



## Conferences, Workshops & Symposia

### ACQUISITION OF SERVICES IN SPOTLIGHT AT DAU ACQUISITION COMMUNITY CONFERENCE

Bill Bahnmaier

On April 17, the Defense Acquisition University Alumni Association successfully sponsored the DAU-hosted 24th DAU Acquisition Community Conference/Symposium. The theme of the conference was “Trends in the Acquisition and Program Management of Services in DoD.” The theme served to energize both the presenters and the attendees. During introductory remarks, Bill Bahnmaier, the DAU Alumni Association president, set aside a moment of silence for the troops our nation has lost in Iraq and Afghanistan, and for the students and faculty at Virginia Tech who lost their lives in a terrible tragedy on April 16.

#### Ahern and Walker Address Delegates

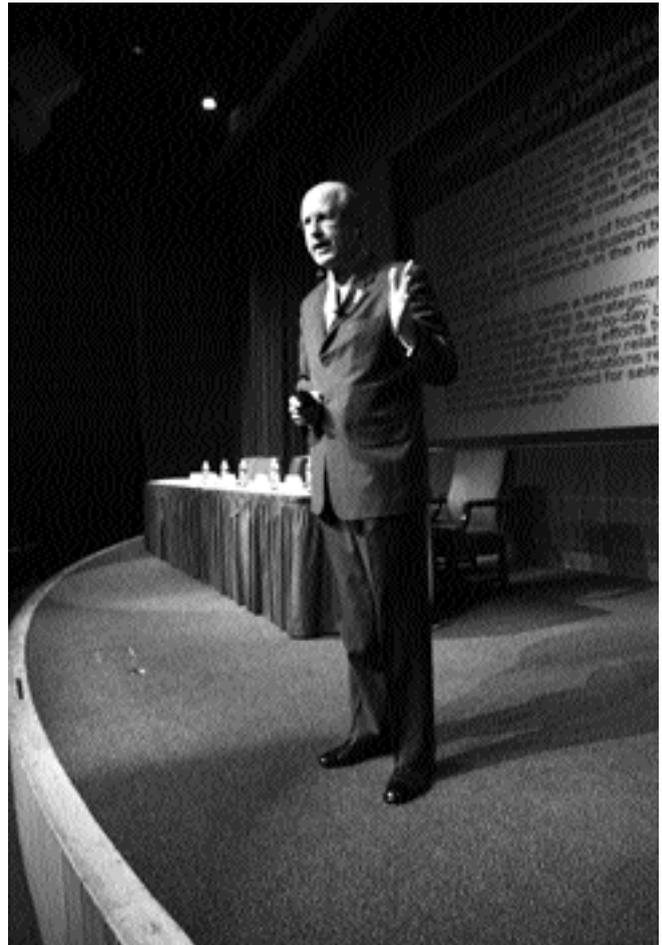
The keynote speech was delivered by Dave Ahern, director of Portfolio Systems Acquisition, in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics. Ahern offered first-hand perspectives—gained from his tenure as a major system program manager—on what needs to be done to improve services acquisition.

He was followed by Service Acquisition Executives, industry, and congressional panels, plus two break-out tracks covering the latest services policy and guidance.

Later in the day the conference attendees heard from Comptroller General of the United States David Walker, who gave his perspectives on the acquisition of services in DoD. The main focus of speakers and panelists centered on writing requests for proposals that made sense to industry, including good statements of work and understandable sections “L” and “M.”

#### Beyond Contracting

Although contracting processes were discussed in depth, the conference looked beyond the contracting aspect of acquiring services, covering aspects of acquisition ranging from systems engineering to program management. It examined tools and techniques that are critical to the program management professional who acquires services for DoD and proffered lessons learned for a successful acquisition. Copies of the presentations provided during the conference can be found on the Acquisition



United States Comptroller General David Walker addresses attendees at the 24th DAU Acquisition Community Conference/Symposium, hosted by the Defense Acquisition University Alumni Association at Fort Belvoir, Va.

Photograph by SSGT Mason Lowery, USA

Community Connection Web site at <<https://acc.dau.mil/CommunityBrowser.aspx?id=145472>>.

Bahnmaier presented the “State of DAUAA” at the annual DAU Alumni Association business meeting. His presentation can be found on the DAUAA Web site at <<http://www.dauaa.org/>>. Part of the presentation covers a new initiative, the DAU Research Paper Competi-



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tion, led by DAU Director of Research Dr. Paul Alfieri. The plan envisions a research paper competition that will generate more interest and participation in the *Defense Acquisition Review Journal*. The goal of this competition is to increase knowledge of innovative acquisition processes for use by the acquisition workforce. The Alumni Association is prepared to make significant outlays in prize money to the winners of the competition.

### Acker Award, Hall of Fame Awards

At the evening banquet, the DAUAA David Acker Award for Skill in Communication was awarded to Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Ken Krieg, based on Krieg's outstanding support of defense acquisition in general and DAU in particular, through the *Defense AT&L eLetter* and as a guest practitioner at DAU executive training courses.

The DAU Hall of Fame awards were also presented as part of the banquet event. The recipients were Secretary of the Air Force Mike Wynne; retired Army Brig. Gen. Ed Hirsch, a former dean, provost, and current professor emeritus at DAU; Norm McDaniel, a former professor, department chair, and associate dean at DAU; and Joyce Valloza, the former head of protocol for many years at the Defense Systems Management College and DAU.

Overall, the conference attracted 567 participants who experienced an important learning event. Four hundred and thirty of the participants were in Scott Hall on the DAU Capital/Northeast Region campus, while the other 137 were at 15 video teleconference sites spread across the DAU regional campuses coast to coast. In addition to the VTC sites, the conference pioneered the use of communications technology when a "Go-To-Meeting" link was established that allowed VTC remote viewers to view each slide individually and provide questions to the speaker or panelist in Scott Hall.

The days preceding the conference were tumultuous, with a major Nor'easter hitting the Fort Belvoir area, a loss of electrical power at DAU the day before the conference, and the tragic events at Virginia Tech. Nevertheless, the Defense Acquisition University Alumni Association, despite national tragedy, power failure, and a major storm threat, continued its 24-year history of bringing together the best and brightest from all walks of the defense acquisition community for the benefit and advancement of the entire government-defense industry acquisition workforce.

*Bahnmaier is the DAU Alumni Association president.*

### PRECISION STRIKE SUMMER FORUM

The Precision Strike Association will hold a summer forum July 10-11, 2007, at the Virginia Beach Resort & Conference Center, 2800 Shore Drive, Virginia Beach, Va. The summer forum theme will be "Joint Perspectives on Precision Engagement." Register for the forum online at <<http://www.ndia.org>>. Click on "Schedule of Events."

### STANDARDIZATION WITHIN NATO SCHEDULED FOR JULY 2007

*Latasha R. Beckman*

The International Cooperation Office, Defense Standardization Program Office, and North Atlantic Treaty Organization Standardization Agency will host the first Standardization within NATO Course in the United States July 10-12, 2007, in Chantilly, Va.

This course is an abridged version of pre-existing NATO standardization training, but tailored to meet the educational needs of a U.S. audience. It will consist of lectures and classroom exercises to provide training to military and DoD civilian personnel who require a fundamental knowledge of standardization and interoperability within NATO. Non-DoD federal government employees and defense contractors are eligible for this course depending on space availability.

Instruction will cover the structure and principles of the NATO standardization, Standardization Agreements, use of civil standards, and U.S. participation in the standardization process. Also, the responsibilities of Military Departments and Defense Agencies in the oversight of standardization activities will be addressed.

There is no charge for this course; but the attendee's organization is responsible for travel expenses. If you're interested in attending this course, please contact Latasha Beckman at 703-767-6872 or [latasha.beckman@dla.mil](mailto:latasha.beckman@dla.mil).

*Beckman is a general engineer with the Defense Standardization Program Office.*

### MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY (MDA) SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH (SBIR) INDUSTRY DAY

The Missile Defense Agency will sponsor a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Industry Day, July 25-26, 2007, at the Sheraton National Hotel in Arlington, Va. The Industry Day will focus on enhancing the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Process for the Missile Defense Agency (MDA) and the Small Busi-



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ness Community. Research Area Leads will give briefings on the following technology areas:

- Space Technology
- Interceptor Technology
- Modeling & Simulation
- Manufacturing Technology
- Discrimination
- Radar System Technology
- Information Assurance
- Integration
- Safety/Insensitive Munitions
- Airborne Component Technology.

Small Businesses will also have the opportunity to sign up for one-on-one sessions with key MDA technical representatives. The point of contact is Dani Rovenger, [drovenger@ndia.org](mailto:drovenger@ndia.org) or call 703-247-2540.

### 2007 NAVAL SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE

**T**he 2007 Naval Science & Technology Industry Partnership Conference will be held July 30 through Aug. 2, 2007, at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, D.C. The agenda and conference information will be posted online as they become available at <<http://www.ndia.org>>; click on "Schedule of Events." For more information, contact Luellen Hoffman at [lhoffman@ndia.org](mailto:lhoffman@ndia.org) or phone 703-247-9460.

### SOLE 2007

**T**he International Society of Logistics will hold its 42nd Annual International Logistics Conference and Exhibition Aug. 21–23, 2007, at the Omni William Penn Hotel, in Pittsburgh, Pa. This year's theme will be "Logistics: The Keystone of Mission Success." Check the SOLE 2007 Web site at <<http://www.sole.org/conference.asp>> for future updates and registration.

### LAND & MARITIME SUPPLY CHAINS BUSINESS CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

**T**he 2007 Land & Maritime Supply Chains Business Conference & Exhibition will be held Aug. 27–29, 2007, at the Hyatt Regency Columbus at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, Ohio. The agenda and conference information will be posted online as they become available at <<http://www.ndia.org>>; click on "Schedule of Events." For more information, contact Meredith Geary at [mgeary@ndia.org](mailto:mgeary@ndia.org) or phone 703-247-9476.

### UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION (UID) FORUM

**A**ll DoD serially managed assets must be registered in the Item Unique Identification Registry by September 2007. If you are a DoD contractor or are a military program manager, you are affected by this mandatory policy. This policy impacts all levels of supply, including small- to mid-sized businesses and all acquisition programs.

The Department of Defense is sponsoring a UID Forum, Sept. 12–13, in Atlanta, Ga. This forum is designed to provide practical guidance to help military program managers and DoD contractors—particularly small- to mid-sized contractors and all acquisition program managers—achieve successful UID implementation as required by DoD policy memoranda and the issuance of the final UID Defense Acquisition Regulation Supplement rule dated April 22, 2005. UID Forum participants will learn how to achieve successful implementation through sessions conducted by Department policy makers on:

- Military Standard 130 (MILSTD 130)
- Wide Area Work Flow (WAWF)
- Semantics and Syntax of Data
- Unique Item Identifiers (UII)
- Marking Guidelines
- Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS).

Register for the UID Forum at <<http://www.uidforum.com>>.

### INSENSITIVE MUNITIONS/ENERGETIC MATERIAL SYMPOSIUM

**T**he 2007 Insensitive Munitions/Energetic Material Symposium will be held Oct. 15–18, 2007, at the Doral Golf Resort & Spa in Miami, Fla. Conference information will be posted online as it becomes available at <<http://www.ndia.org>>; click on "Schedule of Events." For more information, contact Veronica Allen at [vallen@ndia.org](mailto:vallen@ndia.org) or phone 703-247-9478.

### 10TH ANNUAL SYSTEMS ENGINEERING CONFERENCE

**T**he 10th Annual Systems Engineering Conference will be held Oct. 22–25, 2007, at the Hyatt Regency Islandia Hotel and Marina in San Diego, Calif. The primary objective of the conference is to provide insight, information, and lessons learned into how DoD can improve the overall performance of defense programs through a better, more focused application of systems engineering that will lead to more capable, in-



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teroperable, and supportable weapon systems for the warfighter, with reduced total ownership costs.

The agenda and conference information will be posted online as they become available at <<http://www.ndia.org>> ; click on "Schedule of Events." For more information, contact Britt Bommelje at [bbommelje@ndia.org](mailto:bbommelje@ndia.org) or call 703-247-2587.

### PRECISION STRIKE ASSOCIATION 17TH ANNUAL PRECISION STRIKE TECHNOLOGY SYMPOSIUM

**T**he Precision Strike Association will sponsor the 17th Annual Precision Strike Technology Symposium Oct. 23–25, 2007, at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory-Kossiakoff Conference Center in Laurel, Md. The 2007 theme is *Required Precision Strike Capabilities and Technologies for the Long War*.

Effective precision strike demands a timely and effective kill chain to some of the most important targets, which are, in Dr. Paul Wolfowitz' words, "the ones that move around, staying put for only short periods." This year's event continues to provide a forum for exchanging insights, experiences, and ideas regarding Joint and Coalition Precision Strike Technologies to improve the kill chain. It also uniquely offers participants the opportunity to present to one's peers the latest and cutting-edge research and thinking in areas of strike weapons, desired weapons effects, targeting, and required C4ISR. Surveys from past symposia reflect that updates on current and kill chain technologies, concepts, capabilities, and processes for both near and future planning and operations are exactly what symposium participants desire.

Monitor the Precision Strike Association Web site <<http://www.precisionstrike.org/events.htm>> for future updates and registration information.

### 45TH ANNUAL TARGETS, UAVS & RANGE OPERATIONS SYMPOSIUM & EXHIBITION

**T**he 45th Annual Targets, UAVs & Range Operations Symposium & Exhibition will be held Oct. 29–31, 2007, at the Hyatt Regency Islandia Hotel and Marina in San Diego, Calif. The agenda and conference information will be posted online as they become available at <<http://www.ndia.org>> ; click on "Schedule of Events." For more information, contact Simone Baldwin at [sbaldwin@ndia.org](mailto:sbaldwin@ndia.org) or call 703-247-2596.

### DARPA ANNOUNCES THIRD GRAND CHALLENGE

**T**he Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) has announced plans to hold its third Grand Challenge competition on Nov. 3, 2007. The DARPA Urban Challenge will feature autonomous ground vehicles executing simulated military supply missions safely and effectively in a mock urban area. Safe operation in traffic is essential to U.S. military plans to use autonomous ground vehicles to conduct important missions. DARPA will award prizes for the top three autonomous ground vehicles that compete in a final event where they must safely complete a 60-mile urban area course in fewer than six hours. First prize is \$2 million, second prize is \$500,000, and third prize is \$250,000. To succeed, vehicles must autonomously obey traffic laws while merging into moving traffic, navigating traffic circles, negotiating busy intersections, and avoiding obstacles. The DARPA Grand Challenge Web site <<http://www.darpa.mil/grandchallenge>> is the primary resource for information about the Urban Challenge event.

#### Attention AT&L PEOs, PMs, Managers, and Supervisors

Do you have an employee you'd like to see recognized in *Meet the AT&L Workforce*—someone who works behind the scenes to support your organization?

Send us the name, military rank (if appropriate), job title, defense agency/Service affiliation, and home or business mailing address, plus the employee's responses to the italicized questions above. Please include your own contact information, and spell out all acronyms. Profile responses may be edited.

Information may be e-mailed (preferably in a Word file) to

[defenseatl@dau.mil](mailto:defenseatl@dau.mil). We will contact you only if your nominee is selected for publication.

**Photographs:** Only submissions with photographs will be considered. A casual photograph, not a formal bio portrait, is preferred. Submit a high-resolution digital file (300 dpi with a final print size no less than 3 x 5 inches), or mail a traditional photo to the address on page 1. *Photographs cannot be returned.*