



ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY
AND LOGISTICS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3000

SEP 09 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL DOD GOVERNMENT PROGRAM OFFICES

SUBJECT: 2005 TOP 5 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS AWARDS

The Department of Defense's Executive Agent for Systems Engineering and the Systems Engineering Division of the National Defense Industrial Association are pleased to announce the search for the Top 5 U.S. Department of Defense Programs.

Many organizations are employing processes and practices that result in the successful delivery of programs to the Department of Defense. Looking at past winners of this award, it is apparent that successful programs have used well-defined and proven practices to develop, manage, and integrate hardware and software into deliverable systems. This award was restructured to recognize successful application of systems engineering best practices to programs.

The significant change to the award criteria from past years is the focus on systems engineering and integration for program success. Nominees will be evaluated as to their effective application of systems engineering fundamentals (sound life-cycle technical planning, use of event-based reviews to manage the technical baseline and control risk, proper application of technical authority, and independent subject-matter experts in the conduct of technical reviews) across the acquirer and supplier (and sub-tier supplier) domains.

Top 5 U.S. Department of Defense Programs, with the DoD and industry-winning organizations, will be announced in the October 2006 issue of the National Defense Industrial Association's National DEFENSE magazine, and winners will receive their awards at the October 2006 NDIA Systems Engineering conference in San Diego, Calif.

To access the full announcement and the nomination forms, go to www.ndia.org, then to the Systems Engineering page under Divisions. Nominations must be received no later than January 30, 2006.

Robert Skalamera
Deputy Director, Systems Engineering
Enterprise Development
OUSD(AT&L) DS/SE/ED