



ASMC - Washington Chapter



A Five Star Chapter

JANUARY 2008

DATE: 9 JANUARY 2008 **MEETING TIME:** 11:30AM **PLACE:** HOLIDAY INN, ALEXANDRIA

Sponsored by: Navy

President's Message
President, ASMC Washington Chapter

President's Message

As we approach our new year with resolutions and great plans, remember to mark your calendars for upcoming ASMC activities!

First and foremost, plan to attend our 6 March 2008 Regional PDI event! On-line registration opens first week of January, so register soon. Our 2008 PDI is a partnership across six ASMC Washington metropolitan area chapters, thereby optimizing the educational and networking opportunities. It will be a day full of interesting speakers, great conversation, prize raffles, great food, award presentations, and so much more. Don't miss this exciting event!

Secondly, there is no better way to start the new 2008 workyear than by recognizing those who you think did outstanding work in 2007 –so, nominate your worthy colleagues/employees for our ASMC Washington Chapter awards before the fast-approaching deadline of 31 January.

Thirdly, mark your calendars on the third Wednesday of each month for our monthly luncheon meetings at the Holiday Inn on Eisenhower Ave. The Board has made a final decision, after reviewing the results and surveys from our Pentagon Conference Center trials, to go back to the Holiday Inn for all our monthly functions.

Lastly, for those who know graduating high school seniors, the deadline is 31 January for our scholarship applications. For more information on the Regional PDI, awards, scholarships, and all of our activities, please visit our website at <http://www.washington-asmc.org>. Also, when you visit the website, I highly recommend you sign up for our automatic e-mail distribution service. You will get e-mails about all our ASMC Washington Chapter activities and the latest chapter news. It is a great way to keep up to speed.

Happy New Year!

Ranae Woods
President
ASMC Washington Chapter

Today's Speaker: Mr. Ronald Rosenthal,
Topic: "Propelling Transformation: An Update
on Navy ERP "



Mr. Ronald J. Rosenthal
Program Manager
Navy ERP Program Office

Mr. Rosenthal was born January 31, 1953, in New York, NY, and was raised in Miami Beach, FL. He graduated from the University of Florida in 1974 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Systems Engineering. He received a Master of Engineering degree in Industrial Engineering from Texas A&M University in 1976.

Mr. Rosenthal began his career in 1975 as an intern in the production-engineering program at the Red River Army Depot, Texarkana, TX. From November 1976 to July 1980, he served as an Industrial Engineer at the U.S. Army Aviation Systems Command in St. Louis, MO. In July 1980, he transferred to Headquarters, Department of the Army as a cost analyst and subsequently moved to the U.S. Army Materiel Command in Alexandria, VA.

Mr. Rosenthal joined the Naval Air Systems Command in 1983 as Section Head of the Avionics/GFE Cost Estimating Section. He was later promoted to Branch Head of the Weapon/Unmanned Vehicles Cost Estimating Branch. He also served as the Head of the Aircraft Systems Cost Estimating Branch.

In 1989, Mr. Rosenthal attended the 20-week Program Manager's course at the Defense Systems Management College. Upon his return, he became the Principal Deputy Program Manager for Conventional Strike Weapons, a diverse program office with projects in development, production, and in-service. He had broad responsibility for the technical, financial, and programmatic aspects of conventional air launched ordnance, including the Joint Military Department Development Programs Joint Standoff Weapon (JSOW) and Joint Direct Attack Munitions (JDAM).

In 1996, Mr. Rosenthal was selected for promotion to the Senior Executive Service and appointed as Head of the Cost Department. The Department was responsible for providing cost estimating and analysis support to all naval aviation programs. He supported ASN(RDA), OPNAV, and OSD Flag Officers, and senior executives on acquisition budget resource requirements. He led the Command's effort to establish the process for and policy associated with the Navy's goal of reducing weapon systems' total cost of ownership. He also led cost assessment studies of the Joint Strike Fighter Program in 1997 and 2000.

In October 2000, Mr. Rosenthal assumed the duties within the Chief of Naval Operations Office, Director of Air Warfare, as the Principal Assistant, Acquisition, Programming & Budgeting for Director Air Warfare. In this job, he provided advice on acquisition, programming, and budgeting to Director of Air Warfare on such programs as the F/A-18, CVX, MV-22, JSF, AIM-9X, and JSOW/JDAM. He also was the Acquisition Representative on the Future Naval Capabilities Integrated Program Team for Total Ownership Cost.

Mr. Rosenthal returned to Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) to become the Program Director for the Enterprise Solutions Program Office (ESPO) in January 2002. The mission of the ESPO was to demonstrate and deploy commercial technology such as Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) within NAVAIR. In January 2003, he was assigned as the Program Manager for the Navy ERP Program. He is responsible for the reengineering and standardization of Navy-wide processes through Business Process Reengineering and the coordination of ERP-related activities within the Department of the Navy. Upon completion, this project will result in the Navy's ability to integrate operations and data; to increase productivity; and to optimize material and supply chain management. Mr. Rosenthal's career record has been exemplary. He has received many awards for achievement and performance including the prestigious Association of Naval Aviation Edward H. Heinemann Award in 1999 and the Presidential Rank Award in 2000.

FEATURE ARTICLES

1. Propelling Transformation: An Update on the Navy ERP Program By Ms. Beverly Veit

The Department of the Navy Business Transformation strategy contains four elements that provide a logical and integrated framework for both communication and execution. Specifically, it involves:

- The DoD Business Transformation Agency (BTA) that provides a broad framework (the "architecture") that includes enterprise-wide systems and standards;

- The **Navy ERP**, serving as the cornerstone for a better integrated, automated, and controlled business environment;
- A coherent transition plan for moving from our current stove-piped, overly complex automated systems that includes financial feeder systems, and;
- An overarching Financial Improvement Plan (FIP) that integrates these efforts, while documenting processes and testing controls.

Navy ERP is the cornerstone of our Business Transformation strategy and is an integrated business management system that modernizes and standardizes Navy business operations, provides unprecedented management visibility across the enterprise, and increases effectiveness and efficiency. It is scheduled to be rolled out across the DoN, starting with the Naval Air Warfare Systems Command (NAVAIR), and then going to the other Systems Commands such as Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR), Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP), and Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA). A significant challenge these commands face is to adapt their current business processes to the commercial software wherever possible rather than require custom software be added that would significantly add to cost and complexity. An equally daunting technical and coordination challenge faced is the requirement to interface with over 20 different systems within the larger DoD business environment and ensure those interfaces are adequately tested. Despite the magnitude of these challenges, the implementation of Navy ERP is underway at the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) and on track to continue at Space and Naval Warfare Command (SPAWAR) this spring.

In October 2007, the Navy ERP program Release 1.0 went "Live" at NAVAIR. Release 1.0 includes Finance (General and Working Capital Funds), Plant Supply, Work Force Management, and Acquisition / Program Management. NAVAIR is now using the full range of functionality to include Funds Allocation, Sales Orders, Project and Budget Structures, Travel, Training, Awards, and Time and Attendance.

Although NAVAIR had been operating on a SAP based ERP system (Sigma) the transition to the Navy ERP system involved both complex data cleansing and conversion efforts as well as significant change management activities and has not been easy. As anticipated, the Navy ERP/NAVAIR team has experienced issues that require special attention to resolve. The Navy ERP team is offering over-the-shoulder support, Help Desk support, war room oversight, and general customer service support to resolve the issues as they arise. The extended team from the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Financial Management and Comptroller) and Defense Finance Accounting Service (DFAS) have been joining in efforts to resolve issues as well.

The Navy ERP Team has learned many lessons from implementing the four ERP pilots and Navy ERP at NAVAIR

and is taking them into consideration when planning future implementations. Some of the most important lessons learned are discussed below.

- Partnership and communication are key, particularly in the areas of Schedule Integration, identification of Change Agents/Champions, and planning for overtime and adjusting personnel work schedules during the implementation/cutover period. Ensuring all parties understand as early as possible what business processes will be affected during the cutover period is also pivotal. For example, publishing proposed cut-off dates for personnel actions impacting changes in reporting relationships, awards (monetary/non-monetary), and training requests will greatly assist the transition process.
- Provide the receiving command early access to the business rules, user role and access requirements, and critical business reports to increase their understanding of the system.
- It is best to operate as One Team – and co-locate Subject Matter Experts to build relationships and work through issues quickly, to include representatives from the Customer, Navy ERP, Industry partners, ASN (FM&C) and DFAS.
- Data cleansing and identification of data anomalies must be completed prior to conversion. Commands should develop and execute procedures to close-out old documents in source system to minimize amount of data that must be converted.
- Practice and Test as much as possible. Prior to the actual conversion of data into the production system, conduct several rounds of mock conversions. Conduct early and robust testing of the system functionality and workflow using converted data as much as possible. Test interfaces using representative file sizes.
- Training must be sustainable, maintainable, effective, the right amount and at the right time. It is most helpful to front-load the training schedule with the critical roles (program manager, comptroller, etc.) so those personnel can assist with validation of data once it has been converted.

In summary, the Navy ERP program, working with its partners from the Systems Commands, ASN (FM&C) and DFAS, is working very hard to support sustainment of the initial successful implementation of Navy ERP. Over time the DON will implement Navy ERP into the transformed DON Business environment, providing standard business processes, and a standard system of record for both General Fund and Working Capital Fund financial accounting and funds control.

2. Segments: DoD/DoN Financial Improvement Program Strategy Evolves by Mr. Russell Strother

The military services and agencies, collaborating with the offices of the Under Secretary of Defense Comptroller and Inspector General, have broadened the scope of DoD's audit readiness strategy to better reflect the Enterprise-wide financial environment. Formerly, the strategy was based on the auditability of each DoD organization's financial statements, subdivided into line items on the statements. Thus, in the former scheme, DoD's Financial Improvement and Audit Readiness (FIAR) Plan called for auditability in Focus Areas, mirroring financial statement lines. The DON FIP aligned with this structure.

To reflect a more precise image of DoD business operations, auditability will no longer be restricted to financial statement lines; audit readiness will now be multi-dimensional, measured in segments, which are relatively constant components of the business environment. A segment could reflect an organizational focus (Navy Working Capital Fund or Marine Corps), or a discrete business systems focus (Navy ERP). For Navy General Fund organizations, the segment's focus could shift to distinct business processes such as those comprising Budget to Authorize, or Pay Our People. Finally, a segment could still be organized around a financial statement line, as before. The segment's orientation – organization, system, business process, or statement line – allows greater flexibility as move toward audit readiness.

Member Accomplishments

New Washington Chapter CDFM/CDFM-A

Migdalia Clemente
Ronald Cordell
Joseph Rechtermann
Todd Rose
Marc Williams
Wayne Ebenfeld

CDFM Training:

The DoD centrally funded EDFMTC (Enhanced Defense Financial Management Training Course) scheduled FY2008 training dates, in the metro area, from now through March 2008 are:

Feb 4-8, 2008, MDA/Arlington, VA

Feb 4-8, 2008, Fort McNair, DC

Feb 25-29, 2008, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD

Mar 3-7, 2008, USDA Grad Sch/Washington, DC

Mar 10-14, 2008, DECA, CFL, Fort Lee, VA

Mar 10-14, 2008, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD

The ASMC can not place you in one of the DoD centrally funded EDFMTC sessions. You must apply using the DoD's

EDFMTC automated registration tool at www.atrrs.army.mil/edfmt

For those who cannot attend the DoD-funded sessions, Management Concepts (MCI) also delivers the EDFMTC on an open enrollment basis. Dates and locations for upcoming open enrollment sessions (subject to enrollment) are:

GFY 2008

January 14, 2008 - Las Vegas, NV
February 4, 2008 - Washington, DC
March 10, 2008 - Washington, DC
March 31, 2008 - Fayetteville, NC

For open enrollment registration, call MCI Customer Service at 703-790-9595 or email customerservice@managementconcepts.com. MCI can also deliver this course at your site for a class size of up to 32 students. To bring the EDFMTC to your organization, call 703-270-4059 or contact finmgmt@managementconcepts.com.

Michael Ebiala
Chapter CDFM Chair

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event
13 Feb 08	Luncheon – Host Corporate
06 Mar 08	Mini PDI, Ronald Reagan Bldg
TBD Apr 08	Luncheon – Host Army

For the most updated information on future events, please visit our website at:

<http://www.Washington-ASMC.org>

CONGRATULATIONS



- The winner of the November Luncheon Raffle was: Michael Sears!

2007 ASMC Washington Chapter Awards Program

Achievement awards will be presented to individuals and teams who have been nominated for outstanding accomplishment in the fields of Comptrollership. The deadline for Award submission is 31 January 2008.

Award nominations should be sent to the Awards Committee Chairman:

Mr. Keith Hicks
keith.hicks@pentagon.af.mil
(703) 695-0405

Note: Copies of awards submitted to National can also be submitted to the Washington Chapter and will be considered. It is not necessary to complete a separate form. The Chapter Awards program mirrors the National awards program, but the two are not affiliated. You are encouraged to submit your applications to both Awarding entities. Chapter awards will be presented at the Regional PDI. See the Chapter website <http://www.washington-asmc.org/achievem.htm> for Instructions, Guidance and forms for submitting awards.

Committee Chairman, Mr. Keith Hicks

2008 ASMC Washington Chapter Scholarship Program

Each year, the Washington Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) awards several gifts to graduating high school seniors recognized as outstanding students as follows:

- Several one-time awards of \$1,000.
- The three top award winners will also receive an additional \$1,000 per year for up to an additional three years, if they maintain eligibility, and a “signing incentive” if following undergraduate graduation, the student is employed by DoD or USCG.
- One award recipient will also be recommended to our national organization for consideration for an additional \$2,000 Scholarship.

The award is to be used in attaining educational goals. Winners will be recognized by the Society at a luncheon and presentation ceremony in April/May 2008. Checks will be mailed, in August 2008, directly to the undergraduate institution chosen by the award recipient.

The deadline for application submission is 31 January 2008. Please advise graduating high school seniors of this program. There is no limit to the number of applications received from any one high school as long as the applicants meet the criteria. Please e-mail your application package to: Scholarships@Washington-ASMC.org. If you have further questions regarding our program please contact me at the e-mail above or phone me at the number below.

Beverly M. Veit, Committee Chairman
(202) 685-6703
Beverly.veit@navy.mil

Save the Date -- 06 March 2008

National Capital Region Mini PDI -- Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, Washington, D.C. – Thursday, 06 March 2008.

Keep abreast of the latest updates on this and other chapter events by signing up to receive Washington Chapter announcements via email. Use the following web address.

<http://www.washington-asmc.org/Mail/EMailSignUp.htm>

EXCITING ASMC ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY!!!

ASMC Washington Chapter will now permit up to 4 corporate advertisements to be included in our monthly newsletter, which is distributed at our monthly meetings as well as posted on our chapter website. It is a terrific opportunity for corporations to "extend their reach" and gain visibility within the Defense Financial/Resource Management community at large - and do so very economically.

A full-page color ad is only \$100 a month!!! If you commit to advertise for the entire year upfront, the cost is only \$1000!!!

There is only room for up to four corporate advertisements per newsletter - so act now to be included in this timely and effective communications channel to your targeted audience!

Please contact Deb Del Mar, ASMC Corporate VP for further information: debra.delmar@vanguard-llc.com or 703-593-6667 cell

ASMC National News

Would you like to earn free CPE credits by listening to or watching selected workshops and Service Day sessions from PDI 2007? Now you can by accessing ASMC's PDI Online. If you complete a session, you may self-certify for CPE credit or, in some cases, you can take a short test and get a CPE certificate. Just go to

<<http://www.asmonline.org/development/extendedlearning.shtml>> and follow the directions on the screen. In addition, charts from many of the workshop sessions are available for download in the same area. Check it out!

Future PDIs

- 2008 - Orlando, Florida
- 2009 - San Antonio, Texas
- 2010 - Nashville, Tennessee
- 2011 - Minneapolis, Minnesota
- 2012 - Anaheim, California

Washington Chapter Officers for 2007- 2008

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Ranae Woods	President	Ranae.Woods@pentagon.af.mil	(703) 697-5313
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Lucy Williams	OSD Asst Secretary	Lucy.Williams@osd.mil	(703) 571-9183
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