

NDIA PMSC Meeting Minutes

Industry Meeting at ATK, Clearwater, FL – January 29, 2013

1. Tracie Thompson, PMSC Chair, called the meeting to order, welcomed all the attendees, reviewed the day's agenda, and introduced our host speaker.
2. Mr. Bill Burke, VP, Mission Support Equipment for ATK provided the welcome address to the committee. Mr. Burke provided an overview of ATK discussed their products and organization.
3. Introductions of PMSC members were made.
4. Tracie provided a PMSC update describing the 2013 objectives, a review of the PMSC working groups, she discussed the current government documentation updates, and provided an overview of the current environment of EVMS/integrated program management. Tracie has asked PARCA and DCMA to address some of the government items at tomorrow's joint day. Tracie noted that the PMSC charter has been updated and will be voted on later in the day. Tracie mentioned that the charter, strategic plan and action plans are available on the PMSC website.

Tracie highlighted that the IPMR DID is now starting to show up on recently awarded contracts and that on Jan 28, 2013 PARCA also released the IPMR Implementation guide. Both documents reflect many PMSC comments that were made during review periods. Tracie noted that PARCA also updated the OTB/OTS guide and it is now formally published. Tracie discussed that at tomorrow's meeting we expect DCMA and/or PARCA to discuss DCMA's compliance checking tool, the stop work order issue and the new CAR instruction that discusses CARs in relation to subcontractors/primes.

5. Randy Steeno and Joan Ugljesa provided an update on the status of the ANSI Standard update as well as the various NDIA PMSC guides. Randy provided a quick history of the working group activities and that the ANSI requires an update every 5 years. The current activity would update to version "C". The update is completed and we are awaiting final approval and release. The release is controlled by TechAmerica and the PMSC is hopeful that the new C version will be published in the next few months. Randy reviewed the primary changes that will be included in the new version. Randy noted the delay in publishing has been driven by one specific request to change the standard to include language concerning quality assurance. Joan discussed the status on the PMSC guides. She highlighted each guide is on a 3 year update cycle, that we have recently taken over control of the PASEG and she provided a schedule of when the guides were last updated and when the next update will take place. For 2013, the Intent Guide, IBR Guide and Acceptance Guide will be updated (in final review shortly, PMSC approval in May 2013).

6. Kim Herrington led a discussion on the update of the PMSC charter. The changes are minor focusing on clarifying language within the document and providing greater consistency throughout the document. Per charter guidelines, the proposed changes were provided to the PMSC 30 days prior to the meeting. A vote was conducted and the changes to the charter were approved.
7. A break was conducted
8. Kim Herrington facilitated a panel on the “Potential Slowdown in the Industrial Base”. Panel participants were Mr. Bill Burke, VP Mission Support Equipment for ATK, Mr. Joe Wright, Director, Military Space for Honeywell, Mr. John Oelschlaeger, SVP and GM for L-3, and Mr. Mike Varga, President and CEO of Tandel Systems. The panelists discussed their views on potential DoD budget cuts, the anticipated impacts, what their companies are doing to mitigate impacts and other potential business opportunities. They emphasized the important role that EVMS/IPM plays in managing programs effectively which is critical during budget downturns and the government cannot afford to keep failing programs going.
9. Kathryn Flanigan discussed the PMSC Clearinghouse process and current status. She noted the value in the Clearinghouse working group to the PMSC as the means to provide guidance on issues encountered within EVMS. Whether an internal issue or one between a company and the government, the Clearinghouse can assist in providing a consolidated industry response on the issue. She also discussed a recent Clearinghouse item. Kathryn also invited attendees to come to the WG meeting later today.
10. A lunch break was conducted
11. A panel discussion on the topic of “CAMs, PMs and EAC Realism” was conducted. The panel was facilitated by Gary Humphreys and panel members were Mr. Alan Gauzens (ATK), Mr. Joe Fischetti (JPL), Ms. Leslea Martin (Raytheon), Mr. Jim Monroe (Honeywell) and Mr. Roy Paul (Raytheon). Mr. Paul pointed out that his experience in industry has given him a better appreciation of program management after having 30 years of experience on the government side. He also pointed out the challenges faced in trying to make a realistic estimate when the effort has never been done before. Mr. Fischetti discussed the necessity of staying within the funding available for a project and therefore EACs are of utmost importance. He discussed the process that JPL uses to insure and validate EACs are accurate. Ms. Martin highlighted the government’s affordability goals and therefore the focus on EAC is critical. She described her use of IEAC metrics in comparing her CA and WP EACs in a single page format. She also mentioned the analysis of staffing as it relates to the ETC forecast. Mr. Gauzens highlighted the importance of understanding the scope and comparing to similar efforts to know what the potential actuals (EAC) will be. He also stressed the importance of CAM training and getting “real world” experience, and also the integration of risk and opportunity analysis

and the EAC. Mr. Monroe noted the use of calculated/mathematical EACs and trend analysis to help determine EAC values.

12. A break was conducted.
13. A “Business Rhythm Best Practices” panel was conducted. Eric Christoph facilitated the panel that included Ms. Leslea Martin (Raytheon), Mr. Jim Monroe (Honeywell) and Mr. Pete Wynne (Lockheed Martin). Ms. Martin noted the historical reference to “battle rhythm” and the concept of beating the drums to ensure the unit was coordinated. Ms. Martin discussed her program business rhythm which is a daily stand up meeting in which each lead discusses their near term activities and any obstacles faced. Mr. Wynne discussed the concept of tying the rhythm to the calendar – yearly events, quarterly events, monthly events. He highlighted the discussion with PARCA regarding the monthly EVM CPR processing cycle from actuals generation, subcontract data incorporation, variance analysis, etc. Mr. Monroe added that as a PM he isn’t the sole user of the information generated by the business rhythm and that the value comes from the interaction of the team. Ms. Martin stressed the value in potentially changing your rhythm for cost efficiency purposes – ie, don’t stay tied to the old way of doing things.
14. The various PMSC working groups met to discuss their issues and efforts. The various groups briefly reported out to the committee what they discussed during the 2nd day of the meeting.
15. Tracie concluded the day by summarizing the discussions and adjourned the industry day meeting. Network/social event hosted by Humphreys & Associates followed.