



# **Defense Standardization Education and Outreach -A Diverse Toolbox-**

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# **TOOLBOX TOPICS**

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

# Defense Standardization Program Office?

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## Connection to Standardization Education?

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- **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

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- **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.

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- **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

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- **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.

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- **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

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- **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**

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### ➤ **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**

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### ➤ **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

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## ➤ **Websites:**

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

➤ [www.dsp.dla.mil](http://www.dsp.dla.mil) and click “About Us” then click “Training”

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

# DSPO Outreach Tools

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## ➤ 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](http://www.dsp.dla.mil) and click “Library”**

# DSPO Outreach Tools cont.

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- **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](http://www.dsp.dla.mil) and click “Library”

# **DSPPO Outreach Tools cont.**

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## ➤ **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

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- **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