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BCKS CONFERENCE

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

Battle Command Knowledge System gearing up for annual conference

FORT LEAVENWORTH, Kan., June 23, 2008— At a conference hosted by Battle Command Knowledge System (BCKS) here, knowledge management trainers from the Army, Navy and Air Force gathered to exchange KM training issues and plan for the 1st Joint KM Trainers Workshop, Oct. 27, in conjunction with the 4th Annual Army Operational Knowledge Management Conference, Oct. 28–31.

Acting BCKS Director Joe Koskey said, “These KM professionals came from around the military to share tactics, techniques and best practices in KM training from their respective organizations. This may have been the first time KM trainers from across DOD gathered in one place to look for commonality in how the services train their forces in knowledge management.”

KM trainers from the US European Command (USEUCOM) in Stuttgart, Germany, and the US Navy Tactical Training Group (NAVTACTRAGRU) in San Diego participated in the meeting via Adobe Connect. Other participants in the two-day meeting at the Frontier Conference Center included KM representatives from: US Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM), Offut AFB, Nebraska; Joint Forces Command (US JFCOM), Norfolk, Virginia; and the Command and General Staff College (CGSC), Fort Leavenworth.

“It is important for us all to figure out ways to leverage the full force of KM, to rapidly disseminate and exploit knowledge gained from operating forces so that we can assist the education and training of deploying units and inform our training of new Joint capabilities,” said

Wendell Turner, USJFCOM Standing Joint Force Headquarters (SJFHQ) Operations Division Knowledge Management Officer.

The meeting also afforded an opportunity for KM trainers to better understand what other practicing KM trainers are teaching, and try to find common ground, and gaps, in the training of KM. Participants shared information about their training staffs, courses, programs, challenges and technology issues.

John Wright, BCKS trainer and organizer of the meeting, said, “Because no organization will ever fight alone, and because the enemy is so adaptive, KM across the full spectrum of DOD, government and non-government agencies must work together – the whole of government.”

“We must find a common purpose and interest in finding solutions to support the war fighter, using both the Art and Science of KM for innovation, collaboration and the sharing of ideas through whatever means is available,” said Scott Thon, USSTRATCOM Chief Knowledge Officer.

In addition to exchanging information about each service’s KM training programs, the participants began planning every aspect of the Fall Workshop, from guest speakers and topics to the agenda and panel facilitators.

“How we all are teaching KM will play a vital role in how we fight together,” said Wright.

About BCKS

Headquartered at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, the Battle Command Knowledge System (BCKS) is a subordinate organization of the U.S. Army Combined Arms Center (CAC). As CAC’s lead agent for implementing Army Operational Knowledge Management (AOKM) across the Army, BCKS is responsible for developing and implementing KM products and services that support collaboration among Soldiers and units. BCKS hosts more than 80 online professional forums that serve the

needs of approximately 100,000 DoD Active, Reserve and National Guard leaders. BCKS is a component of the CAC-Knowledge, which also includes the Center for Army Lessons Learned (CALL), Combined Arms Doctrine Directorate (CADD), Military Review journal and Combat Studies Institute (CSI).

<http://usacac.army.mil/CAC/bcks>