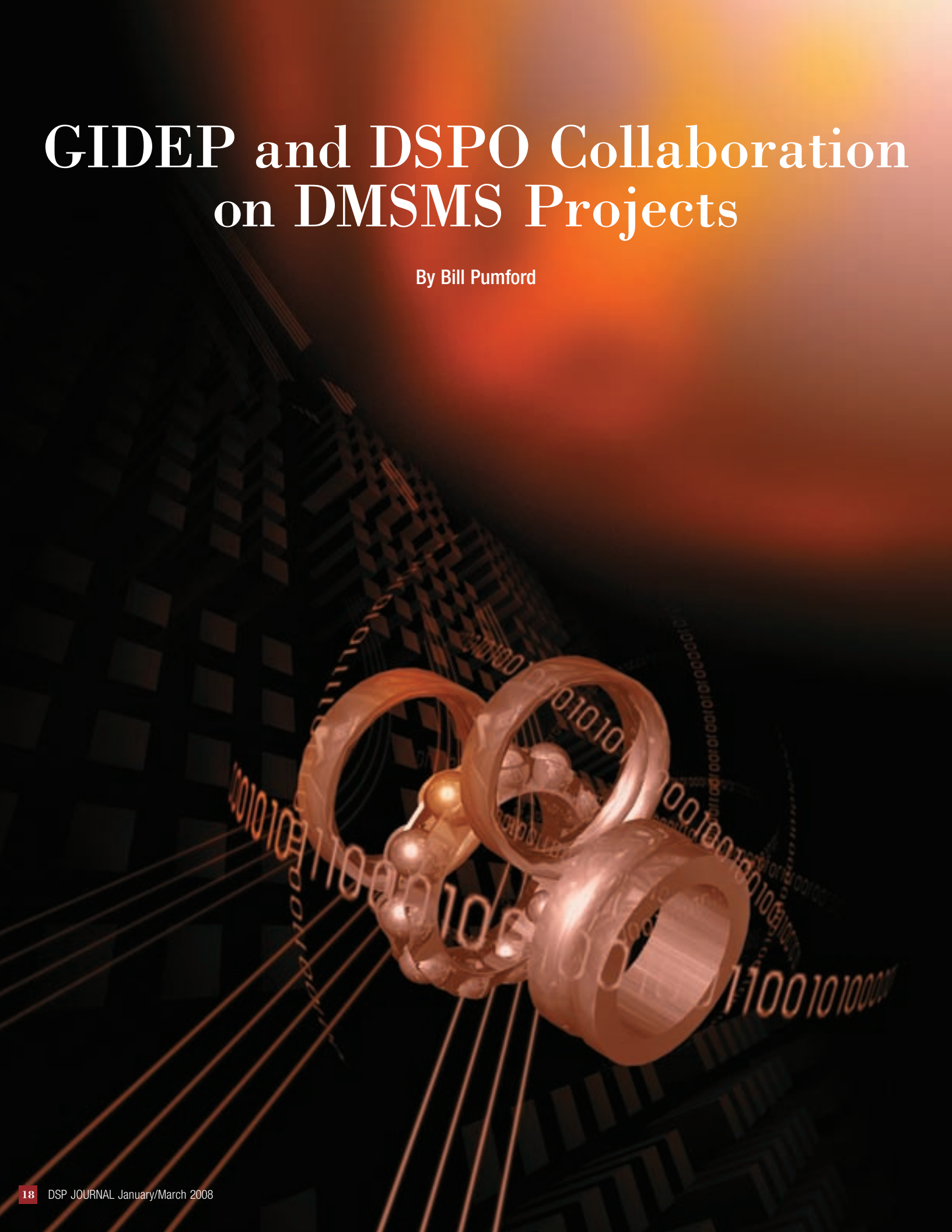
Jinhee Graebe is the GIDEP manager for reliability and maintainability data, product information data, and failure experience data. Before joining GIDEP, she was a weapons system flight analyst and provided project engineering support for various Navy weapons systems. She also provided quality engineering support to Navy program offices and contractors in the areas of risk assessment, high-reliability soldering, electronic assembly, reliability design, configuration management, quality management techniques, and systems engineering.

Karen Jackson is the GIDEP manager for metrology data and training. Her primary responsibilities are liaison with government and industry activities to promote and further their knowledge of GIDEP and interface with those activities and organizations regarding metrology. She has been with GIDEP for 14 years.

Bill Pumford is the DMSMS program manager at GIDEP. His primary responsibilities include data production and liaison with government and industry activities in the sharing of DMSMS-related information.

GIDEP and DSPO Collaboration on DMSMS Projects

By Bill Pumford



The Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP) has, for many years been heavily involved in the distribution of notices on discontinued products. This involvement resulted in the publication of an OSD memo in 1995 that designated GIDEP as the DoD central repository for managing and sharing Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages (DMSMS) information. With its responsibility as the central repository, GIDEP has become one of the building blocks for DoD DMSMS projects.

In the past several years, GIDEP and DSPO have collaborated on a number of significant projects. The genesis of this collaboration can be traced to the transfer of the OSD DMSMS office to DSPO, which occurred in 2005. Previously, the DMSMS office had been under the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Logistics Plans and Programs.

The subsequent transfer of GIDEP to DSPO has enhanced the integration and cost-effectiveness of DoD-wide DMSMS projects, largely because the two programs have been working on parallel efforts. For example, DSPO has led the Department of Defense in establishing working relationships with foreign countries to develop international standards and with NATO to standardize NATO stock number coding. At the same time, GIDEP has been looking into requirements for opening up participation in GIDEP by countries other than the United States and Canada. This is a global economy, and GIDEP's information is of value to other nations and should be shared within the constraints imposed by the International Traffic in Arms Regulations.

DSPO, GIDEP, and the Defense Supply Center Columbus (OH) are collaborating on design, development, and maintenance for a number of projects. The following projects are particularly noteworthy:

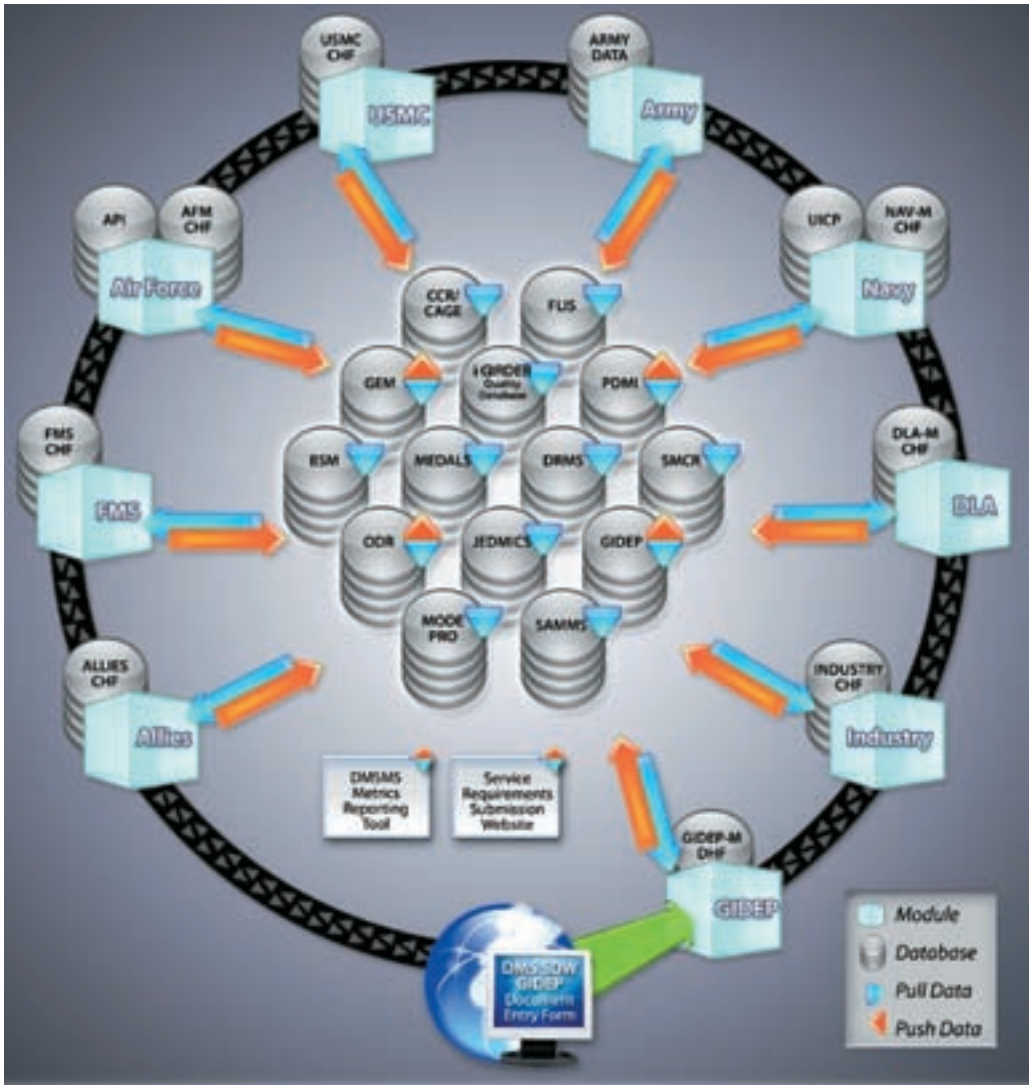
- Shared Data Warehouse (SDW)
- Joint DMSMS Mitigation Capabilities
- Aerospace Industries Association (AIA)–OSD Tiger Team Data Sharing Project
- DMSMS Knowledge Sharing Portal (DKSP)
- International GIDEP Access.

Shared Data Warehouse

For quite some time now, SDW development projects have been considered the foundation for OSD's DMSMS mitigation initiatives. DSPO, GIDEP, Defense Supply Center Columbus, and Concurrent Technologies Corporation (the SDW developer) have worked together to ensure that the SDW environment maximizes the

ability of the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) and the armed services to quickly and accurately resolve the many DMSMS cases that occur weekly. Figure 1 depicts the SDW environment. A number of subelements have been or are being developed; together, those subelements minimize the labor required to perform technical review of components in a DMSMS case, assign solutions, and respond to DLA's life-of-type buy requirements.

FIGURE 1. Shared Data Warehouse Environment



AFM = Air Force Module
API = Applications/Programs/Indentures
BSM = Business System Modernization
CAGE = Commercial and Government Entity
CCR = Central Contractor Registration
CHF = Case History File
DHF = Document History File
DLA = Defense Logistics Agency
DRMS = Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service
FLIS = Federal Logistics Information System
FMS = Foreign Military Sales
GEM = Generalized Emulation of Microcircuits
iGIRDER = interactive Government Industry Reference Data Edit and Review
JEDMICS = Joint Engineering Data Management Information Control System
MEDALS = Military Engineering Data Asset Locator System
MODEPRO = Managed Obsolescence Data Enterprise, Proactive
ODR = Obsolescence Data Repository
PDMI = Product Data Management Initiative
SAMMS = Standard Automated Materiel Management System
SMCR = Standard Microcircuit Cross-Reference
UICP = Uniform Inventory Control Program
USMC = U.S. Marine Corps

The following are some of the primary SDW efforts:

- ***DLA module.*** This module is a DMSMS case management tool for DLA-managed national stock numbers (NSNs) and non-stock listed parts.
- ***GIDEP module.*** This is a production module used internally at GIDEP to more efficiently process notices of discontinued products into the GIDEP database. This module will also provide component data to the other SDW modules for their specific case processing.
- ***GIDEP public module.*** This is a product entry form that allows companies to directly input notices of discontinued products to GIDEP.
- ***Air Force module.*** This module was designed to accommodate the Air Force's unique business process for developing requirements for DLA buys. It has been expanded to address Air Force–managed NSNs.
- ***Navy module.*** The Navy, like the Air Force, needed a module to gather Navy requirements for DLA buys.
- ***Marine Corps module.*** This module, which is under development, will incorporate several aspects of the Marine Corps business processes, including Marine Corps–managed NSNs and NSNs that may be managed by other services but used by the Marines.
- ***Obsolescence Data Repository (ODR).*** This repository was developed to be a central warehouse where DMSMS case information could be stored. The repository includes part and Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) information as well as case numbers, solutions, and NSNs. The ODR was developed for two primary purposes:
  - Provide metrics on cases and solutions in DoD for DMSMS. In 1990 and again in 1995, the Government Accountability Office expressed concern about the efforts of DoD to understand the extent of the DMSMS problem within the department. The ODR is meant to help DoD track DMSMS cases.
  - Provide an environment for sharing information. All too frequently, government and industry entities have information to share regarding their efforts to resolve DMSMS issues, but they have had no place to share it. The ODR can enable information sharing without compromising security.

Joint DMSMS Mitigation Capabilities

GIDEP is working with DSPO, Concurrent Technologies Corporation, and the DoD DMSMS Working Group's International Committee to develop processes to integrate the SDW data into the Foreign Military Sales (FMS) community. The primary purpose of this project is to permit the FMS community to take advantage of the SDW capabilities and data sources to help them mitigate DMSMS issues. Be-

cause many of the U.S. weapon systems addressed in FMS cases are older variants of the current systems, the DMSMS problems are magnified. This project will integrate data sources and FMS country requirements in such a way as to not compromise either DoD-sensitive data or FMS country-/program-specific information. This project will get under way in late spring 2008.

AIA-OSD Tiger Team Data Sharing Project

DSPO and AIA have begun working with original equipment manufacturers such as Raytheon, Boeing, Lockheed, and Northrop Grumman to establish agreements and processes to share DMSMS data, including discontinuance notices, and DMSMS case-resolution information with DoD. With obsolescence management for many of today's new production and legacy weapon systems being performed by the prime integrators, a great deal of valuable DMSMS case information is available to be shared. GIDEP is participating in this effort by providing an environment that enables information sharing without compromising company- or program-sensitive data.

DMSMS Knowledge Sharing Portal

DSPO, GIDEP, DLA, and Karta Technologies collaborated on the design, development, and maintenance of the DKSP, which is a web-enabled area (www.dmsms.org) where DMSMS-related information can be shared with the community. Because DMSMS is an integral part of parts management, the DKSP will likely be incorporated into the Defense Parts Management Portal in the near future.

The DKSP is open to all users, although the portal has a couple of areas that are GIDEP user ID and password controlled. The following are some of the DKSP's primary features:

- ***Library.*** This area contains DMSMS-related reports, documents, directives, and memorandums that help keep the DMSMS community apprised of useful information.
- ***Meetings.*** This area permits users to keep informed of meetings related to DMSMS, including meetings on parts management, obsolescence, and counterfeit issues.
- ***Plan Builder.*** This area, developed primarily by the Army, enables users to create obsolescence management plans using the Logistics Planning and Requirements System. Specifically, Plan Builder leads users through a series of questions, which results in the creation of a basic plan to which more detailed information may be added by the user.

- ***Training.*** This area of the DKSP was created to fulfill a primary need of the DMSMS community: training. In many cases, personnel had been assigned duties related to the management of obsolescence in support of single or multiple weapon system programs, but no training was available to prepare them for the task. ARINC, Inc., and Karta Technologies, overseen by DSPO, developed several important training courses that have been applauded across DoD and industry. These courses have been accepted as Continuous Learning Modules by the Defense Acquisition University.
- ***DoD DMSMS Working Group.*** This area makes the working group's charter, membership, minutes, and presentations available to authorized users. The majority of this information requires a GIDEP user ID and password.

International GIDEP Access

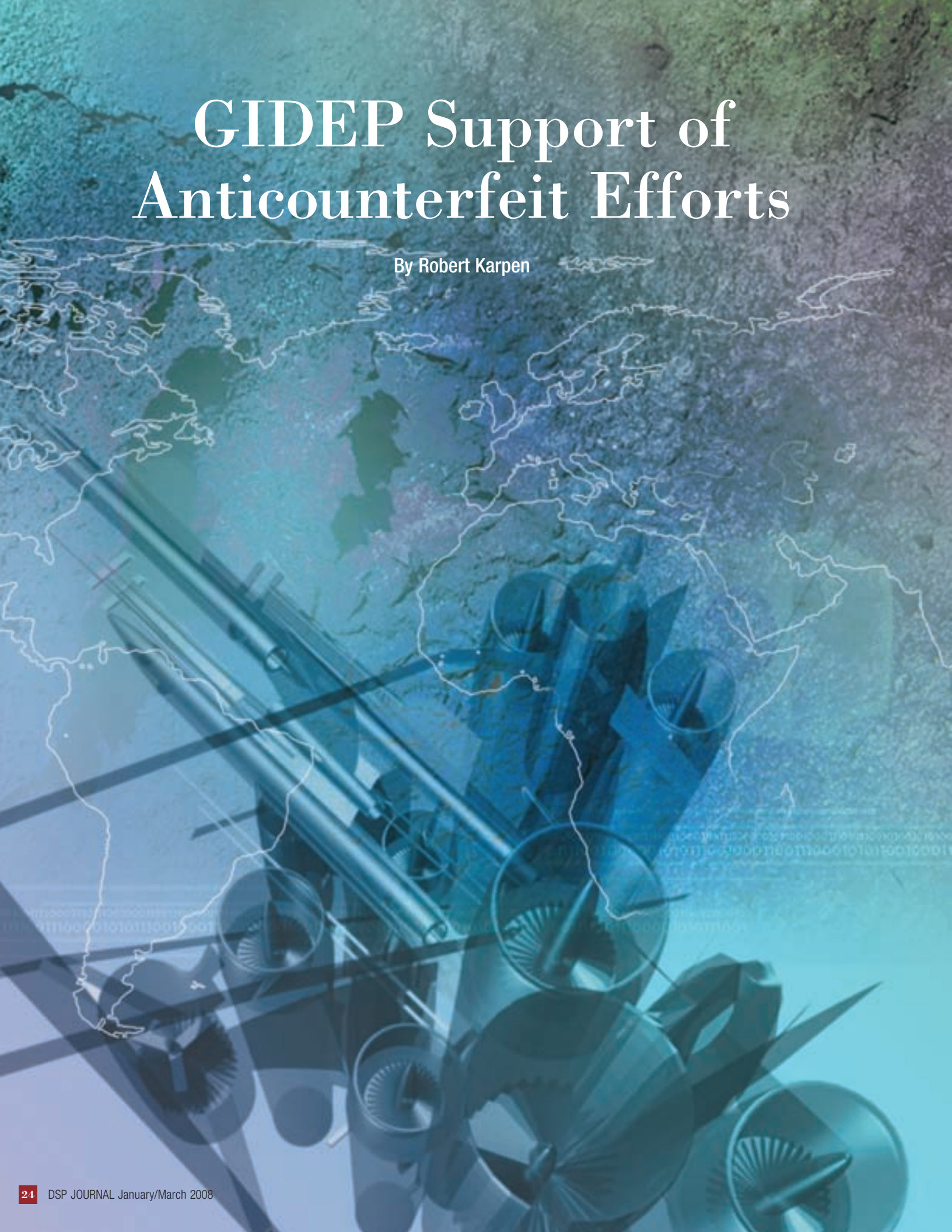
DSPO and GIDEP are involved in the not-so-simple process of obtaining the necessary authorizations for countries other than the United States and Canada to participate in GIDEP. The Department of Defense operates in a global environment in which DoD sells weapon systems to foreign countries and U.S. and Canadian companies purchase parts from other nations. The Interoperability Committee under the DoD DMSMS Working Group is also heavily involved in getting the access issues for GIDEP resolved. The GIDEP data could be of immense benefit to other countries, and the sharing of the data will provide increased readiness for our allies, which in turn helps the United States in the global war on terrorism.

About the Author

Bill Pumford is the DMSMS program manager at GIDEP. His primary responsibilities include data production and liaison with government and industry activities in the sharing of DMSMS-related information.

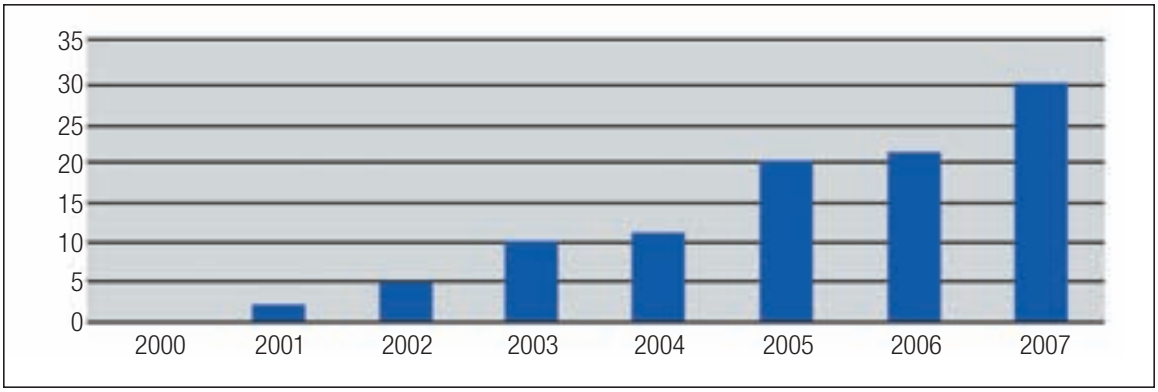
GIDEP Support of Anticounterfeit Efforts

By Robert Karpen



The counterfeiting trade has expanded beyond phony currency into intellectual property areas, including audio, video, and game recordings. Recently, consumer market trends and several policy decisions by the government have opened up a new field for counterfeiting: electronic parts and equipment. The Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP) has seen a rapid growth in reports of counterfeits (see Figure 1) and is trying to better support anticounterfeit efforts.

FIGURE 1. Number of Reported Counterfeits, by Year



Counterfeiting has increased for a number of reasons, such as the following:

- Extension of the operating life for weapon systems of old designs
- Shortage of high-reliability products in the old technologies
- Requirements for "faster, better, cheaper" with an emphasis on "faster and cheaper"
- Push for environmentally friendly (lead-free) products
- Lack of traceability in the supply chain
- Outsourcing of important procurement functions
- Lack of controls on the production of outsourced products
- Lack of controls on the distribution of products
- Lack of clarity on handling investigative and enforcement efforts
- Lack of reporting about counterfeit products
- High cost of inspecting and verifying products.

As the use of counterfeit devices becomes more widespread, GIDEP members are attacking the problem on a variety of fronts. GIDEP—with its combination of data, services, and tools to extract information related to counterfeiting issues—enables them to address counterfeit issues in several ways. It actively facilitates the exchange, between U.S. and Canadian agencies and contractors, of counterfeiting data along with data in the areas of Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages (DMSMS), engineering, metrology, product information, and reliability/maintainability. Because, in most cases, the manufacturers of the copied parts have no

responsibility for counterfeit items in the supply chain, it is beneficial for government and industry equipment makers and users to use GIDEP as a central repository for sharing information on suspect products.

Information Sources

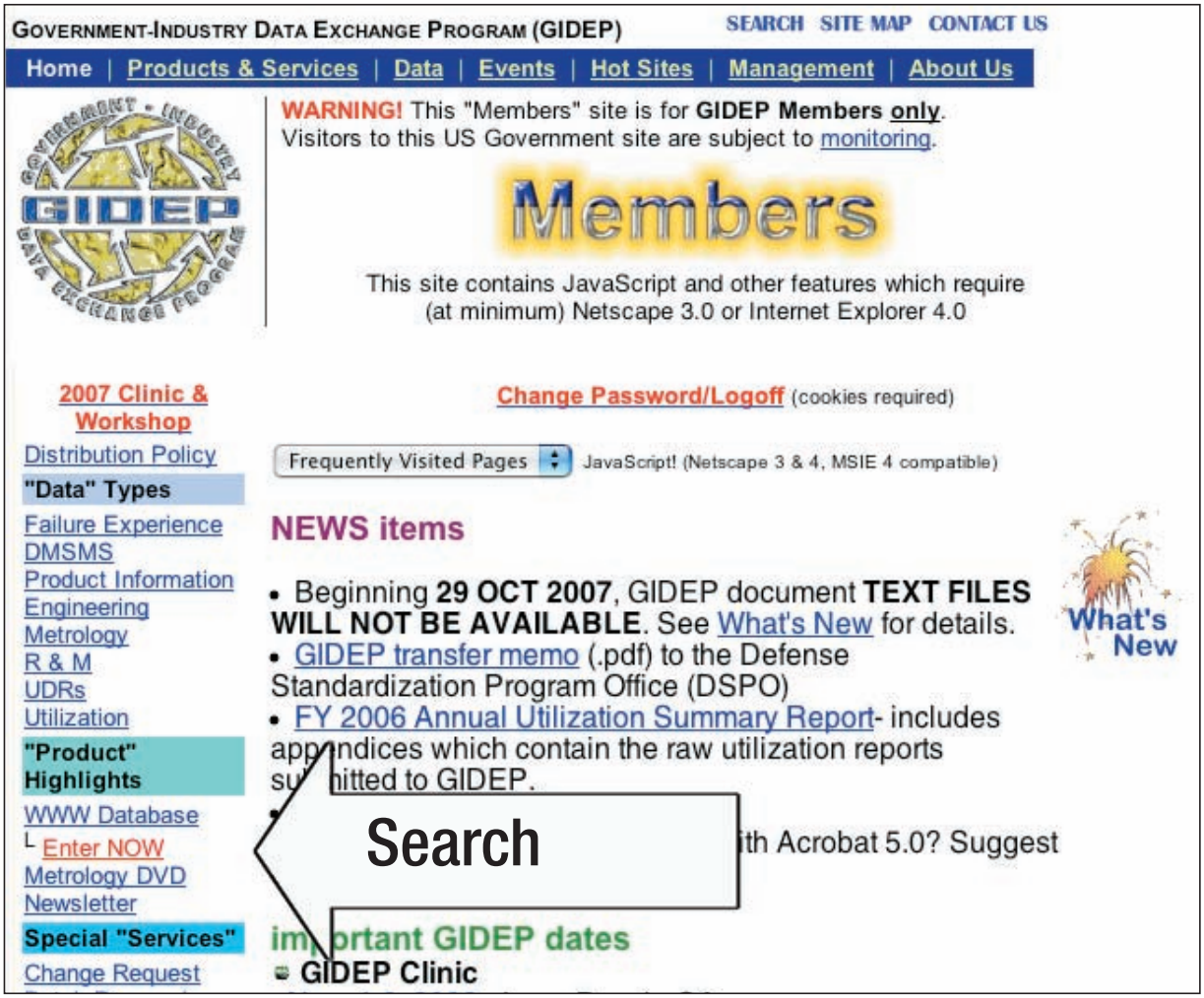
Information on suspect counterfeit products is typically submitted by government organizations and industry contractors. They submit that information using one of the various report formats in GIDEP's Failure Experience database, such as ALERTs, Agency Action Notices, Lessons Learned, and Problem Advisories. For ALERTs and Problem Advisories, GIDEP policy requires submitters to notify the part manufacturer before the information is distributed by GIDEP. To avoid delays in distributing the information, organizations that identify counterfeits should coordinate with their internal investigative and legal organizations. Investigative and legal organizations may be reluctant to authorize release of the data, so it is sometimes necessary to negotiate with them to determine the minimum data that would be immediately useful to others, such as part marking information and lot date codes, versus data such as the supplier's identification that should be withheld until investigations and litigations have been completed. GIDEP recognizes that it might be embarrassing to reveal findings of counterfeits, but hopes that reporting of counterfeit incidents will increase. It is important to make the entire community aware of the problem; according to individuals in the aerospace industry, GIDEP has seen only the "tip of the iceberg."

Distribution of Information

Once information on suspect counterfeit products is accepted, it is uploaded to the Failure Experience database. Through the Push Mail service or postings on the website, members can receive notices about newly identified counterfeits. Through the Batch Match/Auto Match service (which monitors incoming reporting), members that have loaded part numbers from bills of material into GIDEP will receive an e-mail notifying them of any reports of counterfeit parts that match part numbers from the bill of material.

Members can also use GIDEP to check if a product in their system might be a suspect counterfeit. GIDEP has a search tool on the home page of its members website (https://members.gidep.org) that has an Advance Search function that allows a member to make a query using the keyword "Suspect Counterfeit" in the Problem Description field and the target part number in the Part Identifier field. (See Figure 2.) The system will return hyperlinks to pertinent reports.

FIGURE 2. GIDEP Home Page



Another helpful tool is the Urgent Data Request (UDR). Using this simple request form, a member can query the entire GIDEP community (about 2,400 members) for additional information on a part, techniques for detecting fraudulent products, suspect suppliers, or sources of good products. The UDR usually reaches the community within a week and has had a high rate of responses (more than 70 percent).

Special Guidelines for Reporting to GIDEP

Because suspect counterfeit products can be reported in a variety of formats, GIDEP asks that submitters enter the words "Suspect Counterfeit" in the Problem Description field of the form (block 4). There is also a potentially misleading aspect regarding the Manufacturer field. Because most people will search their bills of material and stock lists using the part marking (part and manufacturer logo or name), we ask that the submitter note the following paragraph in the Problem Description field:

The manufacturer identified in block 4 is the entity whose product may have been counterfeited. This reporting convention is necessary to facilitate GIDEP database searches for suspect counterfeit products and is by no means intended to imply that the manufacturer identified in block 4 is involved with the suspect product.

Because the manufacturer identified by the part marking may have had nothing to do with the production and distribution of the suspect counterfeit item, we recommend that the supplier of the item be identified in the Problem Description field so the user can make an assessment as to the risk of using the same source.

Activities

Several actions are underway, and guidelines are available to address counterfeiting issues:

- Department of Defense Instruction 4120.19, "Parts Management Program" (in draft)
- Government Electronics and Information Technology Association Solid State Devices (G-12) Committee Technical Bulletin, GEIA-TB-0003, "Counterfeit Parts and Materials Risk Mitigation" (in draft coordination)
- Independent Distributors of Electronics Association, Standard 1010, "Acceptability of Electronic Components Distributed in the Open Market"
- Joint Electron Device Engineering Council, JESD31, "General Requirements for Distributors of Commercial and Military Semiconductor Devices"
- MIL-STD-3018, "Parts Management"
- SAE G-19 Counterfeit Electronic Components Committee, "Aerospace Recommended Practice" (in draft coordination)

Aerospace and Defense Organizations Addressing the Counterfeiting Issue

Aerospace Industries Association

Parts Management (Counterfeit Parts) Integrated Product Team
Matthew Williams, Director, Standardization
matt.williams@aia-aerospace.org

Government Electronics and Information Technology Association

G-12 Solid State Devices Committee
Chair: Mark Porter, General Dynamics

- Defense Standardization Program Office, SD-19, "Life Cycle Cost Savings through Parts Management."

Among the issues that still need to be addressed are the following:

- Conflict between timely reporting of a problem and the efforts of enforcement agencies to prosecute fraud cases
- Identification of data that are releasable early in the discovery process and would be useful to the weapons system managers and logisticians
- Potential inability of traditional receiving inspection and screening test methods to detect counterfeits.

Summary

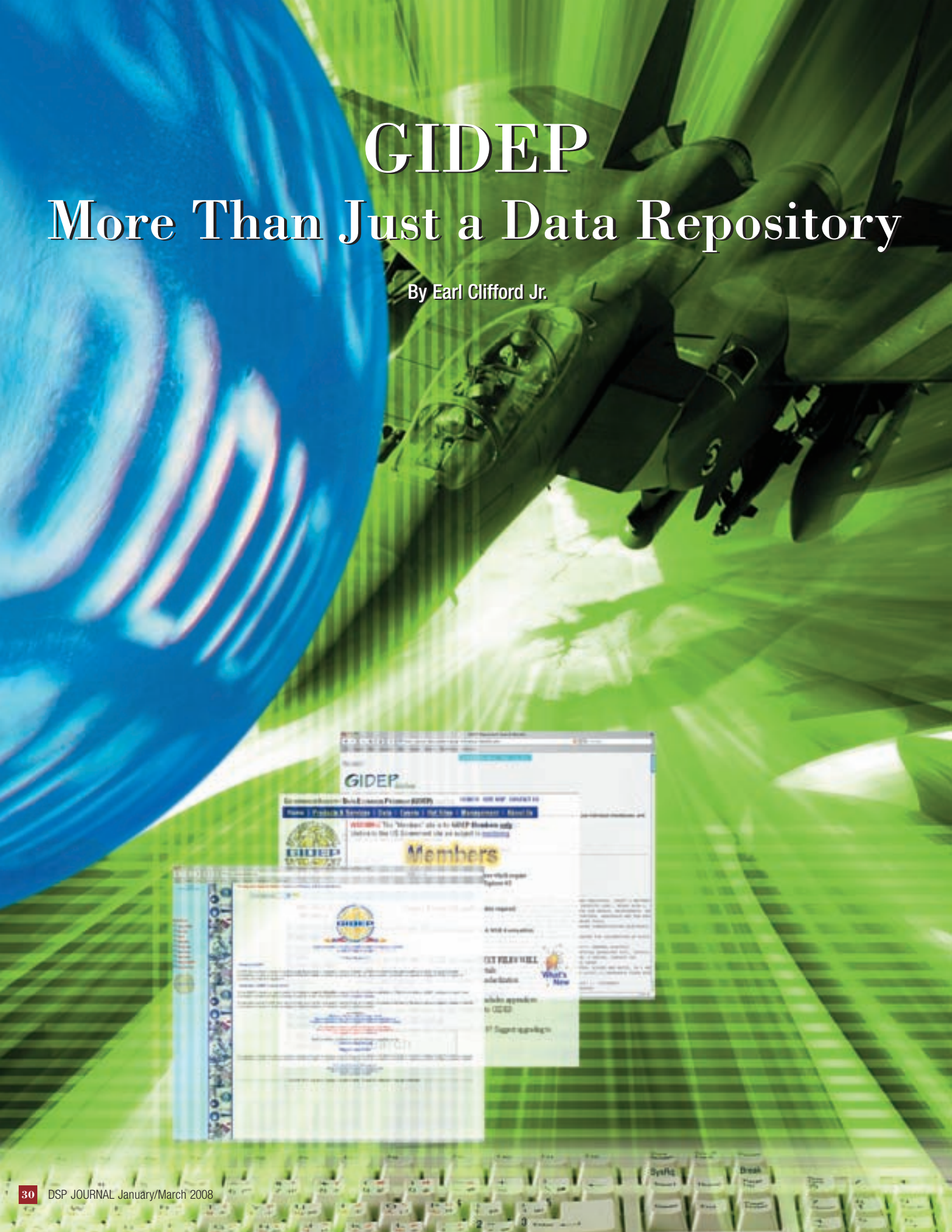
With the accelerating concern and activities by various organizations to mitigate the risk of using counterfeit products, it behooves GIDEP members to stay abreast of developments and even participate in the development or modification of policies, as well as to make use of the tools available through GIDEP. Members also should determine whether they have a process in place to catch potential counterfeit problems and guidance on reporting counterfeit products internally and externally. GIDEP can be key to both keeping informed and reporting incidents of counterfeiting.

About the Author

Robert Karpen, a system engineer with Computer Sciences Corporation, supports the GIDEP Operations Center in Corona, CA. Mr. Karpen's experience ranges from being a GIDEP user in his early years as a NASA parts engineer, formulating and implementing NASA policy on parts and materials, followed by a return from retirement 7 years ago to assist the GIDEP Operations Center with the development of new tools and databases for DMSMS and counterfeit issues.

GIDEP
More Than Just a Data Repository

By Earl Clifford Jr.



Being a member of the Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP) affords one the ability to reach out to thousands of participating members. The cost? Zero. As a fully sponsored program, GIDEP is open to U.S. government and industry partners, as well as to the Canadian Department of National Defence and its industry partners. What does GIDEP want in return? All it asks of members is to continue sharing information and to provide utilization reporting that outlines how GIDEP has provided assistance.

Since its inception, GIDEP has helped various government and industry partners realize savings in the form of cost avoidance. Throughout the years, the total reported cost avoidance has exceeded the billion-dollar mark. That alone emphasizes the importance of this program and the realization that the sharing of information between government and industry is a good thing.

In addition, GIDEP has established numerous long-term relationships with many of its member partners. One such partnership is with Northrop Grumman. Northrop Grumman Information Technology uses GIDEP's batch e-mail notices and weekly downloads from the GIDEP website to check the effects of industry's discontinuation of parts on the systems used by the 84th Space and C3I Sustainment Group. In FY03, Northrop Grumman analyzed 82 parts for cost avoidance of more than $5.4 million and won the GIDEP Achievement Award for the U.S. Air Force. In that same year, Northrop Grumman notified the Air Force that a transistor for one of its systems was going to be obsolete and suggested a life-of-type buy, based on information from a GIDEP ALERT. The Air Force purchased the item and avoided a Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages cost of $514,000. Since the start of the program in 2002, Northrop Grumman has researched 443 ALERTs for a total of more than $11.6 million in cost avoidance.

This is just one of thousands of such instances in which GIDEP has proven its worth by helping the membership community avoid the cost involved for reclamation, substitution, or redesign. GIDEP provides an annual summary of member utilization reports. These reports are published on the GIDEP members website.

GIDEP also provides a number of membership services. One such service is the Urgent Data Request, or UDR. A UDR may be a request for information or a request for a source of supply. One of GIDEP's industry partners, Honeywell Technology Solutions, Inc. (HTSI)—a contractor for the Air Force Satellite Control Network (AFSCN)—is a devout user of the UDR process, to the benefit of HTSI and, ultimately, the Air Force. In one case, for example, HTSI submitted a UDR seeking a source of supply for 1,435 electronic and non-electronic parts. By using the UDR system, HTSI located a source of supply for the listed parts, while decreasing its work effort by approximately 90 percent. Moreover, by avoiding the costs of

redesigning or reverse-engineering the parts, HTSI—and the Air Force—saved more than $31 million. It also resulted in extending the sustainability period of the AFSCN system while freeing funds to be transferred to other critical systems.

In recent years and with the ever-increasing threats to the United States and its allies, either through the increase of suspect counterfeit parts or the global war on terror, the importance of GIDEP has become even more apparent. One of GIDEP's success stories concerns the program's most important customer—the warfighter. A calibration technician with the Marine Corps Calibration Laboratory at Camp Taqaddum, Iraq, requested support from GIDEP to locate an Army calibration procedure. (Because the Army does not have a calibration laboratory in this region, the Marine laboratory is providing cross-service test equipment calibration support for the area.) GIDEP was able to locate the required calibration procedure in the GIDEP database and immediately forwarded the procedure directly to the technician who made the request. After receiving the calibration procedure, the technician responded, "I just wanted to thank you for helping me out so quickly. It's hard to get a lot of help out here it seems. The procedure was exactly what I needed and hopefully now we can move on." Clearly, not all benefits received from using GIDEP can be measured in dollars.

As the world continues to shrink through the advent of the World Wide Web and other electronic media, the role of GIDEP continues to grow. Through the sharing of information between the government and its industry partners, information gets out to those in the community who need it—with the hope that those in harm's way get the information they need to help them "move on."

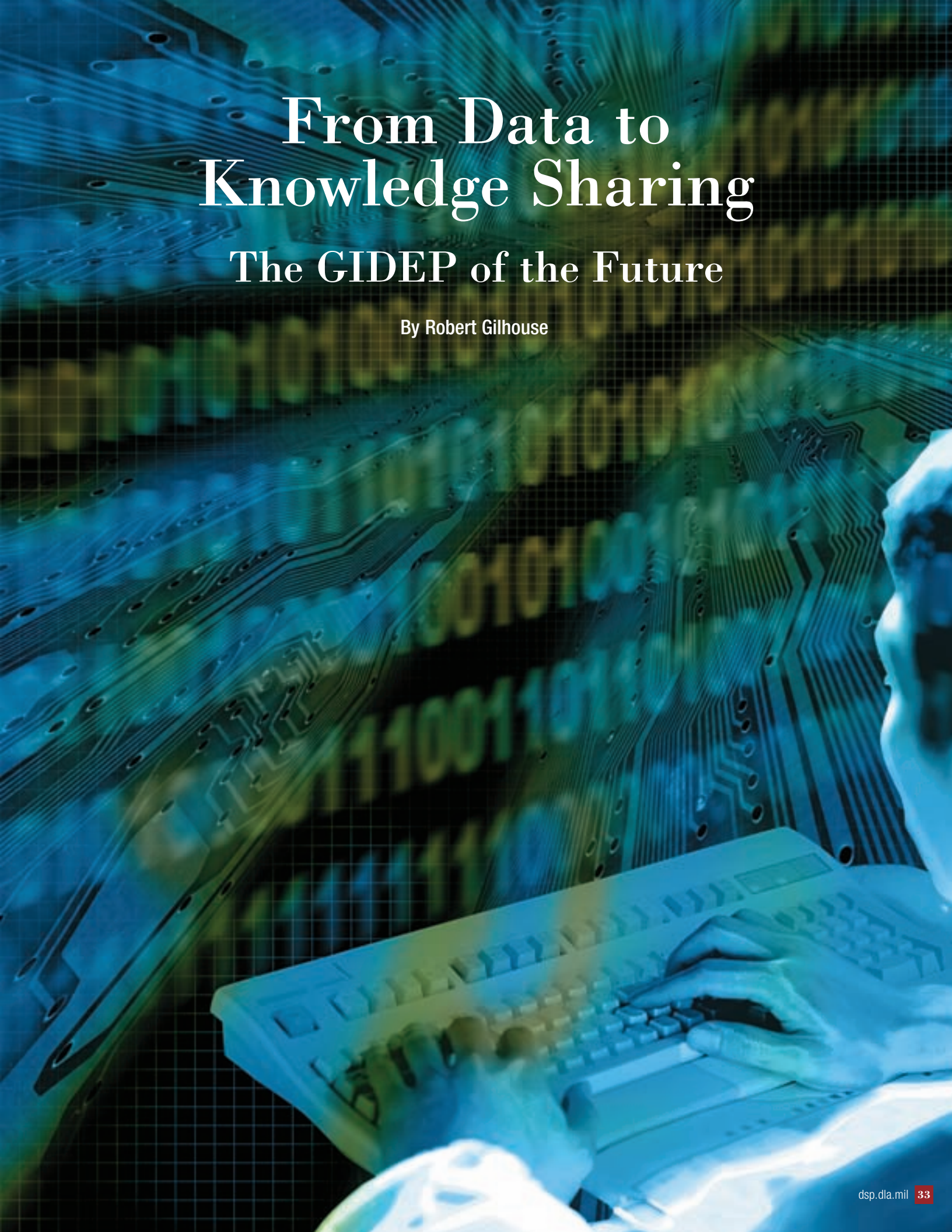
About the Author

Earl Clifford Jr., the GIDEP project manager with Computer Sciences Corporation, oversees contractor support of the GIDEP Operations Center in Corona, CA. Mr. Clifford joined the GIDEP team in March 2000. From December 2004 through November 2006, in addition to serving as the GIDEP project manager, he held the position of chief of staff for the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division.

From Data to Knowledge Sharing

The GIDEP of the Future

By Robert Gilhouse



The Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP) provides a web-accessible database of high-quality data for its government and industry members. The technology supporting GIDEP is no different than any other information system; it requires a constant cycle of design–deploy–patch–deploy–patch–deploy... redesign–deploy–patch–deploy–patch–deploy. But, to enable knowledge sharing in the future, GIDEP will need to take a more aggressive approach to transform its information system from being document centric to knowledge centric.

GIDEP's Evolution

The future cannot be discussed without at least touching on the past. Over time, GIDEP has evolved, making use of various new technologies along the way. Figure 1 depicts the evolution. The program began in the late 1950s utilizing telephone calls and letters to distribute notices and to exchange information between organizations. This hard-copy distribution progressed to the use of microfilm and microfiche to consolidate the documents into more manageable formats. With the advent of high-speed computers, metadata and images were transferred to digital formats and access was moved to a terminal mode environment via modems. With the onset of the World Wide Web, GIDEP once again embraced modern technology, making the information system Internet accessible. And for metrologists and calibration technicians working in the field, away from Internet connectivity, GIDEP bundled data into CD and DVD formats.

Being on the "bleeding edge," as it is sometimes called, is expensive. The newest application software is geared to be run on hardware platforms that are themselves new. As a rule of thumb, computer hardware is good for 3 to 5 years.

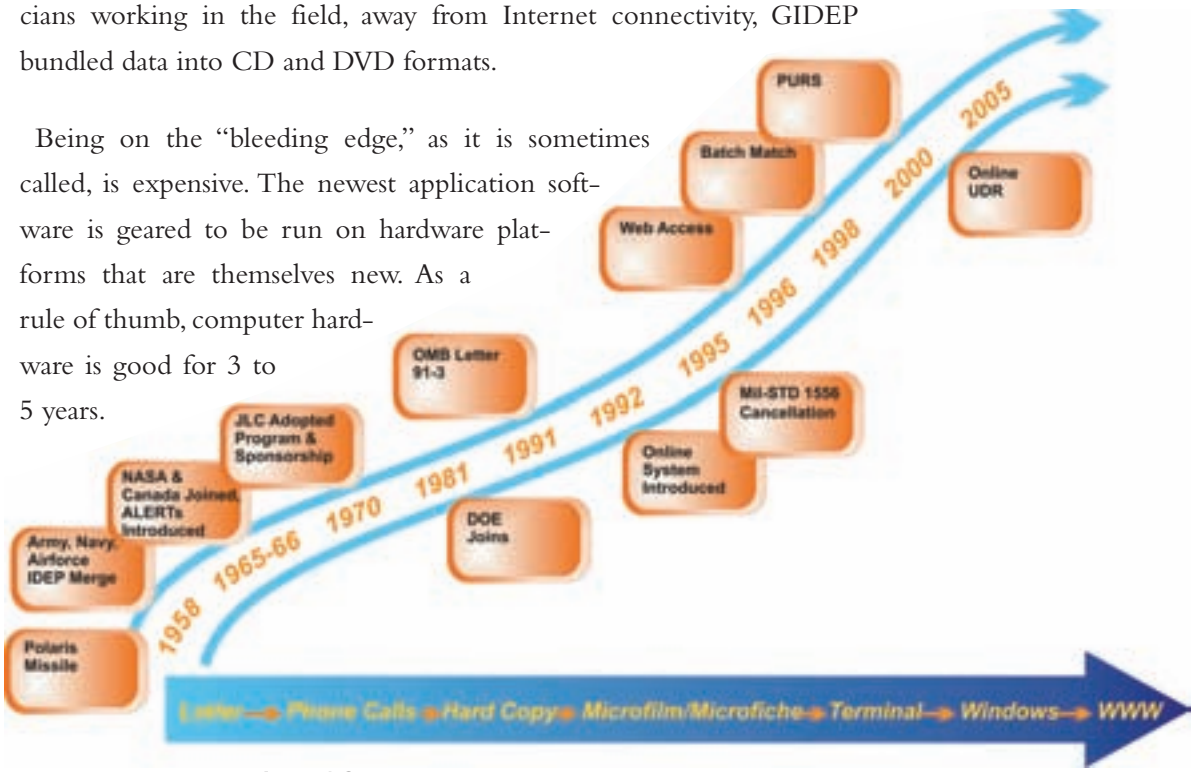


FIGURE 1. The Evolution of GIDEP

DOE = Department of Energy
IDEP = Interservice Data Exchange Program
JLC = Joint Logistics Commanders
OMB = Office of Management and Budget
PURS = Participant Utilization Reporting System
UDR = Urgent Data Request

The classic GIDEP servers have been in place since early 2003. Hardware and software enhancements have been meagerly applied, largely due to the tightening DoD budget and program changes. However, with the GIDEP back end basically static, the GIDEP user community has caught up technologically, especially in the realm of PCs.

GIDEP has made forays into making its information system better. The Community Information Exchange System (CIES) enables the members of a closed community to exchange information about a particular topic. The discussions within the CIES are similar to web blogs or forums, but they are focused strictly on a topic by the topic discussion form. The first GIDEP CIES was established for the Space Quality Improvement Council (SQIC). The goal of establishing the CIES was to enable SQIC members to share critical and sensitive quality information in a timely manner. The member organizations had processes and methods to automate and disseminate information internally. However, between organizations, members had to resort to whatever communication methods were readily available, such as e-mails, telephone calls, and periodic meetings. The CIES gave SQIC members a more real-time capability to generate and disseminate information.

Before the critical information that SQIC needs to share is made accessible, GIDEP policy requires that a vendor review-and-response process be followed. SQIC wanted a real-time or near-real-time capability to generate and disseminate information between member organizations consistently and automatically. The current GIDEP information technology infrastructure could provide the necessary functional capability to meet the SQIC information exchange requirements. However, GIDEP's vendor review policy would not allow for the near-real-time information dissemination and access that SQIC requires. The CIES met both needs and enables SQIC members to share data while flushing out and maturing ideas to be shared with the entire GIDEP community.

GIDEP's Shift to Sharing Knowledge

The current data system is structured around information stored in documents. For the most part, the critical information is "locked" inside these documents. It takes a human being to read through and digest the information as to what applies or does not apply to a particular project, system, or program. This document-centric organization of information has served GIDEP for the last 40-plus years. A major shift is the notion of sharing knowledge, not simply transferring data.

GIDEP's vision is to provide an information system that is knowledge centric. A knowledge-centric system draws from and links to other information systems to de-

rive information pertinent to the task or search of interest to the end user. In other words, GIDEP would become the central point for finding information; the GIDEP system would be transformed from a data storage system to an information retrieval system and knowledge base.

With this vision in mind, GIDEP undertook a systems architecture study in FY04. The study team focused on the Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages (DMSMS) data area. Among other things, the team analyzed the information technology capabilities of the DMSMS community, the data sources available, and the information used. The team found that the various pockets of DMSMS data were not ready for integration through a central node. The solution is to transform GIDEP information services to allow for the needed integration. The output of the study was a plan called the Information Systems Architecture. The plan recommends creating a data warehouse and mapping existing information to the warehouse (through integration or virtual access). Under this plan, the GIDEP system would remain as is and act as a feeder into the data warehouse. This approach would cause minimal interruption to the GIDEP user community, while facilitating users' knowledge sharing. Other information stores would be mapped or linked into the system, as they are made available.

According to the plan, the central repository (warehouse) will have a "smart" interface, with individual access rights. The interface will profile what users' interests are and what and where information was found. This would lead to a system that is very user friendly (self-tailoring) and, at the same time, help with information security by tracking compartmentalization of data. Submodules for user support will retain knowledge of users' data access needs, profiling access history to aid in future system queries.

Since the FY04 study was completed, GIDEP has begun hosting systems for the DMSMS community. Hosting those systems has given the Operations Center insight on other technologies such as portals and Microsoft's .NET environment. The DMSMS Knowledge Sharing Portal and the various modules of the Shared Data Warehouse utilize state-of-the-art hardware. These DMSMS systems are information centric, mostly based on part numbers. Coupled with hardware technology advances, the resident operating system has also made dramatic advances; the Microsoft Windows Server environment now bundles several environments that have become widely used in the information technology world.

Initiatives

To complete the successful transformation to an effective knowledge-sharing system

that will give users timely access to the specific data they need, the GIDEP Operations Center is planning several initiatives:

- ***Investigate commercial off-the-shelf products available for data transport and data reduction.*** The use of vendor-supplied and tailorable hardware and software packages will increase efficiencies.
- ***Investigate new methods for displaying information to the end user.*** Existing software and technology can be used to display information to the end user. In addition, the display of information using graphics and other methods, rather than text only, should be investigated.
- ***Develop a centralized user authentication service that can assist the end user with accessing segregated information stores.*** Several products are available from vendors to accomplish this in a secured and safe environment. For example, ClearTrust could be used across platform and organizational boundaries.
- ***Provide centralized access and hosting by collocating some data/information systems with the GIDEP system.*** The DoD DMSMS Knowledge Sharing Portal is an example of a system that has been collocated with the GIDEP systems. Other DMSMS-related services are also scheduled to be hosted at the GIDEP Operations Center. Implementing centralized authentication is important for integrating these types of systems into GIDEP.
- ***Create a data warehouse.*** Creating a data warehouse for information stored in GIDEP involves setting up a development data server, online storage, and software and developing processes for integrating data into the warehouse.
- ***Develop a user-centric interface to the GIDEP databases.*** A user-centric method for interacting with the system, such as a "MY GIDEP," would enable the user to tailor the interface to meet his or her individual project needs. A new Web Server/Application Server to execute static and dynamic pages is needed. In addition, the Operations Center needs to develop the initial user profile and metrics.
- ***Investigate the use of web techniques for linking to distributed databases rather than storing all data centrally.*** This initiative, in concert with the data warehousing and display methods initiatives, will be a move to making GIDEP the "knowledge enabler" for the data exchanges. Linking should reduce the effort required by the Operations Center to process and prepare information for the user community. Agreements with other data stores will be necessary for this initiative to be successful.
- ***Train Operations Center personnel.*** In-house expertise will be needed to maintain and integrate data and systems, so the staff will need training on the environment used. In addition, end users will need to be informed of access procedures and capability changes.

Many of the initiatives can be started and implemented either independently or together.

Continuous Learning and Growth

Like any major enterprise, GIDEP must be a "learning" organization, able to sense the need for change and to respond with cost-effective changes at the right time. GIDEP's Operations Center, through its DMSMS information systems architecture plan, is creating a comprehensive model of GIDEP, both now and as envisioned for the future. The repository is the vehicle for capturing and sharing that knowledge. By continuously evolving and updating the architecture, and sharing it with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders, GIDEP believes it is significantly strengthening its abilities to learn and grow.

About the Author

Robert Gilhouse heads the Technology Management Branch supporting the GIDEP Operations Center in Corona, CA. He has more than 20 years of experience as a programmer/systems analyst with private industry and the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division.

Program News

Topical Information on Standardization Programs

DSPO Takes Responsibility for GIDEP

Responsibility for the Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP) recently transferred to DSPO. The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics directed this action through a memorandum issued July 5, 2007. Since GIDEP's establishment 50 years ago, users have reported more than $1 billion in cost avoidance thanks to GIDEP's helpful products and services. For additional information or to become a GIDEP member, go to http://www.gidep.org/.

GIDEP Announces Winners of FY06 Achievement Awards

Each year, GIDEP recognizes government and industry entities, and their GIDEP representatives, that provided significant and exemplary support to the program during the previous fiscal year. Nominations for the annual achievement award are based on such considerations as document submittals; level of cost avoidance; active participation at workshops, clinics, and management meetings; general interest of the GIDEP representative; and the support provided by the entity's management team.

FY06 Industry Winner: Jorge Scientific Corporation, Warner Robins, GA
Representatives: Ella Reynolds and William Cook

During 2006, Jorge Scientific Corporation realized a cost avoidance of $2.5 million through the use of 180 notices on Diminishing Manufacturing Resources and Material Shortages (DMSMS). The use of these notices ensured uninterrupted mission-effectiveness support to the warfighting capability through lifetime buys, avoiding the need to redesign circuit card assemblies and, in effect, extending the service life of Global Positioning System User Equipment (GPS UE) by more than 15 years. Furthermore, in the past 6 years, Jorge Scientific Corporation has reported a cumulative cost avoidance of more than $150 million.

The award was presented during a GIDEP workshop by Rudy Brillon (director of the GIDEP Operations Center), Dianne Costlow (head of the quality assessment department at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Corona Division, and Greg Saunders (DSPO

director). Accepting the award for Jorge Scientific Corporation were William Cook (GIDEP representative and manager of the GPS UE program), John Folino (vice president for operations), Calenia Franklin (junior electrical engineer), and William Mays (senior electrical engineer).

Pictured above are Rudy Brillon, Dianne Costlow, William Cook, John Folino, Calenia Franklin, William Mays, and Greg Saunders.

FY06 Government Winner: Canadian Department of National Defence, Hull, Quebec, Canada
Representative: Ken Armstrong

During FY06, the Canadian Department of National Defence realized a cost avoidance of $750,000 from the utilization of failure experience, metrology, and DMSMS documents and data.

No representatives were in attendance at the workshop to accept the award.

Progress Being Made on the Qualified Products Database

In November 2007, DSPO distributed, to the Standardization Executives, the first quarterly report on the status of the qualified products database (QPD). The report indicated that qualifying activities are making good progress toward transforming their qualified products lists (QPLs) into their electronic equivalents in the QPD. As of January 15, 2008, about 23 percent of the active QPLs have been transformed into electronic equivalents and published in the QPD. Qualifying activities have begun to populate the QPD with data on 63 percent of the QPLs whose publication is pending. No work has begun on the remaining 14 percent of the QPLs.

The DSPO-sponsored training for qualifying activity personnel was completed in the autumn of 2007. At least one person from each qualifying activity received the training; several activities trained all their personnel, and a few even attended more than one session. DSPO may be willing to provide additional training for any new personnel requiring it; however, the qualifying activities would have to bear the responsibility of any associated travel or per diem costs. Please contact DSPO directly to discuss the availability of training and to negotiate a date and location.

Reengineering of DoD Parts Management Progresses

The Parts Management Reengineering Implementation Process Team (PMRIPT), chartered and chaired by DSPO, has been at work since May 2006. The team's mission is to implement the top three recommendations from the former Parts Management Reengineering Working Group. Those recommendations are to restore parts management as an engineering discipline, make parts management a policy and contractual requirement, and develop tools that provide accurate, current information for parts management.

The following are the major reengineering accomplishments to date:

- Publication of MIL-STD-3018, "Parts Management," October 2007.
- Publication of Data Item Description, DI-SDMP-81748, "Parts Management Plan," October 2007.
- Development of a draft executive-level parts management course for the Defense Acquisition University.
- Insertion of new parts management language in Chapter 4, "Systems Engineering," of *Defense Acquisition Guide*.
- Preliminary development of the Defense Parts Management Portal (DPMP). Built on the existing Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages platform, the portal will eventually provide parts management information to government and industry.

In view of the progress made and the scarcity of travel funding, DSPO recently declared success on the reengineering implementation effort and phased out the PMRIPT. Responsibility for remaining implementation tasks was handed off to the Parts Standardization and Management Committee (PSMC) at a combined meeting in October 2007. The PSMC, a long-standing government-industry parts management forum, recently became an official DoD-sponsored committee when chartered in November 2006 by DSPO.

For additional information on the PSMC, go to http://www.dscc.dla.mil/Programs/Psmc/.

Events

Upcoming Events and Information

April 29–May 1, 2008, Washington, DC

PSMC Meeting

The Parts Standardization and Management Committee (PSMC) will hold its spring meeting in the Washington, DC, area (McLean, VA). The PSMC comprises government and industry participants. Currently, the committee is engaged in supporting DSPO to complete the implementation of a major reengineering of the DoD Parts Management Program. The agenda will include presentations on parts management topics, as well as breakout sessions to enable the subcommittees to work on reengineering implementation tasks. For more information, please contact Donna McMurray (donna.mcmurry@dla.mil, 703-767-6874) or Ron Froman (ronald.a.froman@boeing.com, 314-777-7181), or go to www.dscc.dla.mil/programs/psmc.

September 15–18, 2008, Washington, DC

NATO Standardization Conference

The NATO Standardization Conference will be held on September 15–18, 2008, in the Washington, DC, metropolitan area. The conference will be cohosted by the United States, in conjunction with the NATO Standardization Agency and Allied Command Transformation. This exclusive conference brings together practitioners from North America and Europe to present new approaches and ideas for standardization within NATO, to foster integration of the latest developments in allied transformation, and to facilitate the practical application of standardization in support of the alliance.

The content to be presented at this conference is most suitable for DoD military personnel and civilian employees, as well as DoD contractor personnel from NATO member countries, who are required to have a fundamental knowledge of current and future NATO standardization activities. This conference may also be of interest to representatives from civilian standards developers who would like to gain more knowledge of standardization as it relates to future cooperative agreements with NATO.

Attendance is limited and may be subject to eligibility requirements. For information about registration, registration fees, and hotel accommodations, contact DSPO at 703-767-6872 or visit http://www.dla.dsp.mil.

People

People in the Standardization Community

Welcome

Magid "Mag" Athnasios was appointed Standards Executive at the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC). Mr. Athnasios has served as a civil servant for some 23 years. Before being selected for the Senior Executive Service and his promotion to engineering executive director for TARDEC, he served as acting executive director for TARDEC's Engineering Business Group. The Engineering Business Group provides support to combat, tactical, and logistics equipment from production and fielding, through sustainment.

Luis Garcia-Baco has been assigned the responsibilities of Army Standardization Manager. In his new position, Mr. Garcia-Baco conducts the headquarters management functions of the Army Departmental Standardization Office (DepSO) and carries out the responsibilities assigned to the DepSO in Army Regulation 700-47, "Defense Standardization and Specification Program," and DoD 4120.24-M, "Defense Standardization Program Policy and Procedures." He reports to the Deputy Chief of Staff, Headquarters, Army Materiel Command (HQAMC), on all matters relating to the Army's conduct of the Defense Standardization Program. Previously, as head of AMC's Industrial Base Capabilities Directorate, he was responsible for assessing and developing strategies and plans to manage the industrial base program in support of Army Transformation. He also managed AMC's industrial preparedness operations, supported the Army's capital improvement program for organic maintenance depots, and served as the Army proponent for the DoD Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages program.

Farewell

David Britton retired after 30 years of service to the Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. In addition to his years running the Engineering Standards Office at the Aeronautical Systems Center/Air Force Research Laboratory, he worked on such programs as the T-46 and C-17 aircraft. In his role as technical expert for crew stations and life-support systems, Mr. Britton was also the technical lead on such vital military standards as the "Joint Service Specification Guide for Air Crew Systems." He was a member of the Air Force Materiel Command team that won the Defense Standardization Achievement Award in 1998.

James Byrd retired after serving in the Air Force for 34 years as a technical expert for controls and displays, avionics, and weapons integration. He was the technical lead across DoD for such important and far-reaching military standards as MIL-STD-1760/MIL-HDBK-1760, "Aircraft/Store Electrical Interconnection System"; MIL-STD-1787, "Controls and Displays"; MIL-STD-1796, "Avionics Integrity Program"; and MIL-STD-3009, "Lighting, Aircraft, Night Vision Compatible."

In addition, Mr. Byrd served on multiple professional boards and was the government's technical expert in support of a Department of Justice patent infringement case concerning night vision goggles. He won the SAE Aerospace Outstanding Contribution Award and the 2003 DoD Standardization Achievement Award.

James Knowles retired from federal service in February 2008 with 36½ years of service. He served as the Army DepSO from December 2006 until January 2008. He also worked with the Army Standardization Program in the late 1980s during acquisition reform. Since March 1991, Mr. Knowles has been AMC's product data business process manager. In this capacity, he worked on Army configuration management, data management, value engineering, and reduction of total ownership cost. Prior to that assignment, he was the technical manager for Technical Documentation and Standardization in the Production Engineering Division, HQAMC. During his tenure, the Army has moved from paper, to aperture card, to digital and compact disc storage, to fully electronic format for maintenance and transmittal of engineering and technical data. Mr. Knowles's awards and decorations include Distinguished Military Graduate, National Defense Medal, Army Commendation Medal, MERADCOM Commander's Award, Army Civilian Achievement Medal, Army Civilian Superior Service Medal, and numerous performance, special act, and value engineering outstanding service awards.

Raymond Santee, team lead of the Nomenclature Program in the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) Standardization Division, retired in October 2007 after 34 years of federal service. Mr. Santee acquired an in-depth working knowledge of the DoD Nomenclature Program and provided numerous nomenclature training sessions through the years to both government and industry personnel. While sharing his vast technical knowledge and guidance, Mr. Santee ensured that NAVAIR equipment, such as the AN/ALQ-218(V)2 Receiving Set, Countermeasures, installed in the Navy's new EA-18G aircraft, has been classified with the appropriate nomenclature for use by our fleet. Always looking forward and embracing new automated tools, Mr. Santee was instrumental in the transition of the DoD Joint Electronics Type Designation System from a paper-based system to an automated system. His willingness to contribute his unmatched knowledge and expertise to NAVAIR programs has earned him recognition throughout the community as the nomenclature subject matter expert, an invaluable "graybeard." His presence will be missed.

Lucille Thomas-Davis, from the HQAMC Army Standardization Office, retired after 36½ years of federal service. She began her career at the Army Missile Command in July 1971 and subsequently worked at the Aviation Command, Tank-Automotive Command, and Harry Diamond Laboratory/Electronics Communication Command. Ms. Thomas-Davis then served a 5-year tour of duty at the Military District of Washington and undertook a 3-month Department of Army Staff developmental assignment at the Pentagon before returning to HQAMC in December 1984. Throughout these years, her focus was primarily on resources management, productivity improvement, and development of workload indicators and metrics to measure improvement. She has been involved with the Defense Standardization Program since 1995.

Upcoming Issues—
Call for Contributors

We are always seeking articles that relate to our themes or other standardization topics. We invite anyone involved in standardization—government employees, military personnel, industry leaders, members of academia, and others—to submit proposed articles for use in the *DSP Journal*. Please let us know if you would like to contribute.

Following are our themes for upcoming issues:

Issue	Theme
April–June 2008	Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages
July–September 2008	Defense Standardization
October–December 2008	European Union Standardization

If you have ideas for articles or want more information, contact Tim Koczanski, Editor, *DSP Journal*, Defense Standardization Program Office J-307, 8725 John J. Kingman STP 3239, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-6233 or e-mail DSP-Editor@dla.mil.

Our office reserves the right to modify or reject any submission as deemed appropriate. We will be glad to send out our editorial guidelines and work with any author to get his or her material shaped into an article.


DEFENCE STANDARDIZATION PROGRAM
MAKING SYSTEMS WORK TOGETHER