



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3030 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3030

RESEARCH
AND ENGINEERING

APR 27 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Request for Nominations for 2012 Systems Engineering Awards

I am soliciting your nominations for the DoD Systems Engineering Top 5 Program Awards and the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) Lt Gen Thomas R. Ferguson, Jr. Systems Engineering Excellence Awards. The Top 5 award recognizes five Government-industry teams and the Ferguson award recognizes both an individual and a group for outstanding achievement in defense systems engineering.

Individuals and organizations across the Department are using systems engineering to accelerate the successful acquisition of critical services and systems for the warfighter. These awards provide the DoD systems engineering community with an important opportunity to recognize successful leaders, groups, and programs and to highlight their efforts. Past winners of these awards have demonstrated how projects use well-defined and proven processes and practices to develop, manage, and integrate weapon systems.

Nominations are due July 1, 2012. Winners will receive their awards at the 15th Annual NDIA Systems Engineering Conference, October 22-25, 2012, San Diego, CA. Instructions and submission forms for the two awards are attached. My point of contact for this matter is Ms. Dona Lee, 703-697-9324, dona.lee.ctr@osd.mil. Electronic versions of the nomination forms can be found on the following websites: <http://www.acq.osd.mil/sc/apr/top5awards.html> and <http://www.ndia.org/Divisions/Divisions/SystemsEngineering/Pages/Awards.aspx>

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Welby", is positioned above the typed name.

Stephen P. Welby
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
Systems Engineering

Attachments:
As stated

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2012 Department of Defense Systems Engineering Top 5 Program Awards Overview and Submission Instructions

Sponsored by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Systems Engineering and the Systems Engineering Division of the National Defense Industrial Association

The purpose of these awards is to recognize excellence in application of systems engineering (SE) discipline that results in highly successful Department of Defense programs, as assessed based on their 2011 performance.

Winners of this award are recognized for the demonstration of successful implementation of systems engineering best practices resulting in program success.

The award is presented to both the government agency or branch of service and the prime contractor of the programs selected.

Award Application Criteria

Candidates for this award should complete their own award application documenting their systems engineering self-assessment.

This self-assessment shall consist (at a minimum) of: 1) a description of the program, 2) a description of the program's overall integration of systems engineering, and 3) a series of anecdotal (qualitative and quantitative) descriptions of specific systems engineering approaches applied and benefits received. Quantitative evidence of systems engineering achievement is highly desired in supporting an application for award.

Relevant best practices might include: effective control of the system technical baseline through event-based technical reviews, leveraged use of technical authority and independent subject matter expert (peer) participation in technical reviews, comprehensive linkage of technical baseline products to program management mechanisms (configuration management, earned value management, risk management, etc.), and effective use of total life cycle (including sustainment) technical planning to coordinate and manage a program's technical effort across multiple organizations (across acquirer and supplier domains).

The award, presented to both government and industry, represents the recognition of significant achievement by teams of government and industry personnel. Government and industry are encouraged to collaborate in assembling the application.

Programs will be considered for this award at any point in the programmatic life cycle, and need not be a fully completed program. Successful applicants should have passed

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a sufficient number of key internal milestones such that the impact and benefit of systems engineering strategies on acquisition excellence can be clearly demonstrated.

Program size is not a critical selection criteria, but program size (in dollars) should be indicated in the submitted write-up.

Use additional sheets as necessary, but submittal packages should not exceed 10 pages total and should include no more than one picture or diagram.

Evaluation

The Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Systems Engineering within the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering shall assemble an award review board. This board will consist of personnel invited from the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics and the Service Acquisition Executive organizations. This board shall review and rank order the applications received based upon the merits of the application self assessments against the criteria described above. Final selection from this rank-ordered list will be made by the DASD, Systems Engineering.

Schedule and Submission of Nominations

The period for the submission of nominations is April 1–July 1, 2012. Programs should email their nomination package consisting of a completed submission form and self-assessment to Sam Campagna, NDIA, at scampagna@ndia.org NO LATER THAN July 1, 2010.

Programs will be notified by August 17th of their selection. Awards will be presented at the annual NDIA Systems Engineering Conference to be held in San Diego, CA, October 23–26, 2012.

For additional information, contact DASD(SE) at dasd-se@osd.mil or visit the DASD(SE) website (<http://www.acq.osd.mil/se/apr/top5awards.html>).

2012 Department of Defense Systems Engineering Top 5 Program Awards Submission Form

*Sponsored by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Systems Engineering and
the Systems Engineering Division of the National Defense Industrial Association*

1. Program Full Name (Spell out acronyms):
2. Government Agency or Branch of Service (Spell out acronyms):
3. Program/Project Manager (PM) (Government):
Name Organization Address Phone Fax Email
4. Prime Contractor Full Name (Spell out acronyms):
5. Prime Contractor PM
Name Organization Address Phone Fax Email
6. Program Size (in dollars)

Programs should email their nomination package consisting of a completed submission form and self-assessment to Sam Campagna, NDIA, at scampagna@ndia.org NO LATER THAN July 1, 2012.

2012 Lt Gen Thomas R. Ferguson, Jr. **Systems Engineering Excellence Award**

The National Defense Industrial Association's Lt Gen Thomas R. Ferguson, Jr. Systems Engineering Excellence Award was established in 2003 to honor the memory of Lt Gen Thomas R. Ferguson, Jr., USAF, whose leadership embodied the highest ideals in Defense Systems development and deployment.

Two awards are presented annually: the SE International Award for Leadership and the SE Group Award. The Awards are presented for demonstrating outstanding achievement in the practical application of Systems Engineering principles, promotion of robust systems engineering principles throughout the organization, or effective systems engineering process development. Their systems engineering contributions should have demonstrably helped achieve significant cost savings due to new or enhanced processes procedures and/or concepts, increased mission capabilities, or substantially increased performance.

The Awards will be presented at NDIA's Annual Systems Engineering Conference, held October 22-25, 2012 at the Hyatt Regency Mission Bay, San Diego, California.

Nominations are to be submitted to Sam Campagna, NDIA, at scampagna@ndia.org by July 1, 2012. Selection will be made by a committee from NDIA's Systems Engineering Division. Recipients will be notified by August 17, 2012. In the event there should not be a qualified candidate, in the opinion of the committee, an award will not be bestowed.

2012 Lt Gen Thomas R. Ferguson, Jr.
Systems Engineering Excellence Award

NOMINATION FORM

Award Category: Individual Group

Full name/names: _____

Employer: _____

Position/Title: _____

Business Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____ **Country** _____

Business Telephone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Systems Engineering Accomplishments (Attach nomination submission materials along with a short biography of the individual or group organizational detail):

Submitted By: _____ **Address** _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____ **Country:** _____

Business Telephone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Submit Nominations to: Sam Campagna, at scampagna@ndia.org **NO LATER THAN July 1st, 2012.**