Acquisition
Directorate

SOFTWARE ACQUISITIONS FOR MISSION SUPPORT AND OPERATIONS

The Software Acquisitions for Mission Support and Operations (SAMSO) program management office provides solutions for Coast Guard non-major information technology (IT) acquisitions tailored to the needs of shore, cutter and aviation users. SAMSO aligns with Coast Guard computer hardware and software efforts primarily for operations, information and mission support systems but incorporates intelligence and command and control software programs as needed. SAMSO improves business relations, management and resource planning for software products from procurement through sustainment and future replacement.

SAMSO incorporates Agile business methodologies with the ability to vary staffing as requirements and program lines of effort change, providing SAMSO the flexibility to align acquisition personnel in the most efficient and effective manner.

IMPLEMENTATION

Software acquisitions considered for implementation or renewal are reviewed by a quorum of end users and IT professionals and acquisition professionals. Determination is based on a cumulative – not any individual – factor and assessment of these boundary conditions:

- Level of change
- Organizational visibility
- Internal/external impact
- Cost and schedule complexity
- Management complexity
- Technical complexity.

Those projects assigned to SAMSO are subject to the same processes and procedures for governance, management and execution as other non-major IT acquisitions.

Identified SAMSO project coordination ensures efforts remain jointly owned and collaborated with respective Coast Guard stakeholders, allowing for alignment of its acquisition, implementation and sustainment. Review of internal acquisition policies ensures consideration is provided to each program's unique Agile-defined lifecycle structure.

For updates on the Software Acquisitions for Mission Support and Operations program management office, visit the program's website at www.dcms.uscg.mil/acquisition.

REPRESENTATIVE CURRENT PROJECTS

Financial Systems Modernization Solution – Integrates financial management functions; replaces and eliminates material weaknesses; implements standardized business processes; and improves operational performance, data integrity, financial transparency and compliance with federal laws, regulations, guidelines and requirements, providing the Coast Guard a single, unified contracting method for all acquisitions.

Mariner Credentialing Program – Replaces the current system of record with a new software-as-a-service solution to address 13 identified capabilities gaps within the legacy system, establishing new capabilities to improve the program's federal policy compliance, transparency, data integrity, cybersecurity, organizational management, efficiency and long-term asset sustainment. The program will modernize the legacy paper-based credentialing process and improve the Coast Guard's interactions with the mariner community.

Coast Guard Online World of Learning Program (CG-OWL) – Creates a learning environment that is available at any time, in any place and on any device. Whether active-duty, reserve, Auxiliarist, civilian or contracted employees, whether working at Coast Guard stations, deployed at sea, or in their homes, properly credentialed members of the Coast Guard workforce will have the ability to accomplish mandated and other training. CG-OWL provides effective management tools needed to obtain the required competencies and tailored training to meet specific assignment or career path objectives. The enhanced system will automate training administration and recordkeeping by assigning requirements to users, delivering content, recording user activity and generating reports.