U.S. ARMY ACQUISITION SUPPORT CENTER

Fall 2026 Edition

DACM NEWS

Director, Acquisition Career Management Office

The Army DACM Office is responsible for talent management, career/leader development, Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act certification, policy, and advocating for the professionals who are members of the Army Acquisition Workforce.

YEAR GROUP 2026 LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE AND ACQUISITION DEVELOPMENT SELECTEES

The Army Director, Acquisition Career Management (DACM) congratulates the following individuals for being selected to participate in the Year Group 2026 Leadership Excellence and Acquisition Development (LEAD) Program.

- **John E. Abdou** Capability Program Executive (CPE) Combat Sustainment
- **Alton E. Marks** CPE Simulation, Training, Test, and Threat
- **Jose L. Orozco, Jr.** CPE Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense

The **LEAD program** is a premier 12-month leadership development program designed to develop future Army acquisition program managers and is centrally managed and funded by the DACM Office. The program offers board-selected participants expanded training, leadership, experiential, and other career development opportunities and the next opportunity to apply begins on **Dec. 1**.

LEAD PROGRAM CELEBRATES YEAR GROUP 2025 GRADUATES

On August 12, 2026, two Army Acquisition Workforce members graduated from the **Leadership Excellence and Acquisition Development (LEAD) program**. Sponsored by the U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center's (USAASC) Director, Acquisition Career Management (DACM) Office, LEAD is a 12-month leadership development program that is designed to develop future Army acquisition program managers by offering selected participants expanded training, leadership and other career development opportunities.

Held at USAASC's headquarters located on Fort Belvoir, Virginia, the ceremony was hosted by Kim Gibbons, USAASC program manager for LEAD. "I am grateful for this group of fellows as they exhibited a great deal of patience as the LEAD program continues to evolve. They persevered through the transition of working in a new developmental assignment while maintaining focus and commitment during the challenges of a 45-day furlough," said Gibbons. "For those of you who are new to the program, our fellows participate in a series of education, leader development and broadening assignments to build skills required for positions of great responsibility."

Read More Here



Two Army Acquisition Workforce members graduated from the DACM's LEAD program in a ceremony held on August 12, 2026, at USAASC Headquarters, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. From left, Ronald R. Richardson, Jr., Army DACM; Alison M. Brann, PME Command and Control Information Network; Jennifer L. Parker, PME Fires; and George J. Mitchell, PME Combat Sustainment. (Photos by Rebecca Wright, USAASC)

WHAT'S INSIDE:

ALT-IO AND DACM OFFICE SHAPE A STRONGER ACQUISITION WORKFORCE

Page 4

FISCAL YEAR 2027 PRODUCT DIRECTORS

Eight Army Acquisition Workforce (AAW) professionals were selected from the Fiscal Year 2027 Product Director (PD) Centralized Selection Boards (CSB) held June 17-21, 2025, at the Human Resources Command at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

The Product Director (PD) concept is to centrally select high performing, high potential Army acquisition civilian program management personnel at the GS-14 or broadband equivalent level to serve in PD positions within the Portfolio Acquisition Executive (PAE) structure. The Director, Acquisition Career Management (DACM) Office's objective is to direct personnel assignments within the PAEs to facilitate the placement of these selected civilian personnel in PD positions. This central management of civilian PDs is a core tenant of the civilian talent management concept.

Lt. Gen. Robert M. Collins, Principal Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology approved eight PDs, for assignment starting Spring /Summer 2027. Congratulations to the following slated individuals:

- **Kerry Cain, PAE Fires,** PD Field Artillery Launchers
- **Michael Dunne,** PAE Fires, PD Paladin
- **John Flenner,** PAE Agile Sustainment & Ammo, PD AWS Future Fleet*
- **Rickey Harris,** PAE Command and Control/Counter Command and Control, PD Base Emergency Communications System
- **Leslie Hosein,** PAE Command and Control/Counter Command and Control, PD Common Hardware System
- **Jillian McDonald,** PAE Agile Sustainment & Ammo, PD Common Tactical Truck
- **Anthony Orejel,** PAE Maneuver Ground, PD Combat Recovery System*
- **Traci Williams,** PAE Agile Sustainment & Ammo, PD Test, Measurement & Diagnostic Equipment

**Indicates early activate FY26*

The fiscal year 2028 Product Director Board was held June 9-12 2026, with results release anticipated in the Spring of 2027. The fiscal year 2029 Product Director announcement will open in February of 2027.

For information, email the CSB PM, ***christina.n.lindh.civ@army.mil****, or go to the* ***Product Director webpage here****.*

CONGRATULATIONS 51C NCO GRADUATES OF THE SENIOR LEADER'S COURSE

Join us in congratulating the ten 51C Noncommissioned Officers (NCOs) who graduated from the Senior Leader's Course (SLC) at Fort Lee, Virginia, on Aug. 27. The graduates are:

- Sgt. 1st Class Samuel Capello
- Sgt. 1st Class Kyler Frongner
- Sgt. 1st Class Jannette Goss
- Sgt. 1st Class Devendra Kashudhan
- Sgt. 1st Class Michael Miller
- Staff Sgt. Paul Adamo
- Staff Sgt. Jarrett Mcdonald
- Staff Sgt. Dodji Nouledo
- Staff Sgt. Sumit Shrestha
- Staff Sgt. Daniel Tanco



The Senior Leader's Course class of 2027; the ten 51C NCOs attended their graduation ceremony at Ft. Lee, Virginia on Aug. 27, 2026.

Through the Army Experiential Learning Model, the SLC cultivates agile, adaptable leaders by focusing on inductive reasoning, strategic analysis, and critical communication skills. This intensive, learner-centered curriculum prepares NCOs to lead and train Soldiers effectively, while providing expert advice to leadership for successful unit mission execution. Our mission to develop a highly professional and capable acquisition workforce is made stronger by these dedicated leaders.

For more information about 51C NCO leader development opportunities, **go here**.

FROM THE ARMY ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE: THE RIGHT TO INTEGRATE



Brent G. Ingraham is the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics, and technology and the Army's acquisition executive.

The Army is operating in an era defined by strategic competition with China, technological disruption and software-defined warfare. In response to acquisition timelines that often take decades, the Army has shifted toward rapid prototyping, experimentation and accelerated pathways, leveraging Middle Tier Acquisition (MTA) authorities, rapid capability offices and iterative software models to compress delivery timelines and maintain strategic advantage.

Continue Reading Here

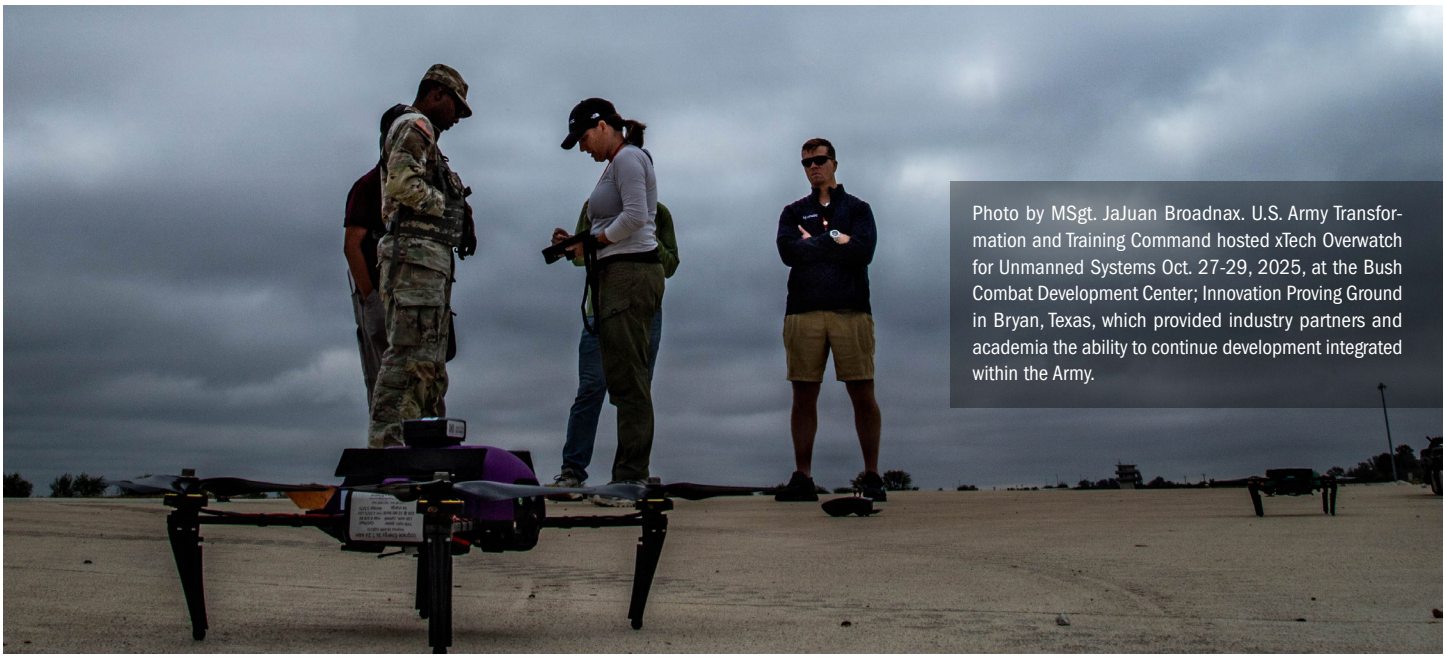


Photo by MSgt. JaJuan Broadnax. U.S. Army Transformation and Training Command hosted xTech Overwatch for Unmanned Systems Oct. 27-29, 2025, at the Bush Combat Development Center; Innovation Proving Ground in Bryan, Texas, which provided industry partners and academia the ability to continue development integrated within the Army.

ALT-IO AND DACM OFFICE SHAPE A STRONGER ACQUISITION WORKFORCE

By Cheryl Marino

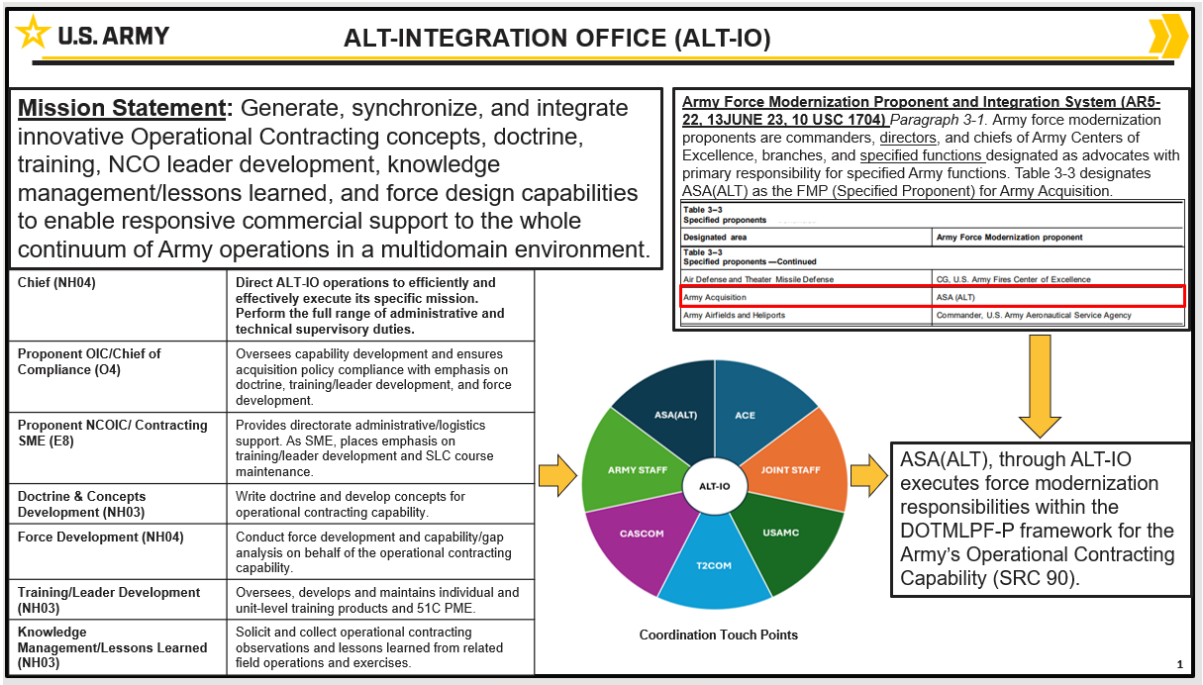
As the Army continues to modernize in an increasingly complex operational environment, the integration of acquisition, logistics and technology functions has become increasingly vital. While the Acquisition, Logistics and Technology Integration Office (ALT-IO) has supported this mission within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology (ASA(ALT)) since 2007, its move to the **Director of Acquisition Career Management (DACM) Office** represents a deliberate effort to unify acquisition proponency across the enterprise.

"This is really about becoming one voice, one proponent for the acquisition community at large," said the DACM Office's Proponency, Analysis and Communications former Division Chief, Jason Pitts. "Now we are all inside one common voice advocating for contracting professionals."

Continued on page 4



Army Acquisition Transition Course students at The Army Acquisition School (TAAS) on July 7, 2026. Photo by Michele Custer, TAAS.



ALT-IO drives the integration of operational contracting concepts, doctrine, training and force design, unifying proponency for the acquisition workforce and operational contracting capability. Image provided by Jethro Mann, ALT-IO.

For the Army Acquisition Workforce, the change aligns operational contracting and workforce development more closely, improving coherence across force structure, doctrine, training and personnel systems.

ALIGNING WORKFORCE AND OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY

Although ALT-IO now resides in the DACM Office, its mission remains unchanged.

"There is no change in mission focus—only reporting chain," emphasized ALT-IO Branch Chief Jethro Mann, noting that ALT-IO continues to execute **ASA(ALT) AR5-22 Force Modernization Proponent** responsibilities, now delegated to the DACM Office.

"ALT-IO defines, develops and integrates the Army's operational contracting capability and delivery of commercial support to current and future operations," he explained.

To fulfill this mission, ALT-IO remains responsible for:

- Doctrine and concepts development.
- Force development and organizational design.
- Training and leader development.
- Knowledge management and lessons learned.

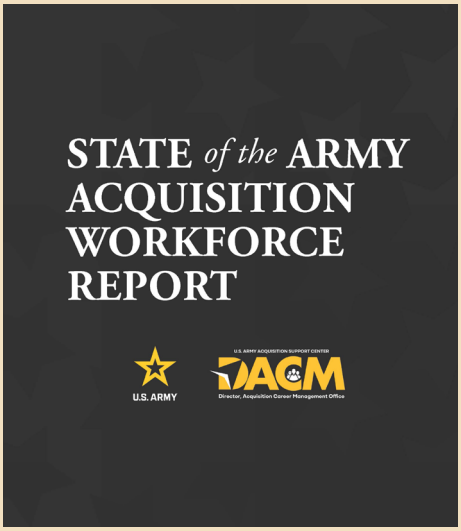
Read More Here

FY25 STATE OF THE AAW REPORT IS NOW AVAILABLE

The FY25 State of the AAW Report is now available.

The purpose of this report is to provide a comprehensive overview of the Army Acquisition Workforce (AAW) for the fiscal year, including key data and insights related to personnel, programs, training, and educational opportunities. This information enables the U.S. Army Director of Acquisition Career Management (DACM) Office to maintain a well-prepared, highly skilled workforce in support of the warfighter. As requirements evolve, this report will continue to adapt to meet emerging needs.

TO ACCESS AND DOWNLOAD THE REPORT, CLICK HERE



ARMY ACQUISITION HALL OF FAME WELCOMES FOUR NEW INDUCTEES IN 2026

The Honorable Brent G. Ingraham, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology and Army Acquisition Executive, today announced the 2026 inductees into the Army Acquisition Hall of Fame.

The 2026 Army Acquisition Hall of Fame inductees are Dr. A. Fenner Milton, Mr. Henry Muller, Ms. Chérie Smith, and Ms. Lisa Stangle. These distinguished acquisition leaders will be recognized during a ceremony at the Association of the United States Army's Annual Meeting & Exposition in Washington, D.C., on October 13.

"The Army Acquisition Hall of Fame recognizes leaders whose vision, technical expertise, and commitment to public service strengthened the Army for generations," Ingraham said. "This year's inductees helped build the foundation on which today's acquisition workforce continues to deliver capability, maintain readiness, and ensure Soldiers have what they need to succeed."



The Army Acquisition Hall of Fame recognizes former Army acquisition workforce professionals who served a minimum of 20 years in federal service and have been retired or separated from service at least one year. Inductees are selected based on their significant and enduring contributions to the Army acquisition community and its mission.

Read More Here

SOCIAL MEDIA STATEMENT

Pursuant to **Army Directive 2026-17 Optimizing Digital Media**, the U.S. Army is centralizing its digital footprint, which includes the phased deactivation of unauthorized subordinate organizational social media accounts. While these official platforms scale back, maintaining shared situational awareness and a strong professional community remains vital across our Army Acquisition Workforce.

To help you stay informed on the latest acquisition news, information and opportunities, we encourage you to explore and use other resources such as:

Behind The Frontlines (BTF) offers exclusive and partner-created content focusing on all things Army acquisition. BTF delivers news on a rolling basis by telling the holistic Army acquisition story through organizational experiences and best practices, commentary from previous acquisition leaders, the acquisition life cycle and personal highlights from workforce members.



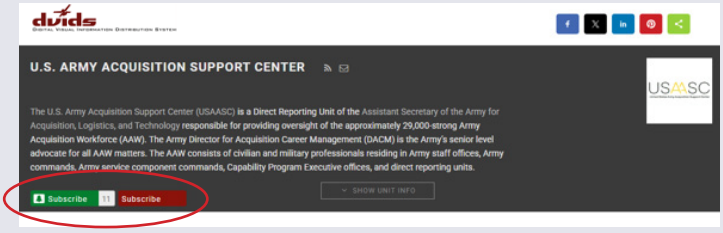
Stay connected by bookmarking **Behind The Frontlines** and subscribing to receive the **monthly newsletter**.

Keep in touch with time-sensitive acquisition career information, training and education opportunities, policy guidelines and more with **Army DACM Hot Topics** and curated workforce success stories on Army **DACM News**. Both will continue to be emailed directly to the workforce.



Finally, we continue to publish all of our content on the **Digital Visual Information Distribution System (DVIDS)**. The U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center's DVIDS page, which publishes DACM content as well, is available at **https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/USA-ASC**.

You may also subscribe to ensure you always receive the latest from our DVIDS feed:



FACES of the FORCE

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

The Spotlight feature is your chance to highlight the interesting work you or your AAW teammates are doing in support of the warfighter. Don't be shy—tell us what you're working on. Fill out a nomination form and we'll help get the word out.

Details are at: *https://asc.army.mil/web/army-btf/submissions/*



SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Meet **Mark Dahilig**, a supervisory contract specialist with the **413th Contracting Support Brigade, Regional Contracting Office-Hawaii**. Dahilig holds a Tier 4 Warrant, a master's degree in administration, a bachelor's degree in finance, and a bachelor's degree in marketing. He is DAWIA certified in Contracting at the Professional level and has served as a member of the Army Acquisition Workforce (AAW) for over 16 years. Take a look at how he is building his career, helps guide others in their careers, and what he has learned along the way, such as what he gained from his participation in one of many Army DACM programs – the **Inspiring and Developing Excellence in Acquisition Leaders (IDEAL)** program. IDEAL is a leader development program for GS-12 and GS-13 (or broadband equivalent) in the AAW who are new and emerging supervisors.

Read more in Chase the Experience - Not the Grade.



SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Meet **Renae Florack**, a project officer with **M111 / M112 Offensive Hand Grenade | Practice Offensive Hand Grenade, Capability Program Executive for Ammunition and Energetics** at Picatinny Arsenal, New Jersey. In this role, she leads cross-functional teams of government and contractor personnel in meeting critical munitions requirements. Her story showcases the important contributions of civilian professionals working behind the scenes to meet Soldier's needs.

One of the steppingstones on Renae's career path was completing the **Acquisition Leadership Challenge Program (ALCP)**, in which "her key takeaway was a newfound clarity on her personality strengths using Myers-Briggs Type Indicator".

Read more in Capacity for Growth is Limitless.

"I truly believe the capacity for growth is limitless"

U.S. ARMY ACQUISITION SUPPORT CENTER
DACM
Director, Acquisition Career Management Office

U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center,
Army DACM Office
9900 Belvoir Road
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5567

For more information about the DACM Office, visit and bookmark the DACM Office website at
https://asc.army.mil/web/dacm-office/