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Engineering the Common Operating Environment

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Abstract

On 28 December 2009, the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army (VCSA) directed CIO/G-6 to develop “as is” and “end state” network architectures to set the vision for the evolution of network procurements and enhancements. The Common Operating Environment (COE) Architecture Appendix C to Guidance for “End State” Army Enterprise Network Architecture was written in response to that direction. The Assistant Secretary of the Army Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, ASA(AL&T) has developed the ASA(AL&T) COE Implementation Plan, which includes the next level of technical and programmatic specificity necessary for execution. The COE Implementation Plan will identify the implementation strategy, Governance, time lines for execution as described in the Computing Environment Execution Plans, effective dates and key milestones in order to move Army systems to the COE, and inform Program Objective Memorandum investment decisions. Development of a COE is part of the CIO/G6’s Army Software Transformation (AST), a strategic initiative to set the vision for how the Army will define, develop, test, certify and deploy software applications to the soldier. The Army as a corporation must execute information technology acquisition in a more efficient and affordable manner, consistent with DoD IT Acquisition reform initiatives. ASA(AL&T) is committed to enabling the Army to produce high-quality applications rapidly while reducing the complexities embedded in the architecture, design, development, testing and deployment cycle. CIO/G6 Appendix C and the ASA(AL&T) COE Implementation Plan will provide direction to government and industry partners in order to standardize end-user environments and software development kits; establish streamlined enterprise software processes that rely on common pre-certified reusable software components; and develop deployment strategies that give users direct access to new capability. This presentation will address the ASA(AL&T) activities and end state to engineering an Army COE.

Biography

Monica Farah-Stapleton is currently serving as the Army ASA(ALT) SoS Engineering (SoSE) lead for the Common Operating Environment (COE) Implementation initiative. Prior to joining ASA(ALT) SoSE, she served as the Deputy Product Manager for RDECOM’s PM C4ISR On-The-Move, responsible for executive direction of all facets of PM C4ISR OTM Live/Virtual/Constructive experimentation initiatives and facilities at Fort Dix, NJ and Ft. Monmouth, NJ. She served as the Program Director for RDECOM CERDEC Modeling and Simulation activities, and coordinated cross-organization, integrated M&S experimentation efforts. As a senior Government Project leader embedded in the MITRE corporation, she directed a cross organizational Government-Contractor team resulting in the first C4ISR system of systems engineering analysis developed for the Army. She has led IPv6 and MANET Army initiatives with key industry partners and standards fora, to ensure that Army requirements were considered in emerging standards. She served as an engineering test director performing testing of DoD and NATO satellite and earth segment equipment, and providing support to worldwide DSCS operation and maintenance commands for on-site technical assistance, in CONUS and OCONUS facilities. Ms. Farah-Stapleton has an Executive Masters of Science in Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania, a BSEE in electrical engineering from Rutgers University, and is currently working towards a PhD in Software Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School.