

File 20100610.1306: Notes from discussion with Paul Ozura this morning:

I met with Mr Ozura after the 5.0 CT&E telecon this morning. He is in Denver with the IV&V team and PMO working on post-Beta 1 regression testing of 22 CRs included in 5.0ZC in response to Beta 1 findings. He wanted to talk about the question of multiple DAAs. Sometimes, an MOA (Memorandum of Agreement) will specify which DAA is in charge. Other times, especially if at least one interface of a CDS is connected to SCI, the DAA on that side will announce that he or she is taking responsibility. Other times, a CDMO or the UCDMO may decide. On rare occasions, the decision goes all the way up to the PAAs. Mr Ozura is going to give me a more detailed written answer in a few days.

I described to him what I am doing and explained why I am observing the RM 5.0 CT&E process. We discussed the politics going on in the room, some of the personalities involved, and various reasons why they might be doing some of the things they are doing. I explained how I have limited time to study the evolution of projects that might take years to unfold, so I am building a model of the (DAA<sup>n</sup>)–developer world that is abstract enough to show all the possible interactions but simple enough that I can prove things about it. Mr Ozura suggested that I should continue the research as a postdoc. He is very interested in seeing an improved method to be adopted. He suggested I keep working on this for the next five years.

He recommended that I speak with Dave Wallick, the chief of the Navy CDSO. Mr Ozura described him as the most level-headed, intelligent person in the business. (Autry works for Dave.) I should tell Mr Wallick that Mr Ozura pointed me in his direction. It may be difficult to get together with him, but following CDTAB (which occurs monthly) would be ideal. I should get him away from the office in an unclassified setting and ask my questions there. Mr Wallick is also a CISSP-ISSEP.

I am willing to fly out to the east coast to talk to Mr Wallick, especially if I could arrange to meet with several other people in the same trip. I will ask the PMO to arrange to be able to attend an upcoming CDTAB.

Before I meet with Mr Wallick, I should talk to Frank Sinkular and Dan Nichols first. Mr Ozura says that these gentlemen are thoughtful practitioners also, and would enjoy talking with a PhD student. I should ask them about 800-53, find out their questions, observations, and concerns. Also ask them who else they would recommend I talk to.

Mr Ozura provided validation that my model of multiple DAA interactions in cross domain CT&E is accurate. He said it fairly reflects the way real accreditations have been structured in his experience. He wanted to talk about DAA–DAA interactions where *A* has information but will not share it with *B* because of a turf war. This is slightly different from my theoretical scenario, but more closely mirrors observed interactions during the 5.0 CT&E. Personally, I despair of achieving a complete understanding of the politics going on in that room. I can describe what happens, I can make hypotheses about patterns that I have observed across two case studies, and I can test hypotheses on my abstract model. If I can finally make predictions about the behaviour of future ST&E efforts based on it, then I will have achieved something.

## References