

Commercial Item Group FY 2023 Year-in-Review

Modernizing Commercial Acquisition Practices Supporting Affordability and Readiness for the Warfighter



MODERN – ADAPTIVE – RESPONSIVE

As the 2022 National Defense Strategy (NDS) makes clear, we are living in a decisive decade, marked by dramatic changes in geopolitics, technology, economics, and our environment. The United States is also facing increased strategic competition with the world’s major powers, as well as acute threats from peer adversaries. To combat these challenges while building an enduring advantage, the NDS and DoD Strategic Management Plan calls for the department to be fast followers in making the right technology investments and quickly adopting the best commercial technologies. To this end, Defense Contract Management Agency's (DCMA) Commercial Item Group (CIG) continues its drive to maximize the application of commercial acquisition practices, while overcoming legacy paradigms and business practices.

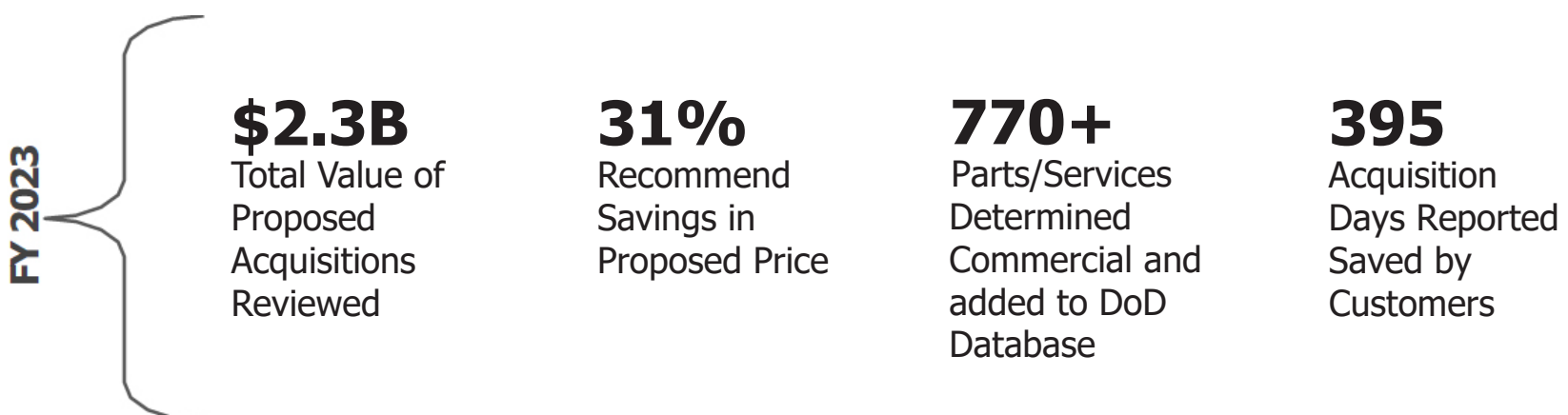
The DCMA CIG’s cadre of over 60 contracting, engineering, and pricing experts specialize in supporting the DoD acquisition enterprise by issuing Commercial Determinations (CDs), performing market research, and providing price analysis directly to acquisition program offices and DoD buying commands. In FY23, this team of trusted acquisition professionals supported over 640 unique customer requests, consisting of commerciality reviews, price analysis, and/or market research for more than 4000 individual parts and services. Moving at the speed of relevance, many of these cases supported some of the highest priority strategic programs within the DoD, such as hypersonics, missile defenses, tactical aircraft, and on-going support to operations in Ukraine.

As we look ahead into FY24, with geopolitical tensions certainly continuing to rise, DCMA's CIG stands ready to support our customers, the Warfighter, and the democracy we serve.

“ WE WILL BETTER ALIGN REQUIREMENTS, RESOURCING, AND ACQUISITION, AND UNDERTAKE A CAMPAIGN OF LEARNING TO IDENTIFY THE MOST PROMISING CONCEPTS, INCORPORATING EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES IN THE COMMERCIAL AND MILITARY SECTORS FOR SOLVING OUR KEY OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES. ”

- SECDEF Lloyd J. Austin III, 2022 NDS

CIG BY THE NUMBERS



FY23 DEPARTMENT IMPACT

Retaining the Title: DoD Cadre of Experts



Outreach - Knowledge Sharing - Rotational Opportunities

2023 CIG SUMMIT

Building on the success of our acclaimed Office Hours, in April 2023 the CIG held its first large-scale live event since the COVID19 pandemic. This event brought over 100 representatives from both industry and government together at Ft. Gregg-Adams, VA. During this two-day event, presenters led training sessions on commerciality, acquisitions, and contracting, while curated panels of experts facilitated discussions on overcoming common challenges and optimizing the industry/government relationship. The presentation material from this event is available on the CIG web page.

CIG OUTREACH AND EARLY ENGAGEMENT

Recognizing a critical need for involvement with our customers early in the acquisition lifecycle, the CIG directly engaged with over 500 Army, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, and Defense Logistics Agency personnel at the command and program levels in FY23. Whether virtual or in-person, the guidance provided during these informative sessions consistently contributed to a better understanding of commerciality and more effective interactions with industry, resulting in more efficient acquisitions. Moving into FY24, the CIG will continue to focus on enhancing early engagement opportunities and outreach efforts with our DoD partners. If asked "when is the best time to involve the CIG?", the answer is always "up front and early!"

ROTATIONAL TRAINING OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM (RTOP)

In the summer of 2023, the CIG held an open call for volunteers, and launched a pilot rotational training program. This pilot program, known as RTOP, is designed to bring external DoD acquisition professionals into the CIG for a 3-6 month rotation. During that time, the rotational candidates will gain first-hand experience in the CIG mission and the complex commercial acquisition environment before returning to their home organization to share this knowledge with peers. This program also provides a unique opportunity for the permanent CIG workforce to engage with and glean procurement knowledge from a customer. Additional CIG rotation opportunities are expected in FY24 and will be announced on the CIG webpage.

Our Customers



“The DCMA CIG process contributed to AMCOM readiness while maintaining speed, accuracy, and quality on this requirement, allowing us to meet DLA’s customer expectations on a high dollar item that was the number one backorder and readiness driver.”

-CIG Customer

Visit Us: www.dcma.mil/commercial-item-group

THE GOVERNMENT’S CADRE OF EXPERTS PROVIDING COMMERCIAL ACQUISITION SOLUTIONS