

*Accountability and Management of Military Equipment Webcast
 Friday, January 26, 2007 – 02:00 p.m. to 03:00 p.m.
 Questions Not Addressed During Webcast*

Question #	Component	Question	Response
1	Air Force	This is in regards to the team coming through in February...I know there will be a 100% inventory of all assets. What else would you like to take a look at? Are they going to be looking at it from a procedural stand point for ELO, or basically from what the custodians show?	This question has been forwarded to Air Force headquarters points of contact for a response.
2	Army	Are there DA or DOD regulations for COTS accountability and management guidance?	The Directive 8000.1, "Management of DoD Information Resources and Information Technology," establishes policies for DoD information resources management, including information technology. Army policy can be found in Army Regulation 25-1 Information Management: Army Knowledge Management and Information Technology.
3	Air Force	We keep hearing about UIDs. How will the advent of the UID help in managing military equipment?	The Department has developed or named several programs that provide Unique Identifiers (UIDs) such as the Item Unique Identifier (IUID). The common thing that these UIDs have is that they provide a globally unique identifier to each item or transaction, as well as the establishment of pedigree information and system keys within a particular Registry. These system keys can be used to link automated information systems together and avoid duplication of errors in information. Other UIDs that have been established are the Acquisition Program UID (APUID) which provides the department with acquisition information concerning a new, improved, or continuing materiel, weapon system capability, or service. The Demand Unique Identifier (DUID) identifies an acquisition requirement and links to its associated funding and financial transactions, e.g., commitment, obligation, and disbursement. For military equipment, we will be using the various UIDs to automate our processes so that current manual processes (such as quarterly asset update and annual financial account code update) can be eliminated. The intent is for military equipment valuation to be a by-product of normal financial and accountability transactions.

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4	Navy/USMC	At what material level is UID to be mandated, i.e., End-Item, Assembly, piece parts?	This question has been forwarded to the UID Program office for a response.
5	Air Force	The question of cost continues to arise when the IUID requirements are briefed to program personnel. Could you address this concern and provide guidance for funding IUID initiatives?	This question has been forwarded to the UID Program office for a response.
6	Army	Are there any policies that can help Property Managers to get command emphasis, if the command has little or no interest in accountability?	<p>The DoDI 5000.64 requires the DoD Components to be: accountable for and manage all property acquired, leased, or otherwise obtained throughout an asset's lifecycle: from initial acquisition and receipt; through accountability and custody; until formally relieved of accountability by authorized means; including disposition; or through a completed evaluation and investigation for lost, damaged, destroyed, or stolen property.</p> <p>The Instruction applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Military Departments, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the Department of Defense.</p>
7	Army	What is being done, doctrinally, to address the property management difficulties associated with rapidly fielding non-standard equipment, to multiple services, on the battlefield?	Among other DoD requirements, the DoDI 5000.64 requires each DoD Component to establish accountable property systems of record; and ensure their appropriate integration with core financial and other systems and processes, particularly those for logistics and acquisition. This question is also being forwarded to the Army headquarters points of contact for additional information.

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8	Army	Will the Lean Six Sigma initiative under the business transformation going to play a part?	Lean/Six Sigma thinking should be a part of everything we do. There is not a specific lean/six sigma project in this area.
9	DCMA	If a contractor doesn't have to report Contractor Acquired Property (CAP) until it is transferred to new contract, how is accurate accountability maintained?	Accountability is maintained by Government oversight of the contractors property control system, i.e., system analysis and/or audit, thus ensuring all property acquired, leased, or otherwise obtained is accounted for and managed throughout the property lifecycle: from initial acquisition and receipt, through accountability and custody, until formally relieved of accountability by authorized means.
10	Air Force	The Air Force legacy systems are mostly in maintenance-only mode these days awaiting ERP. How do we implement the changes necessary to allow unique item tracking?	<p>Item unique identification can be applied to legacy items already in the inventory and in operational use. If serialized items can be uniquely identified by their existing serial numbers and marking, virtual unique item identifiers (UIIs) can be assigned. A virtual UII enables the database entry of a UII and its associated pedigree data, while postponing the physical marking of the legacy item with a two-dimensional data matrix symbol to a more advantageous time (based on logistic and economic considerations). The use of virtual UIIs is described in the latest version of the Guidelines for the Virtual Unique Item Identifier (UII) located at http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/UID/guides.htm.</p> <p>The Air Force has a plan to introduce UIIDs into their systems. We will forward this question to the Air Force to add specific information on their plan. We are also forwarding this question to the UID Program office for further guidance.</p>
11	Army	What is the time frame for the Army to implement the Item Unique ID systems?	This question has been forwarded to Army headquarters points of contact for a response.
12	Army	What type of UID equipment are we to use?	This question has been forwarded to the UID Program office for a response.

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13	Air Force	I work in a R&D environment and some test items do not have an UID number because it is a unique item, but sometimes our procurement insists they need an UID. Is there an exception?	This question has been forwarded to the UID Program office for a response.
14	Air Force	Each service has their own accountability system that enables that particular service to report financial information and have visibility of their own equipment. What are your thoughts on the possibility of having all services collaborate on developing one accountability system (true enterprise level)?	<p>DoD has pursued enterprise solutions. In the early 1990s the Department established the Defense Property Accountability System (DPAS) as the Department's enterprise property accountability system. DoD Components ranging from the Army and Navy to the Defense Commissary Agency and the DoD school system use DPAS, over 8,000 users around the world. DPAS also provides personal property accounting functionality. DPAS has pioneered new property management best practices and technology over the years based on user input. For example, DPAS was an early adopter of the use of bar code scanners within the Department.</p> <p>With regards to military equipment valuation, the Department has developed, working with the Services, the Capital Asset Management System-Military Equipment (CAMS-ME). CAMS-ME allows the Department to meet its financial reporting goals and is providing senior management with previously unavailable information.</p>
15	Navy/USMC	Will CAMS-ME have an SOA compliant interface or Web Service to support the transfer of data from systems of record?	Yes. Any data that CAMS-ME receives will be from a DoD Enterprise System (e.g., BEIS, IUID Registry) and therefore these enterprise systems should be able to support the easy transfer of data from the various systems of record.

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16	Air Force	Currently what is the percentage of existing systems complying with IUID requirements?	This question has been forwarded to the UID Program office for a response.
17	Army	If the \$ value/cost of equipment changes over time so that it was originally under threshold and later goes over the threshold - how should reporting be handled? Just the over threshold or all?	We book assets based on their value at the time of the acceptance. So, just those assets which are currently over the threshold should be reported. That determination is made on an annual basis for all new programs. Consequently, it is conceivable that the same asset is bought and capitalized one year and bought but not capitalized the next.
18	Army	What is the benefit of UID vs. serial number and registration number tracking?	This question has been forwarded to the UID Program office for a response.
19	Industry	How are emerging technologies such as RFID slated to interface with the ERP systems that are currently scheduled to go on line? Is there a conscious process to ensure this new technology that will be used is going to be able to interface with the new ERP systems?	This question has been forwarded to the UID Program office for a response.

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20	Navy/USMC	With the emphasis on Global Combat Support System (GCSS), what interface software system has been explored to have one touch point?	<p>In the early 1990s the Department established the Defense Property Accountability System (DPAS) as the Department's enterprise property accountability system. DoD Components ranging from the Army and Navy to the Defense Commissary Agency and the DoD school system use DPAS, over 8,000 users around the world. DPAS also provides personal property accounting functionality. DPAS has pioneered new property management best practices and technology over the years based on user input. For example, DPAS was an early adopter of the use of bar code scanners within the Department.</p> <p>With regards to military equipment valuation, the Department has developed, working with the Services, the Capital Asset Management System-Military Equipment (CAMS-ME). CAMS-ME allows the Department to meet its financial reporting goals and is providing senior management with previously unavailable information.</p>
21	Air Force	Where are we with a DFARS clause to support the 1 January 2006 requirement to mark all Government Furnished Property (GFP) with an IUID and register these items?	This question has been forwarded to the UID Program office for a response.

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22	DCMA	Will Industrial Property Managers be given training in the fixed asset accountability system? Will Industrial Property Management Specialists be given training to appropriately asset the depreciation value of an item?	No, Industrial Property Managers will not be given specific training in the use of the Capital Asset Management Systems - Military Equipment (CAMS-ME). This is a fixed asset accounting system used to determine depreciation calculations for military equipment assets and reporting this information on the service and components financial statements. The department service and components have identified who is required to have access to the system and receive appropriate training based on assigned roles and responsibilities. Everyone is welcomed to take the courses that have been developed for the "Acquisition" workforce concerning the implementation of Capital Asset Valuation. These courses may be found at http://www.acq.osd.mil/me/index.html (MEVA Homepage). Specific training is included under "Training & Support" under the Valuation, CAMS-ME, and Accountability sections of the web site (http://www.acq.osd.mil/me/valuation.html).
23	DCMA	As a Plant Property Mgr at PNSY, we had a book broken out by FSC with life expectancies of equipment. We would supply the Comptroller with life expectancies for new and used and rebuilt equipment. Does this still exist? Or is their one in the works?	The table of useful lives in the DoD Financial Management Regulation (FMR) is out of date. PM's are responsible for establishing updated asset useful lives.
24	Navy/USMC	Is the Government going to hold the person assigned for equipment, responsible if missing?	All those entrusted with Government property are responsible for its proper use, care, and physical protection. Whether a person is held financially responsible for lost Government property depends on the individual facts and circumstances surrounding the loss. The policy on loss, damage, destruction, or theft of Government Property is contained in the DoD Financial Management Regulations, Volume 12, Chapter 7.

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25	Air Force	<p>The 30 Jun 06 AT&L Policy Letter indicated that DoD will begin to comply with accounting standard No. 6 of the Federal Financial Accounting Standards entitled, "Accounting for Property, Plant, and Equipment." This standard requires fundamental changes in our acquisition business processes to identify the proper accounting treatment and allocation of program expenditures between capitalized assets and expenses. There is a large difference between how these rules apply to acquisition activities and how they apply to sustainment acquisition activities. I explored the details of this directive on equipment sustainment activities in the Air Force and determined it to be non-applicable. However, the policy and guidance is left to interpretation of the services and their respective policies. If applicable for this presentation, will any guidance or actions being discussed clearly delineate and outline the requirements for both acquisition and sustainment acquisition activities?</p>	<p>The Proper Financial Accounting Treatment for Military Equipment (PFAT4ME) training (http://www.acq.osd.mil/me/Proper_Financial.html) focuses on the acquisition of new military equipment assets for compliance with SFFAS 6. We realize that the memorandum did not account for the post production business processes of sustainment activities. In order to be fully compliant with SFFAS 6 we must also address the recognition of the cost of making capital improvements (e.g., major modifications or upgrades) to military equipment that meet the capitalization threshold. The P&E Policy Office is currently developing additional guidance and training to help the Services in identifying the appropriate financial accounting treatment for the sustainment processes surrounding military equipment.</p>
26	DISA	<p>Should items that are under the threshold, such as monitors, be accounted for?</p>	<p>By "accounted for" we believe you mean establishing an accountable property record. The DoD Components are permitted (though not expressly required) to establish accountable property records for personal property below the accountable threshold (\$5,000). Reference DoDI 5000.64, paragraph 6.5, "Other Property Management Records"</p>

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27	Navy/USMC	UID permanent labeling requirements on COMSEC equipment managed & controlled by NSA?	This question has been forwarded to the UID Program office for a response.
28	Army	How will PBUSE affect equipment under the \$5K threshold? Will PBUSE encompass all Army equipment whether they are expendable, non-expendable, GFE, durable?	This question has been forwarded to Army headquarters points of contact for a response.
29	DCMA	Government contractors maintain their own databases of Government property for which they are accountable. What will the contractors requirements be in regards to updating their records to match the Government's adjusted depreciation?	There is no current or future requirement for contractors to maintain records relative to depreciation of Government owned equipment.
30	Army	Would it be possible to contact any of the auditors to be sure there is a complete understanding of our upcoming audit? I've not been able to reach anyone via email just yet.	This question has been forwarded to Army headquarters points of contact for a response.
31	MACPA	What is your estimate of the milestones for asserting ME and PP&E on the financial statements?	This milestone for each Component will vary. The Component specific dates can be obtained from the Component's Financial Improvement and Audit Readiness (FIAR) Plan.

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32	Navy/USMC	Government Furnished Equipment transferred to a contractor in support of a contract--should this property remain in our property system for accountability or should GFE be removed from our system and tracked by contractor?	DoDI 5000.64 requires DoD Components to maintain effective property accountability and control and for financial reporting purposes, DoD Components shall establish records and maintain accountability for property (of any value) furnished to contractors as Government Furnished Property. This requirement also includes property that is loaned and/or otherwise provided to outside entities such as Federal agencies, State and local governments, and foreign governments. In practical terms, this means that the accountability record for government property given to a contractor should be kept in the Government's system, but it should be inactive since the contractor will be managing that property in its property accountability system and property can only be active in one system at a time.
33	DoDIG	In the area of retaining documentation to support military equipment, do you have any suggestions that may help property managers?	Comply with existing requirements for document retention. This is also addressed with our training program. Specifically, the Management Assertion for Military Equipment course provides insight on documentation requirements. You can download the workbook from the MEVA Website: http://www.acq.osd.mil/me/mgmt_assertion_for_me.html .
34	DLA	I could not believe when I read that a contractor charged \$20 for an egg tray, and DoD paid for it. Aren't there methods already in place to prevent this from happening?	This question has been forwarded to the OSD Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy (DPAP) office for a response.
35	Army	Not to go back to property accountability, but how will you institute the same level of training for property accountability in the tactical army?	This question has been forwarded to Army headquarters points of contact for a response.

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36	Navy/USMC	Is there security element of the UID?	This question has been forwarded to the UID Program office for a response.
37	Army	There ae div that will be doing rotatal assignment (Ft.Riley)--what becomes of their equipment? Is it true that these rotal (Arforgen) will be returning to their original assignment?	This question has been forwarded to Army headquarters points of contact for a response.
38	(Multiple)	Can we get a copy of the slides being used during this webcast?	The slides that accompanied the webcast were not developed as a stand-alone document. However, because we have received several similar requests, we will put the slides into a briefing that reflects the full webcast content. It will available as a downloadable file from the MEVA website when the updates are complete. Stay tuned!