**Project:** Through the PRO-FAST program, three teams research and develop supply chain processes and tools for implementation to reduce lead-times, eliminate unfilled orders, improve quality, and reduce costs for forged parts. The teams include the Aviation Forging and Casting Assistance Team (AFCAT) located onsite at DLA Aviation in Richmond, VA, the Maritime and Land Forging and Casting Team (Metal FACT) located onsite at DLA Land and Maritime in Columbus, OH, and the FORGE-IT team based in Summerville, South Carolina.

**Success Story**

**Problem:** About 13.5% of assistance requests received are awarded before contractor realizes forging tooling or tooling rights are needed, such as this part for the C-130 Hercules weapons system. The supplier was awarded a contract for this NSN without a forging source.

**Solution:** This particular part was sole sourced to the original equipment manufacturer, which prevents forge shops from using the tooling used to make the part. AFCAT identified the owner of the forged tooling and discussed with the original equipment manufacturer the need for the approval. This individual granted written authorization to contractor. The contractor was granted a one-time permission to use the forging tooling and fulfill the order.

**Benefits:** DLA realized savings of $25K in cancellation fees and avoided a total of 230 days lost lead time.

**Takeaway:** AFCAT saved the government time and money by working directly with the original equipment manufacturer.