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DNI Names New Deputy for Acquisition

Senior Industry Executive Alden Munson Takes Newly Elevated Position

The Director of National Intelligence announced today that industry leader Alden V. Munson, Jr., of Visalia, Calif., has begun work as Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Acquisition.

“The DDNI/Acquisition is a pivotal leadership role to move forward with our efforts to more fully integrate the Intelligence Community, and he will be a key driver of our 100 Day Plan efforts,” said Director Mike McConnell.

“Al brings with him a tremendous amount of senior-level industry experience,” McConnell continued. “His business experience with large acquisitions will be invaluable as we work to increase our technological agility.”

McConnell has placed emphasis on acquisition excellence during his two-month tenure as DNI, pushing to streamline acquisition policies and processes applied to IC practices, and enhance the professional capabilities of the acquisition workforce. “Our goal is to shorten development timelines and produce more reliable systems,” McConnell said.

The position of DDNI/Acquisition was created and became effective on April 9, 2007. It encompasses the former Senior Acquisition Executive organization and the former Associate Directorate for Science and Technology, along with the Intelligence Collection Architecture effort formerly under DDNI/Collection. Ambassador Pat Kennedy served as acting DDNI/Acquisition in the interim.

“Build Acquisition Excellence and Technology Leadership” is one of the six focus areas of the Intelligence Community’s 100 Day Plan for Integration and Collaboration, which began April 9. Identifying a DDNI for Acquisition by the 30-day mark was the first task specified in this focus area.

Munson has extensive expertise in systems engineering and program management in space, defense and intelligence systems and has most recently been consulting for government and industry. He was a syndicating partner with the investment banking firm Windsor Group, senior vice president and group executive of the Litton Information Systems Group, and a vice president in senior executive positions at TRW.

He holds a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from San Jose State University and a master’s degree in mechanical engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. He later completed extensive coursework in computer science at UCLA and attended executive programs at Harvard and Stanford. He served on the boards of Paracel Inc., bd Systems, Inc., AFCEA and the Manhattan Beach Education Foundation, and was an active member of the Security Affairs Support Association.

In August 2000, Mr. Munson was honored by the National Reconnaissance Office as a Pioneer of National Reconnaissance for his work conceiving and developing a fully automatic electronic intelligence system that directly supported U.S. military forces in the field.

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