

# ART OF THE POSSIBLE NEWSLETTER

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AIR FORCE  
SUSTAINMENT CENTER

The AoP Newsletter is a monthly bulletin to communicate the latest enterprise AoP activities to the AFSC workforce. It provides updates on significant AoP institutionalization and implementation activities and tools. More detailed information is available on the AFSC AoP SharePoint site at <https://cs2.eis.af.mil/sites/22197/AoP/SitePagesR/Home.aspx>. If you have a question or would like to submit content for a future AoP Newsletter, please contact the POCs listed below.

## ***Mr. Leroy Sykes Introduced as New AoP SME***

Mr. Leroy Sykes has been appointed a new Art of the Possible Subject Matter Expert (AoP SME) at Hill Air Force Base (AFB), UT. Mr. Sykes replaces Ms. June Biancalana who retired from the position on 3 January 2019. Mr. Sykes served on active duty from 1974–1998 and began his civilian Air Force career in 1999 at Hill AFB as an F-16 aircraft mechanic. In 2000 he moved into supervision and served as a first level supervisor, section chief, and F-16 production chief. In 2009 he was selected as deputy director for the 572<sup>nd</sup> Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (AMXS). In 2011 he deployed with the Civilian Expeditionary Workforce to Camp Taji, Iraq. Upon his return from deployment, he was selected as director, 573<sup>rd</sup> AMXS. In September 2015 he was tasked to deploy to the 309<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Maintenance and Regeneration Group (AMARG) on Davis-Monthan AFB where he served as director 576 Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Squadron for 15 months. Upon return to Hill AFB in late 2016 he was appointed deputy director, 309 Electronics Maintenance Group (EMXG) and in September 2017 appointed director, 309 EMXG. Mr. Sykes possesses the highest level of understanding and experience in implementing, advising, and teaching AoP. Mr. Sykes was personally appointed by AFSC/CA and is recognized as one of the Air Force Sustainment Center's (AFSC) thought leaders in AoP. He acts as a trusted advisor to AFSC/CC and OO-ALC/CC, providing oversight of processes. He possesses the unique authority to act on the AFSC commander's behalf in implementing AoP; defining AoP core tenets, documents, terminology, and tools; supporting AFSC/DZD in developing training content for all AFSC skill levels; approving or rejecting proposed changes to AoP foundational elements; and presenting center level training for AoP 301 Squadron and Division Leadership Course and the AoP 401 Senior Leader Course.



## ***AoP SMEs Provide AoP 301 Training in Central Georgia***

The AoP SMEs provided AoP training to 75 students at Central Georgia Technical College (CGTC). Students came from across AFSC, Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC), Air Force Life Cycle Management Center (AFLCMC) Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC). In addition to the standard AoP 301 Squadron and Division Leadership Course content, students and AoP SMEs observed and discussed wall walks from three areas. These included the 407 Supply Chain Management Squadron's (SCMS) Purchase Instrument, the 571 Commodities Maintenance Squadron's (CMMXS) Non-Destructive Inspection focus and finish (NDI), and AFSC/LGS's special projects and recurring workload machines. Students gained valuable knowledge from the training and recognized as high points: learning how to apply AoP in administrative areas, learning how to set up a process machine, understanding how AoP and continuous process improvement (CPI) work together, seeing the wall walks, and understanding the Radiator Chart. The AoP Team also received valuable constructive feedback via its course critique process that they will use to improve AoP training. The next AoP 301 Squadron and Division Leadership Course will be held at Tinker AFB, OK in March 2019.

### **NEWSLETTER POCs**

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### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

#### **AoP 301 Sq/Div Leadership Course**

Tinker AFB, March 2019

Hill AFB, 11-12 June 2019

#### **AoP 401 Senior Leader Course**

Tinker AFB, 27-29 Aug 2019

#### **AoP Implementation Performance Review (IPR)**

3 Apr 2019

#### **AoP Enterprise Monthly Call**

Last Friday of the Month, 1430 EST,  
MMN DSN 852-9999; passcode 1103#

### **AoP FAQs and Misconceptions: What is a process machine?**

A process machine is a visual representation of a process used to portray current process performance. Its three essential elements are flow, WIP, and gate performance. AoP portrays flow through high level process steps known as "gates." WIP is the product or service generated by the process. All current WIP should be mapped to its current gate. Local performance charts portray the current performance of each gate using recent performance data of WIP that processed through the gate.

### **AoP SharePoint URL:**

<https://cs2.eis.af.mil/sites/22197/AoP/SitePagesR/Home.aspx>