

FY02 DON Pilot Project Summary

Project Name: Military Flight Operations Quality Assurance (#35)

Command: DASN (Safety)

Functional Area Manager (FAM): Readiness

Pilot Summary:

MFOQA focuses on the knowledge management (KM) of information obtained from data collected during actual flight operations to enhance mission readiness through improved operational efficiency and risk reduction. The MFOQA concept provides integration of data pertinent to an aircraft squadron's operations, maintenance, training and safety functional areas into a single program. This proactive approach to effective flight data management serves as an enabling tool for aircraft operators to take "self-corrective" actions based on quantitative data, and provides information to other organizations that can directly benefit from the analytical results of data collected and processed via access to a central data repository containing aggregate Fleet-wide data. This pilot validated the potential enterprise benefit of MFOQA as such an enabling tool; one that provides a means of moving beyond the technologically constrained and historically reactive response to Naval aviation mishaps, a significant enhancement to aircrew training, a capability to reduce operating costs by reducing maintenance workload, and a means to identify more cost-effective procedures for conducting operations.

Business Value Added:

- Produces costs savings in terms of reduced fuel consumption, maintenance workload, and aviation mishaps
- Enhanced flight safety, mission readiness, maintenance troubleshooting, and crew training
- Ability to download and analyze predetermined flight parameters (automated post-flight debriefs)
- Provides animated flight playback for use as a KM tool - Supports Fleet-wide KM (centralized data repository)

Other Considerations:

- Formal MFOQA Program Institutionalization a stated requirement of DASN(I&E) and DUSD(I&E)
- Employs a system architecture built around proven commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) flight data recorder hardware and analytical software technologies, and a successful business process pioneered by several commercial airlines
- Extensible to all types of aircraft, as well as marine and land platforms

Pilot Participants:

- DASN (Safety), 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (MAW)/VMFAT-101, MCAS Miramar
- Naval Safety Center, NAVAIR PMA 209

Targeted Users:

- Aviators and air crew personnel
- Naval Safety Center personnel