

Agency insight makes difference in Acquisition Enterprise



This issue of the *Communicator* focuses on what DCMA does every day to deliver better buying power to America's taxpayers and improve the Acquisition Enterprise. It highlights new ways our employees are finding to manage workflow and leverage the depth of knowledge our unique position in the acquisition system provides.

Since our inception as an independent agency in 2000, DCMA has provided daily support to program executive officers, program managers and contracting officers, and offered real-time information to the Acquisition Enterprise. However, with the current fiscal challenges facing our nation, we are being called upon to do more, and we, as an agency, are answering that call.

Whether ensuring uniforms meet quality standards at a small business in West Texas or performing process reviews and system audits for large Aircraft Propulsion Operations in the industrial Northeast, DCMA ensures the integrity of the contract management process. We also evaluate risk assessments on products as diverse as combat fatigues and jet engines and offer recommendations to safeguard quality. Throughout the agency, our employees visit manufacturing facilities to monitor not only the physical product, but also to analyze contractor data used to ensure corporate system adequacy.

As valuable as this review process is, experience has taught us that observation alone does not drive results. Observation needs follow up action, and with that in mind we are opening new channels of communication with our customers. Revitalized contractor training symposia allow us to keep industry abreast of DCMA changes in business practices, while industry cross talks and an initiative called Connect Point for Industry Concerns encourage frank and open discussions with our customers.

To fully achieve our mission, we have a responsibility to the Department of Defense as well as to our industrial base. At the headquarters level, we have partnered with the Defense Contract Audit Agency to improve financial services within the department. We are also moving toward audit readiness as we monitor our time and attendance procedures and begin other sub-assessments to prepare for DOD's audit, which must be completed by 2014.

Across the agency, and throughout the government, these are a few of the many ways our Acquisition Enterprise insight is making a difference. Your continued dedication and service make it possible for us to control costs, deliver insight and ensure the safety of our warfighters. Thank you for all you do.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Charlie E. Williams Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Charlie E. Williams Jr.
Director