



*Defense Contract Management Agency Dallas quality assurance specialist Parasha Vincent checks for nonconformities on a Black Hawk aircraft assembly. (Photo by Jo Adail Stephenson, DCMA Public Affairs)*

*A soldier exits a Black Hawk helicopter in Afghanistan. (Photo by Marine Sgt. Brian Kester)*

# Same commitment just different 'uniforms'

**Jo Adail Stephenson | DCMA Public Affairs**

**D**efense Contract Management Agency Dallas quality assurance specialist Parasha Vincent knows first-hand how warfighters are affected by the work he performs because he was one for 20 years.

Now, instead of donning an Army uniform, Vincent suits up in his protective coveralls to perform part of his quality assurance work on Black Hawk aircraft assemblies. “DCMA is committed to supporting our warfighters to ensure they get the products and services they need,” he said.

Vincent also plans and executes contractor surveillance based on risk of manufacturing processes to complete total

build of aircraft parts and assemblies.

“In addition, I ensure parts are built to specifications prior to acceptance of products, on behalf of the government, for government service organizations such as the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines,” he said.

He performs his work at Triumph Aerostructures - Vought Aircraft Division, a contractor who manufactures aircraft parts and assemblies that are supplied to various government service organizations per government contracts and purchase orders. DCMA’s role is to manage the contract and purchase orders to ensure delivery of quality products and services to the warfighter - on time and on

cost. Vincent performs quality assurance as part of the Black Hawk program. DCMA has been involved with the program since 2005.

The Black Hawk is a utility tactical transport helicopter used by the Army. Its mission is to provide air assault, general support, aeromedical evacuation, command and control and special operations support to combat and stability and support operations.

“DCMA ensures the buying activities are getting the products in accordance with the buying activities’ needs,” Vincent said.



Parasha Vincent, a quality assurance specialist with Defense Contract Management Agency Dallas, inspects a Black Hawk aircraft assembly to ensure it meets all specification requirements prior to government acceptance. (Photo by Jo Adail Stephenson, DCMA Public Affairs)

“For example, DCMA ensures the product meets all specification requirements prior to government acceptance.”

To ensure product requirements are met, Vincent performs inspections and witnesses and verifies tests. If quality issues come up, he said, “I work with my fellow DCMA colleagues and contractor QA personnel. We may conduct a meeting or teleconference. During this time, we identify the requirement and how to achieve that requirement in a safe and quality manner that yields positive results.”

When it comes to commitment in support of the warfighter and the customer, Vincent’s supervisor, Mary Deary, said, “Mr. Vincent and the DCMA quality assurance team devote countless hours, energy and support to ensure customer needs are identified and met. They have done an exceptional job in meeting the customer’s and agency’s objectives.”

Vincent hasn’t stopped serving his fellow warfighters; he’s just changed his “uniform.”

He said, “As a former soldier myself, I would like to say thank you all for your service and Godspeed!” 

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