



# Tek Talk

February, 2003

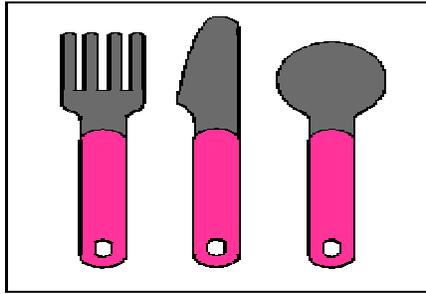
## BSM & Concept Demo #1



[Business Systems Modernization \(BSM\)](#), Concept Demo #1 was initiated in August. To begin the Demo, the Branch had three certified SAP users providing service to the Food Service CBU, Prime Vendor SE Region, and the Produce CBU. The two trained Branch employees went directly into a learning-working mode on SAP to answer workload issues such as "Create Purchasing Records", "Create Material", "Change Material", and "Create Vendor ZSHL" records in SAP. This effort has surfaced some cataloging/logistic data problematic issues to light that have "jammed" up our BSM process, namely the IDOCs. With help from the BSM contractors, BSM office, DLIS Subsistence Cataloging reps and Subsistence System personnel, progress to relink old canceled NSNs, remove duplicate NSNs/LSNs, establish SAP "E" numbers and remove duplicates has been both challenging and rewarding! Star branch SAP Performer last month: Richard Popson

[John Woloszyn](#), (215) 737-4435 may be contacted for additional information.

## Biobased Utensils



This Branch Office, in conjunction with Kathleen Arabia, Procurement Corporate Contracting Division, issued a second R&D contract to complete testing and manufacturing issues associated with the introduction of biobased cutlery to the DoD. The \$14,000 R&D contract was awarded to Signature Works/LC Industries along with Midwest Grain Products, Inc., the biobased material supplier. This effort is the combined work of HQ-DLA (J-334 and DSS-E), USDA-REE, DSCP-Subsistence, and the US Army Natick RD& E Center to meet Executive Order policy on Environmentally Preferred Products. This ongoing effort is being conducted to hopefully close some final issues: Mass production, improved biobased material, injection molding issues, customer acceptance by conducting a field test, and an insect attraction test to the cutlery itself. The results, if favorable, could begin the process of replacing plastic cutlery with biobased cutlery. Estimated timeframe for completion- 3rd Qtr, FY 03. Thus far, Natick testing has been very positive.

[John Woloszyn](#), (215) 737-4435 may be contacted for additional information.

## Prime Vendor Tech Updates



Updated Prime Vendor technical descriptions and requirements provided to AVATAR PROCESS ACTION TEAM (Armed Services Virtual Alliance for Total Assets Response) for sourcing planning to be responsive to the needs of the Warfighter for quality affordable food products readiness support.

[Harriet Friedel](#), (215) 737-5302 may be contacted for additional information.

## 2003 Subsistence Market Ready Catalog



The new 2003 Subsistence Market Ready Catalog will be available by February 2003. The catalog currently has approximately 8071 items, and continues to grow.

Click [here](#) to see the online version of the Catalog.

[John Robinson](#), (215) 737-7524 may be contacted for additional information

# OSD Tasker for Green Procurement - Proposed



## MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY

SUBJECT: DLA Support of DoD Affirmative Procurement Program Reporting

We request Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) provide an initial briefing to our office on plans for supporting the Department's Affirmative Procurement and Environmentally Preferable Procurement data tracking and reporting requirements under Resource Conservation and Recover Act (RCRA) Section 6002 (42 USC 6962), Executive Order 13101, and Section 314 of the FY2003 Defense Authorization Act (Attachment 1). We'd like to receive the initial briefing by February 1, 2003. Specific milestones to be addressed in the brief are listed in Attachment 2. In addition, we request you include an update on the status of plan implementation, DLA's readiness to support relevant reporting requirements, and related issues in each DUSD(I&E) In Progress Review (IPR) through March 1, 2007.

We recognize the unique opportunities and capabilities DLA possesses to advance the goals of RCRA Section 6002 and Executive Order 13101 within the Department of Defense and elsewhere within the federal government. DLA's on-line ordering and electronic procurement data tracking systems are fundamentally important tools for the Department, as well as non-DoD customers, to achieve these goals. While we understand that your procurement data tracking systems cover only a portion of DoD purchases or of procurement of DLA managed items, we appreciate your support as we strive to improve the Department's performance in "green" procurement.

Our point of contact is Mr. John Coho, ODUSD(I&E)/EQ, John.Coho@OSD.mil, 703-604-1630.

Philip W. Grone  
Principal Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense  
(Installations and Environment)

### The following are critical milestones to be addressed in the initial brief:

- Provide to each Component headquarters (Army, Navy, Marine Corp, Air Force and DLA) Component-level data to complete section 2. a – h (lines ii and iii) of the FY2002 RCRA Section 6002 data call. (14 Feb 03)
- Provide or make available to all DoD organizations at the Department of Defense Address Accounting Code (DoDDAC)-level data to complete section 2. a – h (lines ii and iii) of the FY2002 RCRA Section 6002 data call. (Initial availability by 30 Sep 03 with quarterly updates thereafter.)

- Develop and implement an electronic tracking system that tracks and reports procurement of environmentally preferable products (as defined in Section 314 of the FY2003 Defense Authorization Act)(30 Sep 03)
- Develop relationship data on green and non-green counterparts so that the procurement tracking system can report purchases of environmentally preferable products as a percentage of purchases through DLA which meet equivalent performance requirements or similar form, fit and function. (30 Sep 03)
- Provide to DUSD(I&E) summarized data (from the tracking system developed in response to Section 314 of the FY2003 Defense Authorization Act, “rolled-up” to the DoD-level) reflecting DoD green purchasing performance relevant to the requirements of Section 314 of the FY2003 Defense Authorization Act (For each product category, “green purchasing performance” = environmentally preferable purchases/total purchases.) (Initial report on 1 Feb 04 and annually on 1 Feb thereafter through 1 Feb 2007.)

[John Woloszyn](#), (215) 737-4435 may be contacted for additional information.

# Organic Food Labeling



## THE ORGANIC FOOD LABELING GUIDELINES IN A NUTSHELL

October 21, 2002 was an important date in the food industry and to supermarket shoppers throughout the United States. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has implemented a set of national standards that food labeled “organic” must meet, whether it is grown in the United States or imported from other countries. The labeling requirements of the new program apply to raw, fresh products and processed foods that contain organic ingredients. The new labeling guidelines and a new USDA organic seal will enable supermarket shoppers to be able to quickly identify products that have been grown, processed and packaged in accordance with organic practices. Only products with a minimum of 95 percent organic ingredients will be allowed to use the seal. Although, the use of the seal is voluntary. The labeling requirements are based on the percentage of organic ingredients in a product.

The following are four new organic categories:

1. Foods labeled “100 percent organic” and “organic”

Products labeled as “100 percent organic” must contain (excluding water and salt) only organically produced ingredients.

Products labeled “organic” must consist of at least 95 percent organically produced ingredients (excluding water and salt).

Products meeting the requirements for “100 percent organic” and “organic” may display these terms and the percentage of organic content on their principal display panel.

The USDA seal and the seal or mark of involved certifying agents may appear on product packages and in advertisements.

All organic agriculture prohibits the use of synthetic pesticides; petroleum- based fertilizers or sewage sludge-based fertilizers; irradiation, and no genetically modified organisms can be contained in anything labeled organic. Organic meat, poultry, eggs, and dairy products come from animals that are given NO antibiotics or growth hormones.

2. Processed products labeled “made with organic ingredients”

Processed products that contain at least 70 percent organic ingredients can use the phrase “made with organic ingredients” and list up to three of the organic ingredients or food groups on the principal display panel.

Processed products labeled “made with organic ingredients” cannot be produced using excluded methods ,such as irradiation and sewage sludge.

The percentage of organic content and the certifying agent seal or mark may be used on

the principal display panel. However, the USDA seal cannot be used anywhere on the package.

3. Processed products that contain less than 70 percent organic ingredients  
These products cannot use the term organic anywhere on the principal display panel. However, they may identify the specific ingredients that are organically produced on the ingredients statement on the information panel.
4. Other labeling provisions  
Any product labeled as organic must identify each organically produced ingredient in the ingredient statement on the information panel.

The name and address of the certifying agent of the final product must be displayed on the information panel.

There are no restrictions in this final rule on use of other truthful labeling claims such as “no drugs or growth hormones used,” “free range,” or “sustainably harvested”.

[Catherine Capriotti](#), (215) 737-4256 may be contacted for additional information.

# Web Updates



The newly formed Subsistence Support Office has updated many facets of their website:

- [NSN Catalog Search](#) - Search for Operational Ration NSN's by NSN number, PCR number, CID number, or Item Name.
- [ACR-M-024](#) - Latest assembly document for MRE's.
- [PCR-MRE-24](#) - Listing of new PCR-MRE's for Assembly Document ACR-M-024.
- [UGR-04](#) - Most recent Unitized Group Ration (UGR) documents. (Under Construction)
- [TDP for MARC](#) - Technical Data Package for Meal Alternative Regionally Customized.
- [B-Ration Menu](#) - Marine-based Rations. (Under Construction)

In addition, the Support Office has collaborated with other offices on Web-related projects:

- [Prime Vendor Contracts](#) - Links to Prime Vendor & Market Ready Contracts, Modifications, Solicitations, and Amendments for both CONUS & OCONUS regions.
- [TDP](#) - Technical Data Package for MRE-23.

[Michael Malason](#), (215) 737-7772, or [Joseph Rotondo](#), (215) 737-8323, may be contacted for additional information.