



Defense Standardization Education and Outreach -A Diverse Toolbox-

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TOOLBOX TOPICS

- **Classroom Education**
- **Online Education**
- **Additional Educational Opportunities**
- **Defense Standardization Program Office (DSPO) Outreach Tools**
- **Continual Challenges**

Defense Standardization Program Office? & Connection to Standardization Education?

- **DSPO** - serves the Department of Defense (DoD) communities by providing guidance, tools, and services which enhance understanding, communication, and coordination throughout the Defense Standardization community
- **DSPO** - develops DoD-wide policy & procedures for the Defense Standardization Program to include:
 - Development and use of military specifications and standards
 - Adoption and use of non-government standards
 - Management of parts and diminishing manufacturing sources
 - Participation in North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) standardization activities
- **DSPO** – sponsors DoD standardization education and develops outreach materials to encourage cross fertilization of standardization concepts throughout government and industry

Classroom Education

- **Defense Acquisition University (DAU) offers DSPO sponsored classroom and online courses:**

- **Defense Specification Management**

- In-depth, 2-week course for standards practitioners
- Course goals:
 - Apply DoD policy and procedures in developing and managing standardization documents
 - Develop and apply performance based standardization documents which meet user needs, promote commercial products and practices, and ensure best-value for the government
 - Identify, locate and obtain standardization documents.

Classroom Education cont.

- **Specification Selection and Application**
 - 2-day overview course for persons desiring familiarity with standardization documents
 - Course goals:
 - Obtain awareness of DoD standardization policy and procedures
 - Understand the different types of standardization documents and select the most effective to meet user needs
 - Identify, locate, and obtain standardization documents.

Online Education

- **Preparation of Commercial Item Descriptions (CIDS) for Engineering and Technical Personnel**
 - Facilitated Online Learning Environment – interactive approach using online exercises and virtual group discussions
 - 60 days to complete
 - Course Goals:
 - Implement appropriate DoD policy
 - Develop a performance-based CID for describing commercially available products acceptable to meet users needs

Online Education cont.

➤ **Market Research for Engineering and Technical Personnel**

- Continuous Learning Module, in final stages of development
- Course goals:
 - Understand and apply market research principles and process
 - Plan and conduct market research within a commodity
 - Locate sources of market research information.

Classroom & Online Course Statistics

2007	
2 week Specification Management	Canx
2 week Specification Management	Canx
2 week Specification Management	30
2 week Specification Management	30
2 day Specification Selection and Application	27
2 day Specification Selection and Application	21
Online CID	4
Online CID	7
Online CID	14
Online Cid	17
2008	
2 week Specification Management	22
2 week Specification Management	18 Res
2 week Specification Management	18
2 day Specification Selection and Application	Canx
2 day Specification Selection and Application	10 Res.
Online CID	15 Res
Online CID	2 Res
Online CID	2 Res
Online CID	0 Res

DSPO Sponsorship Challenges

- **DAU is in the business of providing acquisition training to the Defense Acquisition Workforce –**
 - Certification program
 - Standardization education is not a priority
 - **DAU organizational structure determines the who, what, where, when, and how of standardization education**
 - Predetermined class size leads to cancelled courses
 - Exceedingly difficult to get standardization integrated into program manager or contracting classes
- Bottom Line** – DoD believes its more effective for DAU to manage classes

Additional Educational Opportunities DSPO Offered Course

➤ **U.S. Based Standardization Within NATO Course**

- 2 week course, designed to orient persons to standardization within the NATO
- Participants gain familiarity with domestic and international standardization practices at it relates to interoperability with allies and practices

Additional Educational Opportunities DSPO Offered Tutorials

➤ **DSPO Conference Tutorials**

- Standardization 101 held in 2007 - overview
- Standardization 102 – A Survivor’s Guide to Understanding What People Are Talking About at the 2008 DSP Conference
- DSP Automation – an overview
- DSP Automation – Acquisition Streamlining & Information System (ASSIST) database

Locating Information on Defense Standardization Education

➤ **Websites:**

➤ <http://www/dau.mil> and click “I Need Training”

➤ www.dsp.dla.mil and click “About Us” then click “Training”

➤ **Training Resources** - a pamphlet listing education opportunities and websites

DSPO Outreach Tools

➤ **Case Studies**

- Usually based on Defense Standardization Award winner initiative
- Quick read, lesson learned noted, highlight standardization techniques used to produce outcome, understandable subject matter, concepts are germane to government and industry
- Incorporated into classroom and online courses
- Available on DSP website and hardcopy distribution to Journal subscribers

➤ **DSP Journal**

- Quarterly publication covering such diverse standardization topics as international standardization, DoD IT standardization, civil agency standardization
- Articles applicable to wide standardization audience
- **Case studies and journals located on DSP website: www.dsp.dla.mil and click “Library”**

DSPO Outreach Tools cont.

- **Standardization Documents (SDs)**
 - Defense standardization guidance documents concentrating on practices, processes, and procedures
 - Concepts transferable to other government agencies and industry
 - Downloadable from the DSP website: www.dsp.dla.mil and click “Library”

DSPPO Outreach Tools cont.

➤ Informational Pamphlets

➤ Automated Tools

- High level overview of DSP data bases and access options

➤ ASSIST

- Detailed information provided on one database – Acquisition Streamlining and Standardization Information System

➤ Training Resources

- Describes DSP sponsored classroom and online offerings and enrollment information

Continual Challenges

- **Ensuring** standardization continues to be a part of the DoD education
- **Promoting** awareness of standardization education opportunities
- **Marketing** DSPO outreach materials both within and beyond the DoD standardization community