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ACQUISITION,  
TECHNOLOGY  
AND LOGISTICS

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MEMORANDUM FOR DEFENSE ACQUISITION WORKFORCE SENIOR STEERING BOARD AND WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT GROUP

SUBJECT: Strengthening the Defense Acquisition Workforce

The President's Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 Budget proposal was submitted to Congress on February 13, 2012. The Defense FY13 Budget Overview states:

*"The FY 2013 budget supports continued strengthening of the acquisition workforce to ensure we achieve and sustain sufficient workforce capacity and capability. ... Aligned with strategy, workforce capacity has improved in critical areas such as engineering, contracting, acquisition management, and audit. Training capacity has improved by approximately 19,000 resident and 100,000 online training seats per year. ... In addition to completing and maintaining improved capacity, DoD will continue efforts to strengthen the quality, readiness and performance results of the acquisition workforce. ... Ultimately, it is the quality of the workforce that determines the quality of our acquisition outcomes."*

Mr. Kendall, the Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics issued his "Initial Guidance" memo on October 7, 2011. A top priority is to continue strengthening the acquisition workforce:

*"Fifth is strengthening our acquisition workforce. We have increased the number of people in the acquisition workforce over the last few years. While some growth may still be possible, we will increasingly turn our attention to improving the capability of the workforce that we have. Every supervisor should consider a stronger workforce to be his or her most important legacy."*

The recent AT&L-hosted senior leader strategic planning off-site reinforced the broad senior acquisition leadership support to take decisive action now to strengthen the workforce. More details on resulting specific initiatives will be developed in the near term. As the Director, HCI and senior official responsible for the Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Fund, I appreciate your efforts to strengthen the workforce and to ensure the efficient and effective investment of the Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Fund (DAWDF). I've directed my deputy, Mr. Garry Shafovaloff, to act on my behalf and work closely with your staffs as we take action on the next chapter of acquisition workforce initiatives.

Keith Charles,  
Director, Human Capital Initiatives  
DAWDF Senior Official/Fund Manager