

49th Department of Defense Cost Analysis Symposium

September 26-27, 2018
Defense Acquisition University, Scott Hall
Fort Belvoir, Virginia



Section 804 and Rapid Acquisition

Welcome Message

Welcome to the 49th Department of Defense Cost Analysis Symposium (DoDCAS). We appreciate that you are able to attend this year, and we look forward to your active participation in the symposium. The theme of this 49th DoDCAS is *Section 804 and Rapid Acquisition*. This year's DoDCAS program includes two days of plenary sessions on topics related to recent changes in DoD acquisition authorities to enable more rapid fielding of systems--particularly the new authorities that have been enabled since the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2016. Implementation of changes in acquisition processes, reform proposals, and implementation of improvements in data supporting cost analyses will be key topics areas for discussion in this year's symposium.

We endeavored to invite speakers from the most senior leadership of the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the military departments to provide differing perspectives on the changes underway and planned in the future. Also, thanks to the support of the Defense Acquisition University, we are able to broadcast the events of this DoDCAS to seven locations throughout the continental United States, including key product development and support centers in the Departments of Army, Navy, and Air Force. In addition, we are able to support Thursday afternoon sessions which are reserved for Departments of Army and Air Force for separate breakout meetings in Scott Hall at Fort Belvoir.

Our goal remains to create an atmosphere conducive to discourse among representatives of government, industry and academia, while providing participants with education and training on best practices and the state-of-the-art in cost estimating and supporting data for analyses.

Thank you for your interest and active participation in the symposium, and we hope that you have a productive experience in this year's sessions.

Sincerely,

Richard P. Burke
Deputy Director
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