“MDA’s Four Aces Of Mission Assurance”

The MDA Mission Assurance Philosophy
Accountability

• Program offices and contractor community are held accountable for practices that impact mission success. Bad behavior is not rewarded
  - Knowledge points
  - Accountability to the individual level (missile integrators, process owners)
  - Mission assurance reflected in award fee structures

Accountability Drives Corporate Culture
**Authority**

- Effective mission assurance requires empowerment from the highest level of organizational authority.
  - Mission assurance organization led by SES reporting to MDA Director
    – Speaks with MDA Director’s voice
  - Mission assurance provisions and implementation plans on contract
  - DCMA partnering to increase mission assurance footprint
    – Agency to agency letter of delegation

**Authority To Say “Stop The Line!”**
Effective mission assurance requires unfettered access to the highest organizational leadership, programs and supply chain

- Direct access to the executive leader
  – MDA QS

- Direct access to program offices and contractors including subs
  – MDA Assurance Representatives

- Unfettered and unrestricted access to all Government and contractor operations, activities and documentation
  – Director’s unfettered access memo
• Effective mission assurance actions influence program execution and behavior in order to achieve mission success.

- Government / Industry Partnerships
  – Stakeholder initiatives for critical suppliers (battery and ordnance issues)

- Mission Assurance Audits (20 performed to date)
  – EKV environmental test program implemented
  – Parts, Materials and Processes enhancements

- Lessons Learned Road Shows (Chemical Systems Division, Integrated Flight Tests 13c and 14)

- MDA CEO Day
  – Direct feedback at the highest industry level

- Award Fee Decisions

Mission Assurance Is Proactive
Forcing Change: Mission Assurance Toolbox

CEO Days
Pedigree Reviews
Lessons Learned
Mission Assurance And Safety Audits
MDA Assurance Provisions

Supplier Road Maps
GoTo /Industry Partnerships
NASA/ NRO/ SMC

MDA Days
MDA Pedigree Review Certification

MDA Parts, Materials, Processes Plan
DCMA Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)
DCMA QA Letter of Delegation
QSMA Unfettered Access

MA on Contracts
- MAP
- PMAP
- Acq. Strategy
- Source Selection
- Award Fee Boards

Mission Assurance Representatives

Industry Stakeholder Initiatives
Summary

• Accountability, Authority, Access, Action are the four aces of mission assurance

• Focus on process rigor and attention to detail

• There are challenges ahead
  - The missile threat is real and proliferating