AFCAT Prevents Multiple Contract Cancellations

The DLA Aviation Forging and Casting Assistance Team (AFCAT) helped the DLA Aviation supply chain avoid termination of four contracts which saved years of procurement administrative and production lead time. At the request of the DLA Contract Administrator, AFCAT reviewed a government First Article Test (FAT) disapproval for a cast housing for the F-16 Fighting Falcon. This casting failed FAT because the surface finish did not achieve the specified criteria. AFCAT and CAST-IT member Keith Sturgill worked via the DLA Contract Administrator to determine the root cause of the non-conformance (which was caused by post-casting processes) and coordinate with the foundry in accomplishing corrective measures. This enabled the Contract Administrator to have the option to request re-testing of the same part. The foundry was able to make a process change that achieved the required surface finish. In September 2016, the Service FAT laboratory approved the corrected first article. Four contracts that would have been cancelled are now clear to produce 133 items, resulting in lead time and procurement savings of $165K.

Metal FACT Conducts Valuable Seminar for DLA Land and Maritime Associates

AMC and DLA’s Maritime and Land Forging and Casting Assistance Team (MetaL FACT) conducted a workforce development session on November 9-10, 2016 that included a Metalcasting Concepts seminar, an interactive workshop, and foundry tour of Quaker City Castings in Salem, Ohio. Feedback from participants was extremely positive with 100% saying they would recommend this event to others in their organization.

Attendees also reported:
- “Being able to observe the manufacturing processes was incredibly valuable.”
- “The two [workshop] exercises were good because they reinforced what we learned - this was great!”
- “Making the contacts was nice and everyone is very knowledgeable. Great class & resources.”