



**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**OFFICE OF ACQUISITION MANAGEMENT**  
**ACQUISITION INNOVATION LAB**



**ANNUAL REPORT**  
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**Department of Commerce**  
Office of Acquisition Management  
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## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ACQUISITION INNOVATION LAB

The Department of Commerce’s Acquisition Innovation Lab (“The Lab”) is a forum that integrates all members of the acquisition team (e.g., contracting officers, contracting officer representatives, program managers, policy analysts, legal advisors, etc.) early and throughout the acquisition and program lifecycle. Integration of the acquisition team facilitates the use of innovative and underutilized acquisition techniques and smart program management tools to improve mission outcomes, accelerate delivery, and reduce administrative burden. The Lab provides a catalyst for institutionalizing changes that promote innovation and managed risk-taking through iterative review, analysis, and refinement of techniques.

**MISSION:** *To inspire, connect, and empower the acquisition workforce to improve mission outcomes by applying innovative techniques.*

**VISION:** *An acquisition workforce empowered to meet mission needs through innovation, creative collaboration, and smart risk-taking.*

**VALUE PROPOSITION:** *A catalyst for accelerating and enhancing mission delivery, decreasing barriers, and providing an environment for creative collaboration.*

## BUSINESS VALUE

The Lab provides the Department’s acquisition community with access to a collaborative, safe environment to experiment with new and underutilized techniques, share experiences and ideas, document case studies, and receive coaching and assistance. It provides a mechanism to highlight project successes and effective processes and identify and share best practices for innovative techniques. In addition, it facilitates the ability to actively manage risk (cost, schedule, and performance), reduce barriers to entry for small businesses, improve lifecycle management, empower acquisition team members to take smart risks for better outcomes, and encourage greater knowledge sharing to achieve better results for the taxpayer.



### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The Lab’s strategic objectives are designed to create greater efficiencies and improve effectiveness across the Department’s acquisition system and foster an environment and culture conducive to smart, innovative risk taking. The goal of The Lab is to promote and support the Big “A” concept by educating, inspiring, supporting, and fostering collaboration among the acquisition team to achieve mission success. Specific objectives include:

- ✓ *To prepare the Department’s acquisition workforce for the challenges of the future by establishing a training program.*
- ✓ *To track and recognize the evolution of the acquisition innovation journey by creating a badging program for innovators, coaches, and inventors.*
- ✓ *To assist the workforce in implementing innovative techniques by developing resource materials such as templates and tip sheets.*
- ✓ *To share lessons learned and best practices by documenting case studies.*
- ✓ *To promote innovative techniques and improve the way emerging technology is purchased and used by creating a resource library.*
- ✓ *To gain broader and deeper knowledge and understanding of innovative ideas and practices by crowd sourcing new techniques and success stories.*

Training & Education	Case Studies & Use	Marketing & Outreach	Badging	Idea Bank
				
<b>ACCOMPLISHMENTS</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 155 EMPLOYEES TRAINED IN INNOVATIVE TECHNIQUES</li> <li>✓ 9 COURSES OFFERED BY THE LAB</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 2 CASE STUDIES COMPLETED</li> <li>✓ 26% EMPLOYEES REPORTED USING AT LEAST ONE INNOVATIVE TECHNIQUE</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 8 EVENTS HELD</li> <li>✓ 289 EMPLOYEES TRAINED</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 24 BADGES ISSUED</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 36 IDEAS RECEIVED</li> </ul>