

Full Circle, From the Private Sector to DCMA

by Ms. Michelle Brignac, Public Affairs Student Intern, DCMA Congressional and Public Affairs, DCMA Aeronautical Systems and Naval Sea Systems Divisions

Born at K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, Mich., and raised in central Illinois, Mr. Paul Greene grew up around aircraft. As the son of an Air Force major, he was given the opportunity at a very young age to understand and admire the magnificent machines.

Mr. Greene has come full circle now as a software engineer with Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA) Boeing St. Louis in Seattle, Wash. For Mr. Greene, the most enjoyable part of his job is his hands-on involvement with aircraft systems. His projects range from production aircraft to developmental systems. Mr. Greene explained, “On my way home I drive past an Air Force base, and I know that one of my colleagues or myself has inspected, reviewed and analyzed the building, repair, maintenance and training required for that aircraft as it flies overhead.”

Mr. Greene attended Olivet Nazarene University in 1998 and, upon graduation, worked four years in private industry with three different companies. He began his DCMA career in May 2004 when he joined the Agency as a Keystone Program intern. “One of the biggest disabilities

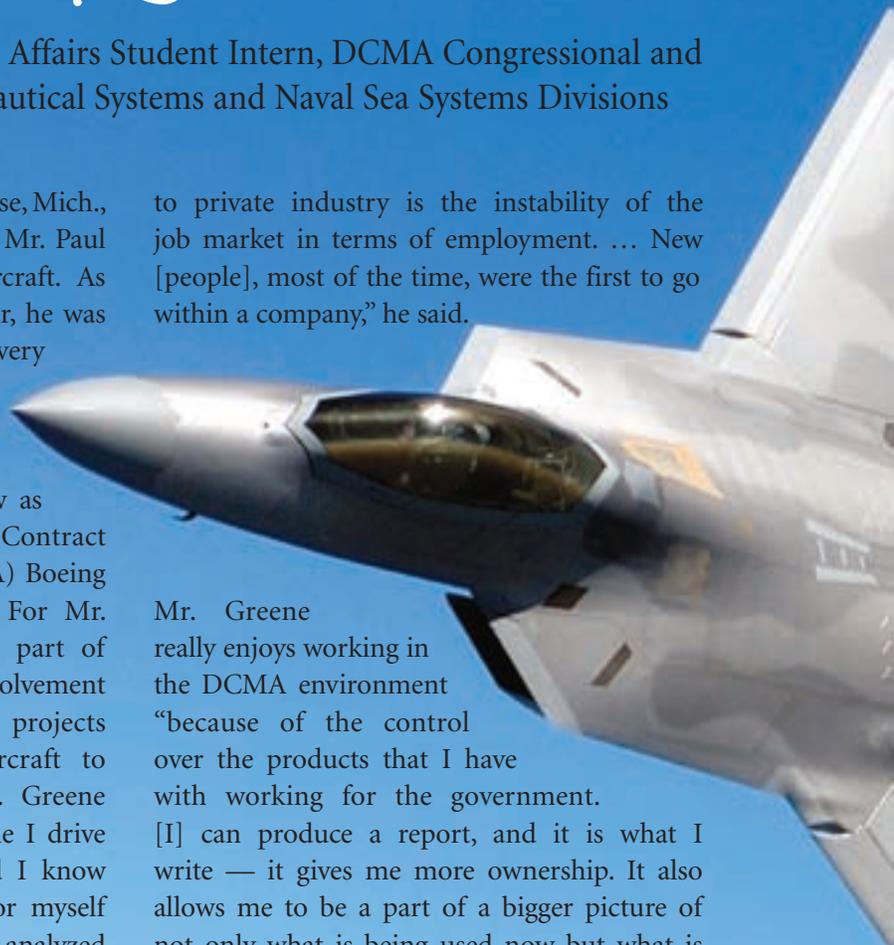
to private industry is the instability of the job market in terms of employment. ... New [people], most of the time, were the first to go within a company,” he said.

Mr. Greene really enjoys working in the DCMA environment “because of the control over the products that I have with working for the government. [I] can produce a report, and it is what I write — it gives me more ownership. It also allows me to be a part of a bigger picture of not only what is being used now but what is going to be used in the future,” he said. The military personnel “on the line need [things] now and also need us to look out for the future,” added Mr. Greene.

Some of the biggest challenges he has faced while on the job include, “reminding the contractor, or at least a few people, that even when the

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(Background) Air Force Lt. Col. James Hecker, 27th Fighter Squadron commander, banks his F/A-22 Raptor at Langley Air Force Base, Va. Mr. Greene is involved with the pilot training system on the F/A-22, which allows the pilot to become familiar with the aircraft and its systems. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Ben Bloker)



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system is developmental, it is for the soldier,” Mr. Greene explained.

At the same time, many of the rewarding experiences occur on a daily basis, such as, “aiding contractor [personnel] in improving how they do their day-to-day work. For example: improving contractors’ use of their own databases and management systems to make their jobs easier and more efficient,” he said.

Mr. Greene recently requested that his father be allowed to view and tour an F/A-22 aircraft. His father was in the Air Force and flew B-52s, the oldest aircraft in the fleet. Because the F/A-22 is the newest aircraft in the Air Force fleet, he

thought it would be a great experience for his father to see and understand all the different parts. “I really enjoyed being able to give him that opportunity,” said Mr. Greene.

“My current projects mainly involve [the] airborne laser and the integration software that allows me to solve and document problems and help towards finding final solutions. I really enjoy being part of a final solution,” remarked Mr. Greene. “I am involved with the pilot training system on the F/A-22, which allows the pilot to become familiar with the aircraft and its systems.”

He gives a lot of the credit to having such a great team and experienced employees. Mr. Greene explained, “We work well together, and the seasoned employees embrace and train the newer employees and, as for the younger ones, give the guys credit.”



(Right) The airborne laser team at Boeing in Seattle, Wash., of which Mr. Greene is a member — from left: Ms. Karen Crumley, Ms. Manta O’Shea, Mr. Scott Rehn, Ms. Lynda Buchmann, Mr. Jim Pratt, Air Force Capt. Michelle Libbey and Mr. Paul Greene. (Photo by Ms. Ann Jensis-Dale, DCMA Aeronautical and Naval Sea Systems Divisions)