

# USAASC Newsletter

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



U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center,  
9900 Belvoir Road, Bldg 201, Suite 101, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5567

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## Acquisition News

**Transforming and Sustaining on the 21st Century Battlefield.** *Association of the United States Army.* By Richard A. Hack, LTG (USA Ret.), May 2007. For years people have made analogies about how fast life speeds along in the Army. From day one, "It's like jumping on a moving train." I've been watching the Army train change direction and increase speed since it deposited me at my retirement station a little over a year and a half ago, and I am continually amazed at how rapidly the Army continues to evolve. The Army has reorganized its divisions and built self-contained modular brigades. These modular brigades include the force structure enablers necessary to act independently on the 21st century battlefield. The Army's support structure has been similarly reorganized, with new units being formed and other units being disbanded.

<https://www.ausa.org/pdfdocs/hackdinnerpeech.pdf>

**Army Chief of Staff Discusses Plans for Way Ahead.** *Army News Service.* By U.S. Army, Europe Public Affairs. June 2007. GEN George W. Casey, Jr., Army Chief of Staff, called the U.S. Army in Europe's mission "an important part of our overall Army effort" during a stop at Grafenwoehr June 1, part of a theater-wide visit to talk to troops about the "way ahead" for the Army. During a press conference in Grafenwoehr, Casey outlined his seven initiatives, which he said are designed to sharpen the focus on transformation efforts.

<http://www.army.mil/-news/2007/06/05/3458-army-chief-of-staff-discusses-plans-for-way-ahead/>

**Body-Armor Firm's Claims Draw Scrutiny.** *Miami Herald.* By Michael Doyle. June 2007. "In my opinion, this is a fraudulent claim, and it is my hope that the investigation results in the appropriate consequences," Army LTG N. Ross Thompson III told the House Armed Services Committee. A California manufacturer of body armor is under criminal investigation for possibly making false claims, Pentagon officials said Wednesday, but lawmakers are pressing for an independent test to determine whether the company's protective vests are better than the ones that American troops in Iraq are wearing. Air Force investigators said they'd been probing Pinnacle

Armor Inc. of Fresno, CA, for a year, looking into allegations that the company lied about having its vests certified as safe.

[http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=37128](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=37128)

## AL&T Workforce News

**Army Acquisition Basic Course (AABC) Graduates.** Congratulations to the graduates of AABC class 07-003 that graduated on May 4, 2007, in Huntsville, AL. The following link provides the names of the graduates.

<http://asc.army.mil/transformation/articles.cfm>

**Upcoming Defense Acquisition University (DAU) Certification Changes.** DAU is in the final stages of revising the standards for Acquisition Career Field (ACF) certifications. These changes will be effective Oct. 1, 2007, and, when final, will be posted to the DAU Web site (<http://www.dau.mil/>). The certification standards checklist is expected to have a new look - displaying both "Core" position certification requirements as well as additionally recommended standards for each ACF, referred to as "Core Plus." There will be a new ACF launched on Oct. 1, 2007: Systems Planning, Research, Development and Engineering Program Systems Engineers (SPRDE-PSE). DAU has recently updated the Position Category Descriptions (PCDs) for all of the ACFs. Please visit the DAU link to view the revised PCDs. (<http://www.dau.mil/workforce/PCDs.asp>)

**New AAC Membership Certificate.** Effective June 12, 2007, the newly designed Army Acquisition Corps (AAC) Membership Certificate is available for you to print. Your AAC certificate will display the effective date of your accession into the AAC, along with the signature of the Army's Deputy Director for Acquisition Career Management (DDACM). Follow the link below to print your AAC Membership Certificate. <https://rda.altess.army.mil/cappmis/>

**Training Application Priority Determination for Both Military and Civilians.** If your position information is inaccurate, it will lead to an improper prioritization. You, as an Acquisition, Logistics and Technology (AL&T) Workforce member, must ensure that changes, updates and corrections to your

Acquisition Career Record Brief, Officer Record Brief, and Enlisted Record Brief reflect your current duty position. For information on how the priority of your application is determined, follow this link.

[http://asc.army.mil/docs/transformation/Priority\\_Application\\_Determined.pdf](http://asc.army.mil/docs/transformation/Priority_Application_Determined.pdf)

**Procedures for Cancelling DAU Training.** With decreasing resources and funds available for training, it is imperative that students properly apply for and attend scheduled DAU training. The number of Army no-shows increased over the past several fiscal years, representing eight percent of our allocated training seats. The failure to attend training or to cancel a reservation in a timely manner is costly and considered a no-show. If a student cannot attend a DAU class for which they have a reservation, they must cancel with the Army Registrar five working days prior to the start date of the class or five working days prior to reservation cutoff date on classes that have pre-work. The Army Registrar must receive the request to officially cancel the student's reservation through the Army Training Requirements & Resources System (ATRRS) Internet Application System (AITAS) to prevent a no-show from being recorded. No-shows will be denied registration in future offerings of the course for a period of six months following the occurrence. The Army Registrar will also review any other applications/reservations that may be affected by this sanction which may result in cancellation and removal from other DAU courses. This could result in no-shows' cancellation and removal from other DAU courses. Follow the link below to review established procedures for canceling DAU training.

[http://asc.army.mil/docs/policy/dau\\_policyTrng.pdf](http://asc.army.mil/docs/policy/dau_policyTrng.pdf)

**AL&T Membership.** Click on the link below for six simple tips to help you determine and update your acquisition status. Simply following these six steps will ensure your acquisition records are as competitive and accurate as possible!

[http://asc.army.mil/docs/divisions/acd/6\\_simple\\_steps.pdf](http://asc.army.mil/docs/divisions/acd/6_simple_steps.pdf)

## AAC Upcoming Events

### 2007 AUSA Annual Meeting & Exposition

- Oct. 8-10, 2007
- Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC

<http://www.ausa.org/webpub/DeptIndustry.nsf/byid/JRAY-6XXRVV>

### (Tentative) 2007 Senior Leaders Training Forum

- August 27-30, 2007
- Army War College, Carlisle, PA

## Workforce Reminders

**Military Training Priority Code Request.** AL&T Workforce military members who require a training priority coding change must annotate their "request" in the comments section of the AITAS. The request must contain specifics on why the military member is requesting to attend a specific course. A sample request is as follows, "Since I will be assigned as an Assistant Program Manager to System XYZ in June 2007 for an Acquisition Category I or II program, I am requesting a priority coding change to ensure receipt of a reservation in the next available class."

If you need to apply for training, click this AITAS link <https://www.ATRRS.army.mil/channels/AITAS>

**Changes to the AITAS Log-In Process.** There have been recent changes to AITAS log-in procedures. For instance, a new link, "Contact Your ACM," has been added under "Help." Users can click on "Contact Your ACM" and it will take them to the U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center (USAASC) ACM/CMSS contact page.

<http://asc.army.mil/transformation/articles.cfm>.

### Secretary of the Army Awards for Excellence in Contracting Nominations Due.

The call for nominations related to the Secretary of the Army Awards for Excellence in Contracting was released June 4, 2007. This award recognizes outstanding achievements in contracting for contracting officers, units/teams, and special awards (contract specialist, procurement analyst, etc.) within the Army. For additional information, follow this link.

[http://asc.army.mil/acq\\_awards/awards\\_contr.cfm](http://asc.army.mil/acq_awards/awards_contr.cfm)

## 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/ambmain.htm> (AKO registration required)

## Comments to the Editorial Staff

The USAASC Newsletter editorial staff is accepting articles. Writers Guidelines can be found on the AAC Transformation Web page. To open our Web page, click on the following link.

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

We encourage you to address issues or concerns to: MAJ Gregg Rupkalvis at (703) 805-2732/DSN 655-2732 or [gregg.rupkalvis@us.army.mil](mailto:gregg.rupkalvis@us.army.mil)