Announcing This Year’s Recipients of the DON A+ Awards

The purpose of the DON A+ Awards Program is to act as an overall authorizing framework for a continuous, highly-visible, credible, and sought-after signal of recognition throughout the DON for those who best exhibit the principles of agility and accountability throughout the lifecycle of management. All Naval personnel who have received award recognition over the past year from the Assistant Secretaries of the Navy, General Council, and the Deputy Under Secretary of the Navy are eligible for the DON A+ Award.

These awards are encouraged whenever members of the DON, either working individually or in teams, positively demonstrates one of or more of the following elements of agility in their management of resources such as money, property, people, or information: velocity, collaboration, visibility, adaptability, innovation, humility, skepticism, and trust. This year’s eight A+ recipients are:

- **Team Award: Robin Howard (Team Lead), Jason Gregory, Beverley Reinharz, Natalie Dahm, Gregory Robinson, Kelly Gibson, Angela Baltor, and John Clark; Marine Corps System Command, Accelerated Acquisition (AA) Team.** Ms. Howard and the AA Team executed a workshop with over 180 participants and published a Fastlane Playbook that provided a 60% reduction in documentation and delivery of critically needed capabilities up to six-months faster than originally planned.

- **Individual Award: Bradley Denn, U.S. Special Operations Command, Naval Special Warfare Command, Group 11.** SO1 Denn not only recognized software inadequacies, but provided immediate solutions with little or no impact to the Naval Special Warfare budget, while educating senior leaders on the commercially available technology that would be quickly adopted to replace large, inundated systems. SO1 Denn also developed a Virtual Reality (VR) prototype that could be demonstrated for key members to better understand Command capabilities.

- **Individual Award: Noel Sanqui, Bureau of Medicine, Naval Health Research Center.** Mr. Sanqui’s work as an accounting officer resulted in a dramatically reduced amount of line items on the Active Document Listing (ADL) by 54% over the past year. He worked tirelessly to reduce the amount of Unmatched Disbursements (UMDs) by 90% over the past year. He also oversaw the development of desk guides for a wide range of accounting functions, resulting in tremendous time savings as staff not having to spend as much time providing training.

- **Individual Award: Kristen Allen, Navy Reserve Forces Command.** Ms. Allen was responsible for BSO 72’s successful conversion to both the memorandum accounting system Command Financial Management System, Consolidated (CFMS-C) and general ledger accounting system Standard Accounting Budgeting Reporting System (SABRS). She also led the development of necessary changes to accounting procedures and systems to facilitate accurate accounting and reporting across five major General Fund appropriations.

- **Individual Award: Troy Grenier, Naval Information Warfare Systems Command.** Mr. Grenier developed an Integrated Program Management (IPM) evaluation process for government
organizations performing Prime Mission Product development efforts. He pioneered a performance monitoring process that allowed the funding/"Grantor" organizations to discretely track and report EVM-like Cost, Schedule and Deliverables of Working Capital Fund (WCF)/"Performers" in a near real time fashion. The result was a dramatic improvement of program status.

- **Team Award:** Benjamin Michlin (Team Lead), Jarrod Groves, Sean Blackman, Josh Dulos, Dean Lee, Vincent Siu, Ruey-Juin Chang, Gary Williams, Rick Cruz, Charles Yetman, Dan Green, Viral Bhalodia, and John Serrano; Data Engineering and Analytics Group, Naval Information Warfare Center. Dr. Michlin and the Digital Aviation Readiness Technology, Engine (DART-E) team implemented the Performance to Plan (P2P) mandate to increase fleet readiness and a rapid data-driven decision making process for senior leadership. The team created machine-learning models for determining the monthly number of mission capable jets per squadron by incorporating manning-training-equipment datasets from Naval FA-18 squadrons.

- **Individual Award:** Melissa Mosley, Financial Improvement and Audit Readiness, Assistant for Field Support Activity, CNO. Ms. Mosley worked continuously with Defense Financial and Accounting Services (DFAS) on areas requiring improvement by deep diving into the DFAS process & comparing data to internal systems such as SABRS & Standard Accounting and Reporting System - Field Level (STARS-FL). She was able to identify steps & processes requiring improvement within DFAS, including but not limited to the order of authorize approver signatures, data elements within FLJV forms and logs. The result was a significant improvement in test scores.

- **Team Award:** Maj Adam Yang (Team Lead), Austin Duncan, William Bradley, Jerrod Moore, Charles J. Baumann, Timothy Riemann, Walker Mills, Shannon Winslow, Garbiel Pons, Jeffrey Nadianer, Bob Arant, Tyler Quinn, Valerie A. Jackson, Stephani L. Miller, Robert A. Kocher, Sara Wood, Reilly Wade, and Mark Sable; Destination Unknown Project, Marine Corps University. Major Adam Yang and the Destination Unknown project team assembled a writing and illustration process to develop and publish a graphic novel series that explores future moral, tactical, and leadership challenges in warfare. Destination Unknown relied solely on the talent of individual Marines, and improves the currency of professional military education (PME) by connecting with junior ranks on the mediums which they prefer – short stories, illustrations, graphic novels, and social media.

In addition to receiving this year’s DON A+ Award, this year’s recipients have also received the DoD Gears of Government Award, representing the best in innovation from across the services.

For a complete list of all the recipients of the DoD Gears of Government Award, which is posted on the Office of Management and Budget website, go to:
