

USAASC Newsletter

Preparing for the Future: People, Teamwork,
Partnership, Leadership



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Acquisition News

Gansler Commission Report

The Secretary of the Army established an independent Commission on Army Acquisition and Program Management in Expeditionary Operations to review the lessons learned in recent operations and provide forward-looking recommendations to ensure that future military operations achieve greater effectiveness and transparency. The Commission assessed process (including internal controls), personnel, organization, training, policy and regulation, as well as explored legislative solutions, to ensure that the Army is properly equipped for future expeditionary operations. For additional information, select Gansler Commission Report at <https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/protect/Active/opfam51/ambmain.htm>.

Director, Army Acquisition Corps (AAC) Guidance Memorandum #3

The Director, AAC Guidance Memorandum #3, dated Oct. 31, 2007, was approved by the Military Deputy (MILDEP). The memorandum is available at http://asc.army.mil/docs/policy/DACM_Guidance_Memo_3.pdf.

Army Opens Review of Contracts In Kuwait

Washington Post. U.S. Army officials are conducting an extensive review and analysis of thousands of contracts that were performed at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, over the past four years, as allegations of procurement fraud and bribery at the base have erupted. An Army task force has begun making recommendations for change, such as stationing contract specialists with military units overseas. Additional information is at [Army Opens Review of Contracts in Kuwait - washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com)

Cost Effective Location (CEL) Module

The CEL module has been implemented within the Army Training Requirements Reporting System (ATRRS) Internet Training Application System (AITAS) to save the Defense Acquisition University (DAU) thousands of dollars and numerous man-hours each year. When applying for DAU training, it is imperative that applicants select a CEL identified by the CEL module. If an applicant applies for a non-CEL class, the student comments block must contain written justification, the supervisor comments block must indicate approval and

the travel and per diem portion of the temporary duty (TDY) (there are no tuition expenses involved) must contain a funding source. Non-CEL locations are not funded by the Army unless there is a requirement for training prior to deployment and the timeline requires training at a non-CEL location. When this is the circumstance, deployment date must be provided. Address questions or concerns to your Acquisition Career Manager (ACM) listed on the following Web-site: <http://asc.army.mil/contacts/acms.cfm>.

Senior Rater Potential Evaluation (SRPE) Revamped

The SPRE provides a means for civilians to better understand their leadership strengths and weaknesses for developmental purposes and allows them to demonstrate their leadership potential when competing on selection boards. As the SPRE is not a mandatory business practice for the entire AL&T Workforce, the resulting SPRE profiles for civilian BQ competitors are often not mature. To address this situation, the Army's Director, Acquisition Career Manager (DACM) will reconsider mandating the annual completion of a SPRE for those at the GS-13 and above (or payband equivalent) levels. SPRE policy and guideline changes are at http://asc.army.mil/docs/policy/SPRE_policy.pdf. Additional information is at http://asc.army.mil/docs/pubs/alt/current/issue/dept/078_Dept_Career_Development_Update_200710.pdf.

DAU Data Call Conversion for FY09

1. ACQ 201A converts to ACQ 202 (course remains Web).
 2. ACQ 201B converts to ACQ 203 (course remains classroom).
 3. BCF 101 converts to BCF 106 and 107 (106 remains Web; 107 remains classroom).
 4. LOG 201A converts to LOG 200 (course remains Web).
 5. LOG 201B converts to LOG 201 (course remains classroom).
 6. LOG 235A converts to LOG 235 (course remains Web).
 7. LOG 235B converts to LOG 236 (course remains classroom).
 8. LOG 304 converts to LOG 350 (course remains classroom).
 9. SAM 101 converts to SAM 151 (course remains Web).
 10. TST 101 converts to TST 102 (course remains Web).
- POC is Herman Gaines at (703) 805-1252/DSN 655-1252 or herman.gaines@us.army.mil.

AL&T Workforce News

Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) Program

In an effort to extend outreach to the AL&T Workforce and to pursue continuous improvement, the Defense Information Systems Agency-sponsored ICE program is being implemented. ICE allows AL&T Workforce members to submit online comment cards to rate USAASC services and to provide suggestions for improvement. Additional information is at http://asc.army.mil/docs/pubs/alt/current/issue/dept/078_Dept_Career_Development_Update_200710.pdf.

Systems Planning, Research, Development and Engineering-Program Systems Engineer (SPRDE-PSE) Career Field

Effective Oct. 1, 2007, a new Acquisition Career Field (ACF) was established called SPRDE-PSE. Within the AL&T community, all Army AL&T Workforce members who, on Sept. 30, 2007, were certified to Level I or Level II in the SPRDE-Systems Engineering (SPRDE-SE) ACF, will automatically receive a corresponding level certification for the new SPRDE-PSE ACF. Those Army AL&T Workforce members who on Sept. 30, 2007, possessed a Level III certification in SPRDE-SE (coded "S"), will automatically receive a Level II certification in SPRDE-PSE (coded "W"). In order to certify at the next highest level in the SPRDE-PSE ACF, individuals must comply with the SPRDE-PSE certification standards as posted in the DAU catalog. Additional information is at <http://www.dau.mil>. POC is Mary McHale at Mary.McHale@us.army.mil.

Federal Benefits Open Season

The Federal Benefits Open Season, which includes an opportunity to elect and make changes in the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program, the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program and the Federal Flexible Spending Account Program, runs from Nov. 12, 2007, through Dec. 10, 2007. As a Department of the Army employee, enrollment changes for FEHB can be made online using the Employee Benefits Information System (EBIS) at <https://www.abc.army.mil>. During the annual FEHB open season, anyone eligible to participate in the FEHB Program may enroll, change health plans or options, cancel FEHB enrollment and change participation in premium conversion (waive or begin participation). Outside of open season, newly eligible employees may enroll within 60 days of their becoming eligible for the program. Members who move outside of the area covered by their plan may enroll in a different plan covering their new location, and the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) may announce special open seasons affecting members of specific plans only. There are also a number of other circumstances that can make you eligible to enroll or change your FEHB coverage outside of open season. This information is provided at the OPM link above or at <http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/>.

Field Manual Interim (FMI) 4-93.41, Army Field Support Brigade Tactics, Techniques & Procedures (TTP)

The Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Integration Office, in coordination with the Combined Arms Support Command, U.S. Army Materiel Command and Army Sustainment Command, has finalized *FMI 4-93.41 Army Field Support Brigade TTP*. This FMI provides organization and operations doctrine for the newly fielded Army Field Support Brigades. Provide comments via e-mail at ALTFO@lee.army.mil. The actual FMI is at http://www.army.mil/usapa/doctrine/Active_FM.html. Additional information is at <https://www.alt.army.mil/portal/page/portal/oasaalt/WhatsNew/>.

AAC Upcoming Events

2008 AUSA Winter Symposium

- 27 – 29 February 2008
- Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale, FL

<http://www.ausa.org/webpub/DeptIndustry.nsf/byid/RBOH-78GSG8>

2008 Army Information Technology (IT) Conference

- 31 Mar – 3 April 2008
- Phoenix Convention Center, Phoenix, AZ
http://asc.army.mil/docs/conferences/ascp/2008_AITC.pdf

DAU Community Symposium

- 15 April 2008
- DAU, Fort Belvoir, VA

<http://www.dau.mil>

Important AAC Links

U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center

<http://asc.army.mil>

Army AL&T Magazine

<http://asc.army.mil/altmag/>

Acquisition Management Branch

https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/protect/active/opfam51/am_bmain.htm. Army Knowledge On-line registration required.

Comments to the Editorial Staff

The USAASC Newsletter editorial staff is accepting articles. Writers Guidelines are on the AAC Transformation Web page at <http://asc.army.mil/transformation>. Address issues or concerns to MAJ Gregg Rupkalvis at (703) 805-2732/DSN 655-2732, gregg.rupkalvis@us.army.mil.