



APPROVED SOURCE FOR THE MLG DRAG LINK



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: Sole source procurements or a limited supply base lead to increased costs, unfilled orders, and requests for deviation. The MLG drag link was an unfilled solicitation for the B-52 weapons system in need of being procured.

Solution: AFCAT worked with a forge shop and got them approved through the source approval request process. A source approval request is a process by a potential new supplier for a specific item that is not designated a full-and-open solicitation goes through. The potential supplier provides DLA with all the technical data needed to justify their capabilities, and can be difficult to complete the first time without assistance. As a result of our help, the forge shop was approved to fill the order, and is now an approved supplier for any future procurements for this part.



Image courtesy of www.af.mil

Benefits: The MLG drag link now has a second qualified source which will reduce future costs and leadtimes. In addition, the forging company is now well-versed in the SAR process, and is better positioned to bid on future procurements.

Takeaway: AFCAT helps forging companies and machine shops compete on government procurements.



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