



# DCMA Ensures Na

The guided-missile cruiser USS *Cowpens* and the guided-missile destroyers USS *Fitzgerald* and USS *Mustin* are underway during the Indonesian International Fleet Review. (Photo by U.S. Navy Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Barry Hirayama)

**D**CMA is the Department of Defense component that works directly with suppliers to ensure that DoD, federal and allied government supplies and services are delivered on time, at projected costs and meet all performance requirements.

According to DCMA Pacific Commanding Officer Air Force Col. Michael Luft, the agency's mission is to provide contract administration services to the DoD acquisition

# Navy's Warfighting Readiness

*By Specialist 2nd Class Barry Riley, Naval Air Facility Atsugi  
DCMA Japan Public Affairs*

enterprise and its partners to ensure delivery of quality products and services to the warfighter on time and at cost. "Basically, our job is to ensure DoD is getting what they contract for," said Luft.

DCMA Pacific's area of responsibility ranges from Alaska to India, to as far as Japan and Antarctica. Japan, specifically, is heavily Navy-centric.

One of the biggest contractors in Japan's area of responsibility is NIPPI Corporation, located adjacent to Naval Air Facility Atsugi. NIPPI is responsible for most of the overhaul and depot-level maintenance that takes place with Carrier Air Wing 5 aircraft. DCMA personnel stationed at Atsugi work with Fleet Readiness Center Western Pacific to ensure quality of the product. "We have DCMA quality assurance personnel and program integrators who work with FRCWP to make sure the contract is carried out and they're getting what they paid for," said Luft. "In the big scope of things, it's really all about getting the aircraft back to the fight."

After awarding a contract, personnel are responsible for monitoring contractors' performance and



Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Christine Bagley signals the flight deck chock and chain crew to secure an SH-60F Sea Hawk helicopter on the main deck of the amphibious command ship USS Blue Ridge. (Photo by U.S. Navy Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Charles T. Green)

management systems to ensure the job gets done in a productive and cost-effective manner. This is also necessary to ensure that all delivery schedules comply with the terms of the contract.

Another important aspect of the agency is its support of Operation Deep Freeze in Antarctica. The agency has personnel in New Zealand

overseeing Air Force C-130s being fitted with special landing skis needed to land on the frozen continent.

"DCMA is the eyes and ears for the acquisition community in DoD," Luft said. "We're in the field making sure the product gets back to the warfighter in a timely and cost-effective manner." 

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**— Michael Luft**