

Special Recognition – Champion Award

Mr. Robert Gold

**Director of Engineering Enterprise, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
for Systems Engineering**



The visibility and importance of DMSMS issues to senior management have been greatly enhanced in the past several years. This was made possible through the extraordinary leadership and support provided by Mr. Robert Gold in his position as the Director of Engineering Enterprise under the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Systems Engineering.

Working with his counterparts in the Office of the Secretary of Defense's Logistics and Industrial Base organizations, Mr. Gold chartered a study to assess the state of DMSMS management in the DOD enterprise. Under his guidance, that study identified a number of strategic gaps and made recommendations to mitigate them. The study resulted in the establishment of a set of DMSMS management strategic objectives that the DOD DMSMS lead was assigned to pursue. Under Mr. Gold's cognizance, these efforts have already led to major accomplishments in the areas of DMSMS management policy, guidance, processes, and training.

One of the most important achievements has been the development of a comprehensive DOD Instruction for DMSMS management. Mr. Gold successfully championed this effort in the Systems Engineering community and the Instruction is now in the formal coordination and approval process. Without his direct support, this effort would not have been successful.

Mr. Gold's strong advocacy has also been vital in other strategic DMSMS management thrusts. Best practices for programming and budgeting for DMSMS management and for DMSMS resolutions have been established. Also, a comprehensive effort to develop a set of DMSMS management metrics to benefit program offices has been completed. Lastly, being keenly interested in the contribution of science and technology research to DMSMS management and resolutions, Mr. Gold was the inspiration for an effort to develop DMSMS research and development requirements in conjunction with the Defense Logistics Agency's Research and Development office. That work is finished and projects are about to be funded.

According to Webster's Dictionary, championing a cause involves protecting or fighting for it and acting as a militant supporter. Mr. Robert Gold's actions exceeded this standard definition. He not only promoted DMSMS management, he also was the driving force behind an order of magnitude improvement in how DOD conducts DMSMS management today. Mr. Gold exemplifies the definition of a champion.