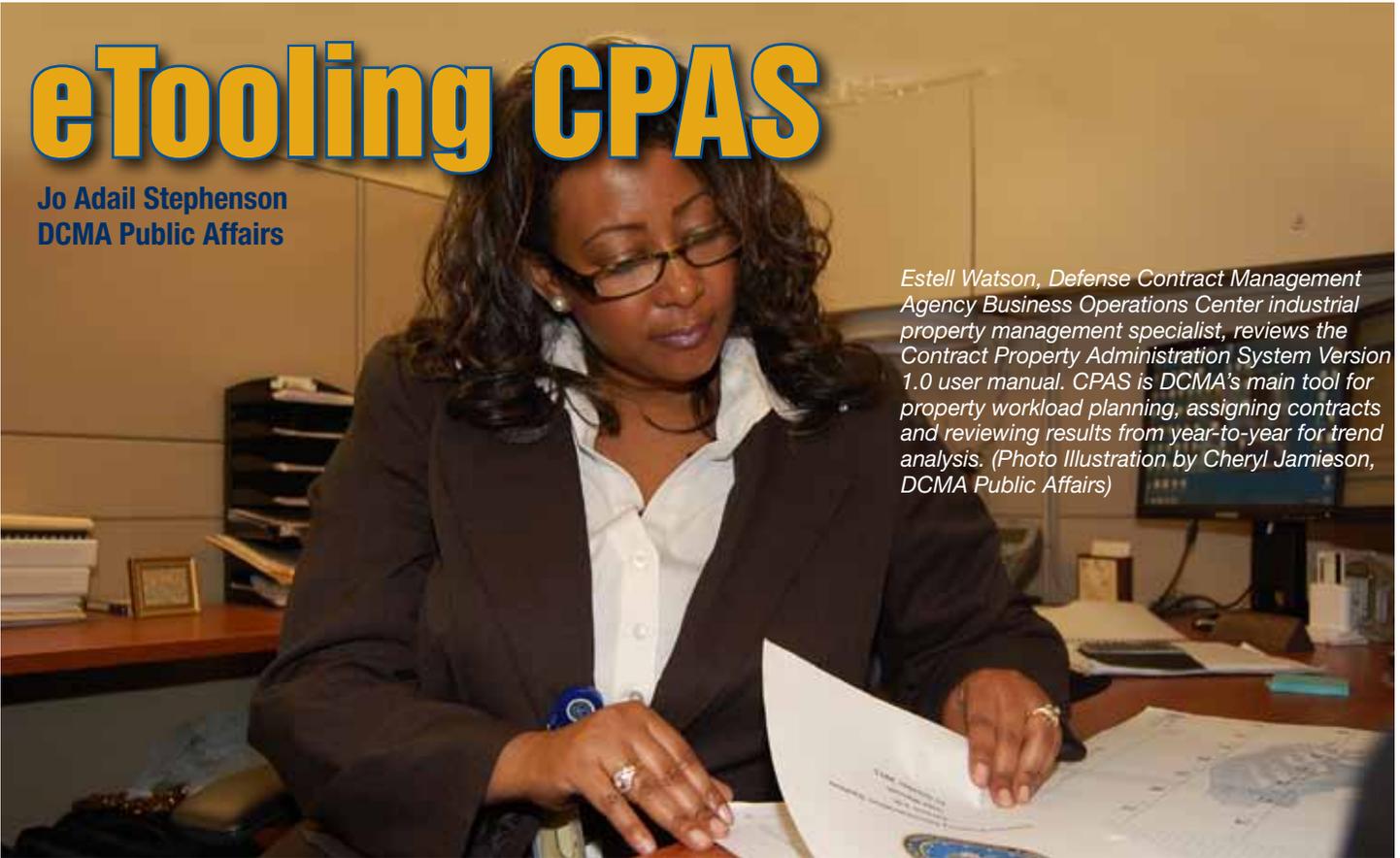


eTooling CPAS

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Estell Watson, Defense Contract Management Agency Business Operations Center industrial property management specialist, reviews the Contract Property Administration System Version 1.0 user manual. CPAS is DCMA's main tool for property workload planning, assigning contracts and reviewing results from year-to-year for trend analysis. (Photo Illustration by Cheryl Jamieson, DCMA Public Affairs)

In November 2011, the Defense Contract Management Agency added a new application to its eTools portfolio - the Contract Property Administration System known as CPAS.

CPAS 1.0 allows for planning surveillance and monitoring of government property in the custody of contractors. It provides a web-based, user-friendly interface for DCMA property administrators to: receive and review contracts with property; schedule property audits; record results of audits; close out the property administration portion of contracts in MOCAS - the Mechanization of Contract Administration Services system; reopen the property administration portion of contracts in MOCAS.

"It took some time to get CPAS deployed. The idea behind the system has been around approximately five years," said Tom Ruckdaschel, DCMA's deputy director for Government Property Policy. "But the requirements package wasn't completed until 2009. Then we had to secure management's buy-in, work the milestones and work through design

development and functional testing. It took a while, but it's been well worth the wait."

CPAS is DCMA's main tool for property workload planning, assigning contracts and reviewing results from year-to-year for trend analysis.

This enterprise-wide capability includes the agency's property business areas: Property Group (CONUS - continental U.S.); DCMA International (OCONUS - outside of the continental U.S.); Contract Contingency administration Services, or CCAS (Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan).

The enterprise-wide visibility, which CPAS offers, is all the more important given the new Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement, or DFARS, business system rule, according to Ruckdaschel.

"Under the business system rule, the DCMA contracting officer, in consultation with the assigned property administrator, must determine the acceptability of the contractor's property management system, approve or disapprove the system, and pursue correction of any deficiencies," Ruckdaschel explained. "But the real

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One property administrator said, "What I really like is its ability to produce customized reports. These reports pull data by CAGE (commercial and government entity) code or contract number. I can even customize a report for my entire team, which will lead to better workload planning and scheduling."

As with any new application, there are still a number of technical fixes to be worked, Ruckdaschel noted. But with more than \$170 billion in government property at more than 4,000 contractors across the globe, the need for a robust CPAS application is clear. 