

# David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Award

## A. Purpose

The David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Award was established to recognize DOD civilians and/or military organizations, groups, or teams whose significant contributions demonstrate exemplary innovation and best acquisition practices. These are multiple awards reflecting achievements that exemplify the goals and objectives established for furthering life-cycle cost reduction and/or acquisition excellence in DOD.

## B. Eligibility

1. Nominations are for organizations, groups, or teams that have exhibited superior accomplishments significantly contributing to defense acquisition, technology, and logistics (AT&L) goals, initiatives, and acquisition programs.
2. The award will be granted for contributions made or completed within the preceding calendar year (Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2008).

## C. Criteria for Nomination/Selection

1. Organizations, groups, or teams nominated for this award should have made highly significant contributions to DOD's acquisition processes and programs, and have demonstrated exemplary innovation and best acquisition practices. The primary judging criteria for selecting recipients are based on one or more of the following:
  - a. Reducing life-cycle cost
    - Achieving best-value for the government
    - Balancing the risk of fraud, waste, or abuse against the cost of preventative measures
    - Balancing the benefits of the Nation's socio-economic policies with the cost of government-unique requirements on sellers
  - b. Making the acquisition system more efficient, responsive, and timely
    - Managing risk in acquisition and procurement rather than avoiding it
    - Meeting warfighter/peacekeeper needs faster, better, and cheaper
    - Shortening acquisition lead time
    - Being suited to peacekeeping and other emerging DOD missions
    - Anticipating change instead of reacting to it
  - c. Integrating defense with the commercial base and practices
    - Strengthening the joint commercial and defense industrial base
    - Integrating commercially available technology into military systems
    - Maintaining technological superiority
    - Combining best practices of world-class customers and suppliers
    - Partnering within DOD and with industry
  - d. Promoting continuous improvement of the acquisition process

- Simplifying the acquisition process
  - Facilitating people in the acquisition workforce in doing their jobs
  - Training and educating a professional acquisition workforce
  - Providing incentives for acquisition personnel to innovate and to manage risk
  - Evidencing trust in the professionalism of the workforce by empowering and encouraging it
  - Ensuring that every step in the acquisition process adds value
  - Reengineering the acquisition system, not all at once but process by process
  - Measuring progress (metrics) toward acquisition system enhancements
- e. Supporting the Under Secretary of Defense for AT&L (USD(AT&L)) goals (including safety, highlighting accomplishments to deliver capability, and/or improving the supporting acquisition processes) through:
- Flexibility
  - Responsiveness
  - Innovation
  - Discipline
  - Streamlined and effective management
- f. Other criteria as identified by a DOD Component Acquisition Executive
2. Nominations must specify the criteria that are applicable and provide supporting information. Quantifiable metrics, such as savings and outcome measures, are especially desired.
3. Nomination submission requirements:
- a. Submit summary that briefly describes the accomplishment(s) of the team. (NOT TO EXCEED TWO SINGLE-SPACED TYPED PAGES, NO LESS THAN 10 POINT FONT SIZE, TIMES NEW ROMAN OR ARIAL FONT)
- b. Submit all nominations (classified nominations will not be accepted electronically) through the Call for Nominations Web-based form. All nominations must include:
- Name of the organization (group title, office title, activity, duty location) and point of contact
  - Name(s) and position title(s) of individual(s) contributing to the organization, group, or team

#### **D. Administration**

1. The Director, Human Capital Initiatives, will coordinate the awards process and will appoint a chair for the Acquisition Recognition Board (ARB) comprised of at least five panel members who report to either the USD(AT&L) or Deputy USD(AT&L) (DUSD(AT&L)). The ARB chair selects members to serve and assist with the assessment and review of the nominations. The chair will then present the recommendations to the USD(AT&L) via the DUSD(AT&L) for approval. The USD(AT&L) is the final selection authority.
2. Upon USD(AT&L)'s approval of the ARB's recommendations, the Director for Administration, Office of the USD(AT&L) (OUSD(AT&L)), will order necessary plaques and certificates, and perform any administrative functions associated with the award

presentations. The David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Award will be presented to the honorees' organization in an official ceremony. Each member of the group or team will receive a Certificate of Excellence in Acquisition. The Director for Administration, OUSD(AT&L), will establish and maintain a Pentagon display of annual award winners and coordinate any other type of publicity relating to the award.

3. When possible, the USD(AT&L) will personally participate in an appropriate awards presentation, which may be an official awards ceremony at the Pentagon, an awards ceremony at the duty station of the selected team(s), or other type of presentation. All travel costs associated with an awards presentation will be borne by the nominating organization.
4. The ARB chair will provide information on all recipients of the David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Award to the Defense Acquisition University (DAU).
5. The DAU president is responsible for ensuring the innovations and accomplishments of the awardees are recognized, as appropriate, in pertinent communications media.