

# Ground CMO Sponsors Fire Development Event

**Navy Lt. Anjail Weaver**  
**DCMA Ground Systems**  
**and Munitions**

Defense Contract Management Agency officers from all of the services assigned to DCMA Chicago Tactical Wheeled Vehicles joined for the first officer professional development event ever initiated at the contract management office level.

The event, held Aug. 12–14, helped maximize an officer’s potential through training, education and networking among peers.

Army Col. Jose Baez, DCMA Chicago Tactical Wheeled Vehicles, stated, “The CMO’s assigned joint military workforce is interoperable and able to effectively cross levels internally within the CMO and throughout the DCMA enterprise. The intent is to conduct a first-of-its-kind professional development event that includes all branches of the military and both active



Officers assigned to Defense Contract Management Agency Chicago Tactical Wheeled Vehicles visit the Harley Davidson Company in Milwaukee, Wis., for a quality assurance brief and tour of its powertrain operations recently.

duty personnel and Reservists.” He continued, “This event will serve as a leadership exercise in military professional networking, unit cohesion, *esprit de corps* and sharing of ideas and concerns. These events will allow the CMO

and streamline commanders the opportunity to truly sense the pulse of the brigade-level command.”

Army Maj. Alex Padgett, DCMA Oshkosh, coordinated the three-day event, which began with a combat support operations brief by Navy Lt. Cmdr. Michael Corrigan. Participants then enjoyed a baseball game featuring the Milwaukee Brewers.

The agenda for the second day included a briefing and tour at Oshkosh Corporation. The brief focused on quality assurance and

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production of the mine resistant ambush protected all-terrain vehicle. The day ended with a guided tour of the grounds and historical buildings of Milwaukee Veterans' Administration Hospital and a Wounded Warrior visit to veterans in the spinal cord injury ward.

On the final day, the Harley Davidson Company, located in Milwaukee, Wis., provided a quality assurance brief and tour of its powertrain operations. Seth McKeel, Ground Systems and Munitions Division military personnel liaison, followed the tour with a briefing, which included guidelines for effective award submissions and how to write better

officer evaluations. Active duty Army officers had the opportunity to discuss career development and decisions with Army human resources personnel representing the Acquisition Corps, along with a "State of the Army Acquisition Corps" briefing. Attendees also received career interviews, which provided insight into the potential for future promotions and potential career opportunities.

The event culminated with a group dinner designed to foster unit and servicemember cohesion. "The professional development event broadened perspectives on what we do, combining a diverse wealth of knowledge, experience and dedication to our mission,"

said Baez. "DCMA delivers a wide range of Joint core competencies to the fight. These include financial management, acquisition and procurement, supply chain management, logistics planning and many other services."

The event was definitely a success, and participants were unanimous in recommending that other commanders facilitate similar events to engage their Joint military workforce to foster a forum for individual career development, leadership training and fun.

Tentatively, the next such DCMA Ground and Munitions Division event will occur in St. Louis, Mo., in spring 2010. 

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