

2016 DMSMS Lifetime Achievement Award

Mr. Alex Melnikow, DMSMS Lead, Defense Standardization Program Office, ODASD System Engineering

Mr. Alex Melnikow has made extraordinary contributions to Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages (DMSMS) management. During the course of his tenure as DMSMS lead, he brought the entire DoD DMSMS community together in unprecedented ways, making collaboration, information sharing, and effective communications a standard way of doing business. Furthermore, Mr. Melnikow made enormous strides in improving the state of DMSMS practice and is responsible for publishing highly regarded guidance on best practices as well as developing up-to-date training. His career achievements in the DMSMS arena have embodied the spirit of better buying power initiatives.

Mr. Melnikow personally spearheaded the revitalization of the DoD DMSMS Working Group and supported the enhancement of DMSMS management-related guidance and training. Under his leadership, the working group has reestablished itself as an active organization that meets face-to-face twice a year—once at the annual DMSMS conference and a second time at another location hosted by a government facility. The working group has been able to tackle a wide variety of issues and content areas, including the development of an outreach strategy, to further DMSMS management for DoD. Mr. Melnikow also worked diligently to transition the annual conference from a stand-alone event to one co-located with the annual Defense Manufacturing Conference.

Under Mr. Melnikow's stewardship, DoD has vibrant forums for DMSMS-related information sharing and collaboration among primary DMSMS management stakeholders and has begun to strategize about how to reach out to other enabling stakeholders across the department. The ability to leverage these forums to tackle common interests and problems has resulted in a major rewrite and the continuation of regular updates of DoD's DMSMS management guidance document, SD-22, Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Materials Shortages: A Guidebook of Best Practices for Implementing a Robust DMSMS Management Program. Mr. Melnikow championed the rewrite of this document, organized according to the five steps of the DMSMS management process—prepare, identify, assess, analyze, and implement. His career achievements in the DMSMS arena have embodied the spirit of better buying power initiatives and will have lasting impact on DMSMS management.