

'Phenomenal effort' leads to successful closeout

The Defense Enterprise Accounting and Management System closed out Fiscal Year 2011 – its second fiscal year with full accounting capability – “appreciably better” than it had last year, according to Air Mobility Command’s deputy comptroller.

Col. Chuck Shea attributed this year’s success to a “phenomenal effort” by all parties involved, including end users; the DEAMS Functional and Program Management offices; the Defense Finance and Accounting Service; Accenture, the system integrator; and Global Combat Support System-Air Force.

Nancy-Jeanne Rosenberg, the acting functional manager for the Defense Finance and Accounting Service at the DEAMS FMO, agreed, attributing the improvement to having extended help desk hours and providing DEAMS subject matter experts on site at Scott Air Force Base, Ill., and at the DFAS center at Limestone, Maine, to answer user questions and

provide additional training. “As we work through issues for stabilization, next year will be even better,” she said.

During the final quarter of the fiscal year, DEAMS leaders limited system patches to only those needed for the fiscal year closeout; patches contributing to general DEAMS stabilization were postponed until after closeout activities were completed.

The first of the system patches that were held back during the fiscal year closeout were installed into production on Oct. 8, signaling the transition from closeout back to stabilizing DEAMS for future deployments. The patch backlog is expected to be eliminated by Nov. 3. Patches will be installed on Tuesdays and Thursdays in October so as not to interfere with Air National Guard drill weekends or the end-of-month processing Oct. 26-Nov. 2.



USAF photo

Quotable

“We need to transition to a modern financial system that is audit compliant, and getting DEAMS fully functional and deployed is our solution.” — Dr. Jamie Morin, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller

DEAMS deploys at McConnell in mid-2012

The Defense Enterprise Accounting and Management System is scheduled to deploy to users at the 22nd Air Refueling Wing at McConnell Air Force Base, Kan., and its on-base tenant units in mid-2012.

The Air Mobility Command deputy comptroller notified the McConnell comptroller on Sept. 29. The DEAMS Functional Management Office has already begun preliminary activities with Team McConnell to prepare the base for deployment.

McConnell will be the first installation to use DEAMS since it was deployed at Scott Air Force Base, Ill., as a two-phase technical demonstration in July 2007 and May 2010.

DEAMS is an Air Force initiative using industry-proven Oracle® software to provide war fighters with timely, accurate and reliable financial information leading to more efficient and effective decisions. It

replaces decades-old inefficient technology that no longer complies with federal law and Department of Defense regulations. Capabilities consist of commitment accounting; general accounting; project accounting; revenue and billing; and property, plant and equipment. Timekeeping is also a DEAMS capability and a decision on its inclusion should come after the new year.

Unlike the technology demonstration, DEAMS will deploy with all of its capabilities simultaneously at McConnell and in future releases.

DEAMS is being deployed across the Air Force in a series of releases under two increments from 2012 to 2016. The rest of the AMC bases will follow McConnell beginning in fiscal year 2013. Deployments will occur by major command in future releases.

Continued on next page

McConnell will be the first installation to use DEAMS since it was deployed at Scott Air Force Base, Ill., as a two-phase technical demonstration in July 2007 and May 2010. DEAMS is being deployed across the Air Force in a series of releases under two increments from 2012 to 2016. The rest of the AMC bases will follow McConnell beginning in fiscal year 2013. Deployments will occur by major command in future releases.

Continued from previous page

DEAMS management has formed a Site Activation Task Force that will guide Team McConnell through the deployment process. Preparations will include forming a base-level Change Management Advisory Council, and appointing a site deployment point of contact and DEAMS Organization Liaisons. These groups and individuals will help McConnell through the major pre-deployment activities of individual data collection and role mapping, data cleansing, just-in-time training, and deployment.



22nd Air Refueling Wing retreat

McConnell AFB

The 22nd Air Refueling Wing is the host unit at McConnell. The wing is part of 18th Air Force, a numbered Air Force within Air Mobility Command. The nearest city is Wichita.

The wing's mission is to conduct air refueling and airlift operations supporting national objectives worldwide using the KC-135 Stratotanker.

The 22nd ARW wing has a force of approximately 2,939 active duty military members as well as 502 civilian employees. The 184th Intelligence Wing and the 931st Air Refueling Group, two of the base's tenant units, have 1,251 and 832 personnel, respectively.

DOD readies financial managers to meet goals

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Recognizing the importance of people in its financial management improvements, the Defense Department is exploring new ways to recruit, retain and train its financial management workforce, a senior defense official told Congress Oct. 6.

Maintaining a capable financial management workforce is a priority in Pentagon Comptroller Robert F. Hale’s financial management strategy, Sandra A. Gregory told the House Armed Services Committee’s Defense Financial Management and Auditability Reform Panel.

Gregory, a retired Air Force brigadier general who served as the Air Force’s director of budget operations and personnel, is special assistant to Hale. She joined representatives of the Army, Navy and Air Force comptrollers to discuss ways DOD is working to ensure its workforce is positioned to achieve the financial improvement goals.

About 60,000 civilian and military financial managers within DOD are key players in efforts to improve financial information, analytics and decision support within the department and to achieve audit readiness, Gregory told the panel.



Brig. Gen. Sandra A. Gregory
Retired 2006

“It is essentially a matter of getting and retaining the right people with the right skills, in the right jobs, at the right time,” she said.

The financial management workforce has a direct role in supporting war fighters with the resources and financial services they need to meet national security objectives, Gregory told the panel. While the workforce is accomplishing this key goal despite “daunting obstacles” posed by myriad ongoing military requirements at home and abroad, she added, DOD recognizes the need to better posture it for the future.

For example, financial management functions have become more streamlined and automated, she said. As a result, the workforce behind them has transitioned from transaction-based processors to business advisors and leaders.

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

Keeping pace with this change requires new approaches to recruitment, retention and professional development, as well as strategic workforce planning, Gregory said.

Among initiatives being advanced is a new DOD financial management certification program. This plan, Gregory explained, will provide “enterprisewide road maps on what training is most important at various points throughout federal careers.”

By next summer, DOD officials plan to code financial management positions to three different

certification levels, she said. From that point, the department will develop competency assessment tools to assess the current workforce’s proficiency, identify gaps and develop plans to close those gaps.

“All of DOD’s efforts are focused on the deliberate professional development of the financial management workforce,” Gregory said. “Ensuring the financial management community has a broad, enterprise-wide perspective and standard body of knowledge throughout the department is key to overall financial management workforce readiness.” *(Reprinted from the American Forces Press Service)*

“All of DOD’s efforts are focused on the deliberate professional development of the financial management workforce. Ensuring the financial management community has a broad, enterprise-wide perspective and standard body of knowledge throughout the department is key to overall financial management workforce readiness.”

***Sandra A. Gregory
Special Assistant to the
Pentagon Comptroller***



View from the top

Almost all eyes are on Dr. Jamie Morin, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller (second from right), as he listens to a description of a DEAMS process. Helping him understand are (left to right) Nancy-Jeanne Rosenberg, Randy Newcome, Joan Causey, Noel Denlinger, Scott Steber and Russ Mielke. Morin visited the DEAMS Functional Management Office in Fairview Heights, Ill., Sept. 23 to get an update on DEAMS capabilities and user feedback, among other topics.



Sneak peek

Cols. Chuck Shea and Andy Coggins, AMC deputy and incoming AMC/FM, respectively, view slides projected on a screen while listening to a DEAMS briefing at the FMO on Sept. 22. Also pictured are Randy Newcome, Air Force functional manager for DEAMS, and Nancy-Jeanne Rosenberg, acting Defense Finance and Accounting Service functional manager for DEAMS.

Current Account - Page 7

FOR OPTIMUM VIEWING, PRESS CTRL+L



GSA familiarization

Representatives from the local and regional GSA offices receive a DEAMS 101 briefing Sept. 23 to gain a better understanding of a project for which they manage more than \$162 million in contracts. Pictured around the table from the left foreground are Raushanah Pendleton and Tawanda Thomas, GSA Great Lakes Region, Chicago; Maureen Childress, DEAMS FMO; Dr. Ann P. Kalayil, Regional Administrator, GSA Great Lakes Region; Pat Tauschek, GSA-O'Fallon, Ill.; and Kurt Regep, GSA-Great Lakes.

DEAMS Transitions

Arriving

Rasa Haider
Accenture
SI Development

Departing

Leslie Steinkemp
Ernst & Young
General Accounting



**Veterans Day
is Nov. 11**

**Daylight Saving
Time ends Nov. 6**

DEAMS Outreach

DEAMS will be on display at these upcoming events:

- **American Society of Military Comptrollers Land of Lincoln Chapter mini-Professional Development Institute, Nov. 2 in Fairview Heights, Ill.**
- **DEAMS briefing and capabilities demonstration, hosted by the Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment Chief Financial Office, Nov. 9 at Lackland AFB, Texas.**

DEAMS
Defense Enterprise Accounting and Management System

Home | FAQ | DOD Customer | Contact Us | Privacy

Financial Management - At Your Fingertips

About Deams ● DEAMS is a financial management initiative that will transform business and financial management processes and systems to provide accurate, reliable, and timely business information to support effective business decision making for U.S. Transportation Command, Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), and the U.S. Air Force.

Organization ●

Related Links ●

Training ●

Business Opportunities ●

Library ●

Briefings ●

Digests ●

DEAMS News & Events

- September Newsletter
- 11-17 DEAMS Redesigns Integrated Process Teams
- 11-16_Users_Validate_50%_of_Fiscal_Year_End_Patches

Visit the DEAMS public website or follow us on Facebook 

<http://www.ustranscom.mil/deams>

<https://www.facebook.com/DEAMSFMO>

Questions about Web content may be addressed by email to: ustc-deams@ustranscom.mil



Useful Links

[U.S. Air Force](#)

[U.S. Transportation Command](#)
[Defense Finance and Accounting Service](#)

Subscribe to [Current Account](#)

DEAMS Help Desk
1-877-332-6753
(1-877-DEAMS-LE)

DEAMS

Current Account

Defense Enterprise Accounting and Management System
16 Executive Drive, Suite 200
Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208-1366
618-622-5700 Fax - 618-622-5777

Functional Managers:

Russ Mielke, U.S. Transportation Command
Randy Newcome, U.S. Air Force
Nancy-Jeanne Rosenberg, Defense Finance and Accounting Service (acting)
Editor, [Cathy Segal](#), 618-622-5762

All photos by the *Current Account* staff unless otherwise noted.