Two Army project teams were recently awarded the highest honor that DOD can bestow on acquisition professionals. The Project Manager for Close Combat Systems (PM CCS) Countermeasure (CM) Flares Team and Program Executive Office (PEO) for Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors Infrared Countermeasure (IRCM) Project Office both received the David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Award. The award is presented to civilian and military organizations that have significantly contributed or have demonstrated exemplary innovations and best practices in the defense acquisition process.

The CM Flares Team was recognized for their hands-on coordination with contractors to meet the Army’s accelerated demand for life-saving M211, M212 and M206 flares. In collaboration with flare producers, the team increased production capability without interrupting current production, delivery and product quality. Working with new suppliers allowed the team to increase production, eliminate single point of failures and mitigate poor production risks. By developing effective solutions and accelerating multiple contract awards, the team was able to provide a higher level of protection to our Soldiers fighting the global war on terrorism.

The IRCM team was recognized with the Packard Award for its ability to surge Common Missile Warning System (CMWS) fielding to multiple aircraft platforms in the theater of operations, regardless of geographic distance, differing aircraft types and time zones. The team performed an item-by-item analysis to determine commonality and key specific items required for each different Army aircraft type. This analysis enhanced system quantity buys and eased management of different installation kits. Installation efforts were coordinated with aircraft platform project managers and unit commanders to achieve concurrent Reset and CMWS installation.

The CM Flares Team and the IRCM team were both presented with the Packard Award during a special ceremony held at the Fort Belvoir, VA, Officer’s Club on Nov. 8, 2006.

For a more detailed article on these award-winning teams, go to the December Army AL&T Online at http://204.255.139.236/clients/asc/web/dev/pubs/alt_online/toc.cfm?iID=0612.