Hails

Col. Paul I. Weizer
PEO SOF Digital Applications Lead

On June 1, USSOCOM chartered a new Program Executive Office (PEO) for Special Operations Forces Digital Applications (SDA), to develop and build a software acquisitions model and core competencies that can be disseminated across the SOF. The PEO will be located at MacDill AFB, with satellite offices at Ft Belvoir and Joint Base Langley-Eustis, both in Virginia. Colonel Paul I. Weizer most recently served as the Program Executive Officer for Rotary Wing Systems, HQ USSOCOM immediately upon returning from Brussels, Belgium where he completed a Joint/Interagency assignment as Director, Armaments Cooperation for the U.S. Mission to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). He earned a scholarship to attend the Army ROTC program at the University of Tampa. He graduated (Class of ’94) with a Bachelor’s in Business Management and then an MBA (Class of ’11). At the National Defense University’s Eisenhower School, he earned a Master of Science in National Resource Management along with the Defense Acquisition University’s Senior Acquisition Course concentration (Class of ’17). Colonel Weizer is an Acquisition Corps Member with Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act certifications in: Program Management-L3, Testing-L2, and Contracting-L1. Col. Weizer presented the following slides recently about the new PEO. See [https://www.socom.mil/SOF-ATL/Documents/vSOFIC-2020/1545-1645 PEO SOF Digital Applications Overview COL Weizer.pdf](https://www.socom.mil/SOF-ATL/Documents/vSOFIC-2020/1545-1645 PEO SOF Digital Applications Overview COL Weizer.pdf)

Meet the PM

Col. Jennifer Krolikowski
Space C2

Colonel Jennifer Krolikowski is currently the Senior Materiel Leader for one of the BA-8 Pilot Programs, Space Command and Control (C2) (Kobayashi Maru). Col Krolikowski graduated from the University of Dayton in 1996 with a Bachelor’s in Mechanical Engineering a Master’s in Aeronautical Engineering in 1997 from the Air Force Institute of Technology. She was lead engineer for various operational tests at Barksdale AFB on the B-52 and accumulated 50+ flying hours. She subsequently held various positions in the GPS Joint Program Office at Los Angeles AFB and taught GPS and Space Acquisition at NSSI in Colorado Springs, including Deputy Director for Mission Support and Chief for Space Based Infrared System (SBIRS) Requirements. She was the Tactical Data Network Program Element Monitor (PEM) on Air Staff at the Pentagon then Deputy for the C2 Division, Information Dominance Directorate, Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisitions (SAF/AQ) with a follow-on as SAF/AQ’s Chief, Executive Action Group. She commanded as Materiel Leader of an ACAT I program at Hanscom AFB, MA and then graduated from the Air War College at Maxwell AFB, AL. Following graduation, she became Branch Chief for Integrated Air and Missile Defense (IAMD) Global Requirements on Joint Staff at the Pentagon, and was the Director of Staff/Military Assistant for DASD/Space, Strategic, and Intelligence Systems, OSD.
Q: “Where can I find a template for the Capability Needs Statement (CNS) described in the Interim Software Acquisition Pathway policy (03 Jan 2020)?”

A: While we expect the contents of this template to evolve with the practical experience of implementation, you can find a draft CNS template in the SW Pathway Community of Interest at: https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-791285

Software Acquisition in the News

US GAO June 2020 Defense Acquisitions Annual Assessment: GAO released a report to Congress that provides insight into 121 of the Department of Defense’s (DOD) most costly weapon and information technology (IT) acquisition programs. It describes how software development approaches have not kept pace with the warfighters’ needs for enhanced software dependent capabilities and suggests ways this can be improved. See https://www.gao.gov/assets/710/707359.pdf

DoD USD A-S Signed Memo – Data and Analytics Strategy: On June 15, the USD for Acquisition and Sustainment signed a Memo initiating development and deployment of a Data and Analytics Strategy. Ms. Lord expects data-driven decision making and makes clear her expectations that program data provide sufficient insight to acquisition pathways and program performance. See https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-825910

DoD CIO Signed Memo – Enterprise Service Provider for DevSecOps: On May 22, the USAF was recognized as one of the DevSecOps enterprise service providers. These services are not mandated but available to the Department of Defense and in keeping with acquisition policy to leverage enterprise services first before creating unique services. See https://www.milsuite.mil/book/docs/DOC-814109

Lessons Learned

DAU Hot Topic Forum: Lessons from the Trenches Delivering a Large Scale Agile Software Program: On May 22, Terry L. Carpenter Jr., SES - Program Executive Officer for the National Background Investigation Service presented a virtual hot topic forum to defense acquisition professionals via WebEx. This virtual DAU Hot Topic Forum covered the journey of the National Background Investigation Service (NBIS) from a traditional system-of-systems to an agile software development acquisition program. See https://cdnapisec.kaltura.com/index.php/extwidget/preview/partner_id/2203981/uiconf_id/39997971/entry_id/1_q90tzz2s/embed/dynamic