The Pentagon’s Critical Role for the LMP

by LTC Robert Williams, LMP PdM

With almost 25,000 people working within its walls, the Pentagon is the world’s largest office building at about 3.77 million square feet. The iconic, five-sided structure houses elements of the Department of Defense (DoD), the military services, and dozens of smaller defense-related organizations.

The Pentagon is where major acquisition program decisions across the DoD are made, like the Logistics Modernization Program’s (LMP) upcoming Full Deployment Decision for Increment 2 Wave 3. To reach critical decisions, Army and DoD functional and senior leaders complete detailed program reviews looking at everything from budgets to requirements to how one program’s mission will feed into broader Army and DoD initiatives. To support those decision makers, it’s imperative that we as a program office are in the Pentagon – face-to-face – to engage leadership in the acquisition process and answer questions, provide explanations, and demonstrate we are ready to fully deliver Increment 2.

I spent four years in the Pentagon supporting acquisition program decisions and other activities prior to joining LMP, but my visits to “the building” as a Product Manager (PdM) have widened my perspective, i.e. I have a fuller appreciation for what program offices do in support of milestones. Making well-informed milestone decisions takes time, attention, communication, and personal interaction. Programs don’t just walk into the Pentagon and get a milestone decision. We need to engage staff members and their leadership through formal as well as informal processes, providing a candid assessment of the facts vis-à-vis cost, schedule, and performance. We need to participate in key sessions with strategic partners, to include pre-briefs, prep sessions, integrated product team meetings, formal briefings, and more. I truly believe that our frequent visits to the Pentagon and interactions with key staff demonstrate our commitment to the process and to working hard to obtain a successful milestone decision. Additionally, being in the building allows us to talk about our phenomenal team, critical capabilities, and innovative strategy so our leadership can see and hear firsthand how strong we are.

That said, briefing is just one part of the equation. What I brief during these sessions, and what our leadership and customer vouch for, is the work you do every day. Your efforts to ensure that development is complete, testing is accurate, tickets are closed, documentation is written, and plans are executed give us the foundation we need to confidently stand in front of Army and DoD decision makers and tell them that the LMP is ready for our customer.

This will be another busy year for the LMP, with major program projects underway such as transition of services. I am confident that this team will get the work done and I am equally confident that Pentagon leaders will support us every step of the way.
Transparency at LMP by Mr. Gabe Saliba, LMP Deputy PdM

Transparency in Government holds that citizens have the right to access information to allow for effective public oversight, promotes accountability, and provides information for citizens about what their Government is doing. The LMP believes strongly in transparency, which is why we work tirelessly with stakeholders, customers, and leadership to ensure that we are as thorough and clear as possible in working together to meet mission objectives.

While the goal of transparency is simple, the process can be complex. Consistent and frequent collaboration, communication, and cooperation are at the heart of being truly transparent in order to answer questions, provide solutions, and make the best decisions for the LMP and its users. Complexity also stems from the many organizations we need to work with and support in order to deliver the LMP. Different groups involved with the LMP have different areas of focus (like testing, audits, finance, etc.), as well as different levels of understanding of our system and how it operates. With all of these factors, you can easily see that remaining transparent at all levels is no small task.

To ensure openness, as well as gain and maintain support from our partners, the LMP approaches transparency in three ways:

1. Empower the customer with knowledge
2. Engage leadership with the facts
3. Execute on proven processes

Knowledge is power and information is powerful. When we work to share news, data, facts, and more with everyone involved in making the LMP happen, we are promoting transparency. We are allowing them to see what we do and how we do it. And with their understanding of our processes and in seeing our positive results, they can support us by knowing the ins and outs of how good we are what we do.

Through collaboration and effective communication, the LMP continuously strives to achieve unified goals that support LMP, Army Materiel Command (AMC), other customers, Army and DoD strategic initiatives, and more. The work we do every day to remain transparent at all levels within our sphere of influence has helped the LMP become a leader in Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) development and deployment. And through transparency, we will only continue to get better.

ANAD prepares for LMP Increment 2 by Kenneth Henderson, Jr., Business Transformation Lead, ANAD

Anniston Army Depot (ANAD) is busy preparing for the LMP Increment 2 by working with the LMP Product Management Office (PMO) and ANAD’s M1 Abrams Program Management team. Specifically, ANAD will use the LMP Increment 2 to improve work instructions for the disassembly and reassembly of the M1A2 tank.

ANAD has worked with the Project Manager (PM) Abrams’ team to ensure that the tanks’ work instructions are compatible with the shop floor automation capability in the LMP Increment 2 - the Complex Assembly Manufacturing Solution (CAMS) module. ANAD’s LMP office has also provided support by providing knowledge of how Computer Aided Process Plans are structured in CAMS so that the information within the work instructions will “speak the same language” as LMP CAMS.

A dedicated team of shop floor technicians and quality personnel have been essential in performing the verification and validation of the work instructions migration into LMP. ANAD’s technical publications branch also has played a critical role, using National Maintenance Work Requirements, Depot Maintenance Work Requirements, Technical Manuals, and other documents in order to create hyperlinks in LMP to each step of the work instructions to allow quick and easy access to information by shop floor users.

Training already has begun to introduce the ANAD team to the type of equipment and tools that will be used once LMP Increment 2 goes live, including training on handheld tablets and scanners that will be used on the shop floor to give the workforce mobile computing options, enabling employees to quickly pull up the shop work instructions pertinent to that component.

In all, ANAD is embracing the changes the LMP Increment 2 will bring and working hard to get ready for Go-Live in May 2016.
On 3 November 2015, the LMP Increment 2 team was honored by COL Culclasure during the Army Enterprise Systems Integration Program (AESIP) All Hands Meeting. Shown here accepting the award from COL Culclasure (l.) is Bill Parker-Combes, LMP Assistant PdM for Increment 2.

The team received accolades for leading the successful implementation of Increment 2 Wave 3 Go-Live to three AMC sites as part of the Initial Operational Test & Evaluation (IOT&E) phase of the acquisition lifecycle in June 2015 and achieving Milestone C also in June 2015. The team was successful through extensive teamwork and collaboration with stakeholders, customers, and chain of command, gaining user acceptance by successfully testing thousands of scripts, migrating millions of data records, and training cadre to properly educate end users who will run the LMP in support of mission requirements. The team’s accomplishments are in keeping with the highest traditions of Government service and reflect great credit upon the LMP, the PM AESIP, Program Executive Office, Enterprise Information Systems (PEO EIS), and the United States Army. Congratulations to the Increment 2 team!

December 2015 Town Hall

Pictured below with LTC Robert Williams, LMP PdM, and Ms. Mary Lowe, Engility Program Manager, are this quarters’ Town Hall honorees, as well as annual award winners. Congratulations to all our winners for a job well done!

LMP Unsung Hero of the Quarter:
Gail Vidsens (l)

LMP Employee of the Quarter:
Karen Ring-Pitzner (l)

Contractor Unsung Hero of the Quarter:
Walt Meczywor (r)

Contractor Employee of the Quarter:
Chris Costello (r)

LMP Employee of the Year:
Jackie Carson (l)

LMP Manager of the Year:
Bill Parker-Combes (l)

Contractor of the Year:
Josh Hackett (l)

Unavailable for photos:
Government Subject Matter Expert of the Quarter:
Eric Sabbagh from TACOM
PEO EIS Change of Charter

On 23 November 2015, Mr. Douglas Wiltsie relinquished the PEO EIS Charter to the deputy PEO, Ms. Terry Watson. The event was hosted by the Honorable Heidi Shyu, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology (ASA(ALT)).

Mr. Wiltsie took command of PEO EIS 5 October 2011. As the PEO, he led the EIS acquisition mission and team, which includes a workforce of more than 1,500 globally, executing more than $2 billion annually to develop, deploy and support over 60 large-scale information technology programs serving Soldiers, Sailors, Airman, Marines, and DoD civilians worldwide. Mr. Wiltsie’s technical expertise and bold leadership in network modernization solidified his reputation as an innovator and change leader. He has been named as director, System of Systems Engineering and Integration, in the office of the ASA(ALT), reporting directly to the Army Acquisition Executive as a principal advisor on all system of systems engineering and integration matters.

Ms. Watson assumes the mantle of acting PEO with more than 30 years of acquisition experience, including service as the acting PEO EIS prior to Mr. Wiltsie’s arrival in 2011. Ms. Watson “brings tremendous experience and knowledge of the organization to this position,” said Mr. Wiltsie during the Change of Charter ceremony. “Terry is the smartest and the best person to lead this organization.” Ms. Shyu echoed his remarks by stating that Ms. Watson has her full confidence and support in leading EIS.

First Round of Transition Packages Completed - Approved LMP Work Now Managed at Army SSC

As our team knows, the Army Shared Services Center (SSC) at Picatinny Arsenal is positioned to serve as the Lead Systems Integrator (LSI) and sustainment organization in support of the LMP and, in the future, other PEO EIS ERP systems. With such a large scope, the Army is completing this transition incrementally, and to best manage the effort is using “Transition Packages” that logically group together LSI services and associated activities. Each package has a detailed plan that includes information like requirements, scope, schedule, and associated plans/processes/documentation that support each service, and clearly defines, step-by-step, how work will move from industry to the Government.

As of November 2015, the first three Transition Packages (1. Configuration Management/Quality Assurance, 2. Supply Chain Planning, and 3. Middleware) were completed and work in these three functional areas is now being managed by Army SSC staff.

This effort was supported by the entire LMP community and we’d like to say a big “Thank You” to everyone involved! As with any move, unexpected events surface, but the teams have worked together for effective and efficient resolution. HOOAH!!
LMP and AMC Leadership Visit Increment 2 Full Fielding Sites

From September through December 2015, LMP and Headquarters (HQ) AMC leadership visited 14 sites set to receive Increment 2 Wave 3 capabilities. Leadership completed these site visits to both obtain and share valuable information regarding schedules, answer questions, and take in sites’ feedback as approximately 14,000 users get ready to start using LMP Increment 2 functionality in May 2016.

During the visits, LMP and AMC provided site commanders, managers, and users with details about the Increment 2 Wave 3 functionality, with a specific focus on the CAMS, which enables shop floor automation and is the largest and most intricate piece of the Wave 3 implementation. Leadership also shared lessons learned from the Limited Fielding sites, including tips that Full Fielding sites can use to execute successful data preparation, training, and business transformation activities.

Additionally, the visits set expectations among the Full Fielding sites, HQ AMC, and the LMP PMO alike to ensure that each group understands their respective roles and responsibilities in completing Full Fielding. Major discussions centered on business transformation where leadership stressed the importance for sites to create an environment that is conducive to the business process changes and improvements brought by the LMP Increment 2.

In all, the visits were productive for everyone involved, as they provided face-to-face contact to share, communicate, and understand HQ requirements along with sites’ needs, ultimately allowing the Army to deliver a solution that supports missions worldwide.

Congratulations to JMC’s Ray Davisson on his Retirement

Mr. Ray Davisson is the recognized ammunition expert for the LMP, not only at the Joint Munitions Command (JMC) level, but also at the Department of Army, AMC, and PEO EIS. His expertise has been sought since the inception of LMP and we are grateful to have worked side-by-side with him for 15 years.

He was invaluable in the design and implementation of LMP because of his attention to detail and understanding of the ammunition processes from requirements through wholesale and retail-level operations. The LMP proved to be a successful system for AMC ammunition as demonstrated through the initial implementation of LMP Increment 1, Extended Warehouse Management, and now Increment 2. Mr. Davisson was instrumental in each phase of LMP and set the standard and platform for all implementations.

Mr. Davisson consistently displayed the highest levels of respect, dignity, professionalism, integrity, and dedication throughout his career. The entire LMP team wishes him all the best in his retirement! HOOAH!!
As of December 2015, the LMP PMO restructured its organizational chart and changed the names of a few divisions. Increment 1 is now officially called “Sustainment” and Increment 2 has been renamed “Development and Deployment.” The program summaries below reflect the new names for our teams.

**SUSTAINMENT**

**Recent News & Activities**
- November 2015 – Completed FY16 capacity analysis for functional and compliance requirements
- November 2015 – Completed Major Functional Release (to include auditability and functional requirements)
- December 2015 – Hosted Total Package Fielding education and demo session

**What’s Next**
- January-February 2016 – Total Package Fielding education and demo sessions
- January-February 2016 – Schedule and workload AMC functional priorities for FY16
- May 2016 – Major Functional Release (to include auditability and functional requirements)

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**DEVELOPMENT & DEPLOYMENT**

**Recent News & Activities**
- October 2015 – Full Fielding Site Data Trial Load 3-4 completed
- November 2015 – Initial Operational Test (IOT) completed
- December 2015 – Full Fielding site visits completed
- December 2015 – Cost Review Board (CRB) Working Group (WG)
- January 2016 – FF Site Data Trial Load 3-5 complete

**What’s Next**
- February 2016 – FF Capstone Training complete
- February 2016 – FF End User Training begins
- February 2016 – FDD Defense Acquisition Board (DAB)
- March 2016 – FF Mock Data Load begins

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**TRANSLATION OF SERVICES**

**Recent News & Activities**
- November 2015 – First three Transition Packages (Configuration Management/Quality Assurance, Supply Chain Planning and Middleware) completed transition to Army SSC
- December 2015 – Legacy Systems Sustainment complete with proponents assuming sustainment responsibility for remaining systems
- January 2016 – Next Transition Package (Product Lifecycle Management (PLM)) scheduled to transition to Army SSC

**What’s Next**
- February 2016 – All ToS hiring for 155 Contractor positions complete
- February 2016 – Four Transition Packages (Business Transformation, Application Security, Manufacturing / Remanufacturing, and Technical Services) scheduled to transition to Army SSC
- March 2016 – Three Transition Packages (Enterprise Data Warehouse (EDW), Sales and Distribution, and Inventory Management / Warehouse Management (IMWM)) scheduled to transition to Army SSC

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Holiday Party Fun!

The LMP PMO celebrated the holidays on 9 December 2015 with its annual town hall and holiday party. This year’s event included the traditional gag gift exchange and an ugly sweater contest! A great time was had by all to celebrate the end of another great year at LMP!

Above: Lou Rebecca (l) accepts the 2015 trophy from LMP Deputy PdM Gabe Saliba.

Above (l. to r.)
- Tessy Joseph loves the bag that came with her gag gift.
- Chayan Mukherjee proves he’s a “basket case” with his funny gift exchange prize.

Right side photo captions, clockwise from top:
- LMP PdM LTC Rob Williams (l) and DPdM Gabe Saliba joke about all the ugly sweaters in the room.
- The back of Sharon Laverty’s sweater channels the Grinch.
- LeeAnne Thompson “jingles” her way into the contest.
- Karen Ring-Pitzner is all smiles - and bells.
- Darryl Veigh’s choice - a Mr. Rogers-type sweater vest.
- Chris Pronsati is merry and bright.
- Lori Powers is a gift all in herself! Complete with bow.
- Paul Wysocki proudly displays his ugly sweater.