

# **NDIA Conference on Systems Engineering**











Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition & Technology)

October 23, 2007















### **A&T Vision**

#### **LEADERSHIP**

for an

# INTEGRATED, RESPONSIVE ACQUISITION SYSTEM

providing

WARFIGHTER NEEDS

with

PREDICTABLE PERFORMANCE

"THE WILL TO CHANGE ..."



# Strategy

RESHAPE THE ENTERPRISE

UTILIZING SHORT AND LONG TERM

INITIATIVES

**THAT** 

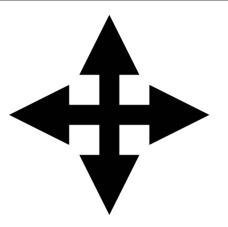
ACCELERATE LASTING CHANGE
FOR ALL FLEMENTS OF THE

ACQUISITION SYSTEM



## Goals

Communication



Cycle Time



Competitiveness





#### Impact of Not Starting Programs Right

#### My observations since last year...

- Programs usually fail because we don't start them right:
  - Requirements instability/creep not well defined, not understood
  - Inadequate early technical planning
  - Inadequate funding or phasing of funding to properly execute the program
  - Lack of schedule realism success oriented, concurrent, poor estimation/planning
  - Lack of technical maturity or a credible back-up plan "we're always optimistic"
  - Limited focus on life cycle issues

Program success depends on rigorous, thorough, technical planning and supportive resources



#### Balanced, Early Life Cycle Planning

- Acquisition strategy realistic, effective, and executable
- Cost estimate accurate
- Integrated technical planning (SE / T&E / SW / 'ilities)
- Technology identification and maturity
- Supportive business rules (RFP, contract, etc.)
- Entrance / Exit criteria at each milestone
- Risk identification / mitigation
- Increased Competition and Prototyping

Requires disciplined leadership to stick with the plan



#### What we need from you...

- Tell your leadership that Dr. McQueary and Dr. Finley are focused on starting programs right!
- We are working daily to improve communication, both in DoD and with Industry
- We are looking to improve competition and time to field capabilities



# ... Q&A ...



We owe them our very best!!!