Air Force Life Cycle Management Center

Birthplace, Home & Future of Aerospace

BIG SAFARI for NDIA
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This briefing is: UNCLASSIFIED
“BIG SAFARI has long been an alternative acquisition source for certain high priority, rapid-reaction, urgent Combatant Commander needs...unmatched culture of responsiveness...which continues to evolve and adapt in our current operational environment."

SECAF address to AFA, 13 Sep 2010
Average Hours Flown Per Available Aircraft

CAF Aircraft - FY12

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☑️ = Big Safari System
BIG SAFARI Origin

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- National Command Authority Directed
  - Catalyst -- USSR ICBM and nuclear weapons development
  - Covert airborne reconnaissance to penetrate the Iron Curtain

- Prior to 1950, USG covert airborne reconnaissance activities fragmented

- BIG SAFARI established in 1952 as single interagency focal point

- 60th Anniversary 2012
AF Regulation 66-2 (1965)

- Establish an org to provide the fastest reaction and support for modification requirements as directed
- Minimum personnel participation
- Not require strict adherence to MILSPEC or extensive testing programs
- No compromise to quality, performance or safety

Cradle to Grave mgt, flt test and logistics
Key Attributes

Recruit and retain qualified personnel
  - Co-locate at operating locations and contractor facilities
  - Controlled tours for personnel

Responsive contracting infrastructure
  - BOAs in place
  - Emergency contracts
  - Long standing supplier relationships

Lean logistics
  - Expedited transportation methods
  - Expedited returns and repairs

Streamlined business practices with SAF/AQ
Key Operating Principles

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- Short, narrow chain of command
- Small Integrated team operating under a single office
- Basic set of tenets for tasking
- Depot maintenance and sustainment planning
- Program transfer criteria
- High DoD, AF and industrial precedence rating
- Funding stability
- Streamlined practices, policies, directives or regulations
Small Integrated Teams

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• Selectively manned with significant experience
  – Operational
  – Test
  – Engineering
  – Program Management
  – Maintenance
  – Supply
  – Plans
  – Financial Management
  – Contracting
Tenets

“Are of sufficient importance and priority to warrant preferential treatment, quick reaction and extraordinary procurement procedures (streamlined acquisition management).”

“Involve only a relatively small number of vehicles or equipment.”

“Require predominantly the in-service engineering modification or installation of existing equipment for which AFMC has systems and engineering cognizance.”

“Require continuing unique logistics support by AFMC and/or the modification contractor due to the peculiar or non-standard applications of technology, subsystems, and equipment utilized in the integrated system.”

“Dictate extraordinary methods and practices to protect sensitive or classified aspects of the capability being acquired.”

Source: BIG SAFARI Program Management Directive
LCMP is defining document

- PM and Sqd define requirements in conjunction with using Cmd

Not normally Depot Source of Repair (DSOR) candidates

- Most are derivatives or mods to commercial products

Programmed Depot Maintenance (PDM)

- In accordance w/ALC or FAA mod/maintenance specs and directives

Independent organic warehouses for rapid spt to unique systems

- Driven by tech cycles/support timelines/COTS

CLS with minimal number of contractors
Program Transfer

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- Expansion past low density
- Customer requirement for normalized sustainment
- Coordination with gaining unit on DSOR determination
Streamlined Processes

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- Sensitive non-ACAT and ACAT II/III programs/activities
- Decision authority
  - ACAT II – PEO/ISR
  - ACAT III – 645 AESG/CC
  - MDA can tailor guidance of DoD and AFI 63
- Acquisition Planning
  - Meet intent of regulations
- Airworthiness
- RTO
BIG SAFARI Programs

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BIG SAFARI Summary

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- SAF/AQ directs all BIG SAFARI program actions
- Atypical SPO, flying Group, and rapid acq org
  - True “cradle-to-grave” management; minimally staffed
  - Operators into acq professionals; experience and relationships
  - Dedicated, long standing relationship with contractors
- Diverse Portfolio
  - 40+ distinct programs
  - Multiple customers

Supporting the **War** - **Every Day**