

Tuesday, March 02, 2004

Milt has approved the following for wide distribution:

The COO Management Council had its first meeting on Monday Feb. 23. I thought you might be interested in some of the insights that came about from this meeting, and with what I see as the path forward for OneSC.

What's New.

Originally I had thought that the Management Council would help the SC COO ensure that the Sites and Integrated Service Center are working together, and identify areas for, and paths to, improvements. Council membership includes leadership of the Service Center, and rotating representatives from Site Offices and Programs. After this inaugural meeting, the Management Council may have a larger role to play, to ensure that we are moving together toward a common goal of making OneSC an effective reality.

Next to the formation of NNSA, the formation of OneSC is perhaps the biggest change to the Department since the Departmental Realignments of April 1999. Whereas the Chicago, Oakland, Oak Ridge, and Richland Operations Offices responded to directives from Washington individually, the vision for OneSC is that SC will now respond as one organization, with consistent policy and procedures across the SC nation-wide complex, one Program Direction budget, one IT infrastructure, and clear Contracting Authorities. These latter authorities, centralized in Forrestal and flowing down to Sites, mean that Forrestal will become "auditable." In all of these matters the Management Council can be a valuable source of experience and advice.

I was encouraged by the reports on how smoothly Chicago and Oak Ridge are providing services to the Berkeley and Pacific Northwest Site Offices. Chicago has hired HR and legal experts from Oakland, who are now being situated at Berkeley, and has already begun to provide financial services for Berkeley contractors. Oak Ridge has served the ESH needs of Berkeley well, and is now supporting Richland in the Human Resources, Legal, Budget/Finance and procurement areas. I'm hopeful, and expect, that this cooperation will continue in other areas, such IT services, property management, security, etc. I am especially appreciative of those in the Chicago and Oak Ridge who have forged new, good working relationship with their Site Office colleagues, and shown that One SC is a realizable vision.

A Path Forward for SC Operations

Gerald and Marvin presented a written description of "OneSC Operations Management Systems," which includes sections on underlying Authorities and Management Principles, as well as sample system descriptions. I was pleased to see such cooperation, initiative and effort invested into this product. This document has the potential to become an umbrella document on how Sites, Headquarters, and Service Center all work together, and is the likely first step in the OneSC engineering and help us move to standards-based management. The Management Council recommended the inclusion of "Oversight" as a Management System, and commissioned Larry Vann and Dan Wilkin at CH and OR to take the lead to complete this document by May 1. The Council expects that Larry and Dan will be forming core groups SC-wide for each Management System under consideration.

What's Next?

I'm very hopeful that the OneSC Roll Out will soon be on Ray's schedule. The Roll Out will provide ample opportunity to ask questions on OneSC and related topics, such as the Management Council.

The next Management Council is scheduled to convene in mid May. The main topics on the agenda will be Management Systems for SC Operations and progress in OneSC.