



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://cs4.eis.afmc.af.mil/sites/1508/AoP/default.aspx>. If you have a question or would like to submit content for a future AoP Newsletter, please contact the POCs listed below.

Taking Stock of AoP Across AFSC

In early Jan 17, Lt Gen Levy challenged AFSC leaders to push their organizations to the next level of AoP maturity. Toward that end, the AoP Team developed and hosted an AoP “Stock Take” session at Tinker AFB, OK from 28 Feb to 2 Mar 17. The purpose of the Stock Take was for AFSC leadership to gain an understanding of the status of AoP implementation across AFSC units, for units to gain an understanding of whether they are on the right track toward implementing AoP, and for AFSC/LG to gain insight on how to improve AoP support to AFSC units. Leaders from every AFSC complex, staff directorate, and wing met and provided status updates on their unit’s progress, identified best practices, and detailed for AFSC/LG challenges with implementation. Key themes included diversity of AoP maturity across the Center; recognition that where leadership was most proactive, success was more likely; acknowledgement that frequent engagement of AoP SMEs has significant benefits; and concern about the lack of trained personnel. A second Stock Take is scheduled for 22-23 Jun 17 with a primary aim to establish an implementation baseline to enable recurring vector checks on AoP status to AFSC leadership.

AoP Training: Advanced Level Workshop

The five AoP SMEs provided an AoP Advanced Level Workshop (ALW) for 60 participants from 18-19 Apr 17 at Scott AFB, IL. The ALW is one of four tiers of AoP training developed by AFSC/DPD. The purpose of the ALW is to train AFSC leaders on AoP so they leave committed and equipped to earnestly implement AoP on their organization’s essential tasks. AoP ALWs are intended for AFSC group level commanders and directors down to first line supervisors. The Center AoP Team provides ALWs four times a year rotating across AFSC locations. Participants are selected by their unit leadership based on position and level of responsibility. Other tiers of AoP training include the AFSC Senior Leader Course (SLC), which is intended for incoming AFSC senior leaders. SLCs take place annually with this year’s SLC scheduled for 14-16 Aug 17 at Tinker AFB, OK. Intermediate Level AoP Training is the third tier of AoP training. Its content is being developed by AFSC/DPD for all AFSC team members. Intermediate Level content is based upon the ALW but is less time intensive. It will be provided for local training of all non-supervisory AFSC employees. The most basic tier of AoP training is a trifold pamphlet provided for new AFSC employees during their New Employee Orientation. ALW content and the basic level pamphlet are available in the training folder on the AoP SharePoint site.

Did You Know? All AoP SME approved content is available for use on the AoP SharePoint site. This includes all approved AoP training content such as AoP Advanced Level Workshop slides and the New Employee Orientation pamphlet, as well as the approved versions of the AoP Maturity Matrix and Radiator Charts. AoP SMEs approved an update to the Maturity Matrix on 20 Apr 17. The AoP guidance documents, AFSCI 60-101 Art of the Possible and the AoP Handbook, will be posted to SharePoint this summer.

NEWSLETTER POCs

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Upcoming Events:

Advanced Level Workshops

20-21 Jun 17, Tinker AFB

Dates TBD Nov 17, Robins, AFB

Note: Locations swapped to support
Stock Take II

Senior Leader Course

14-16 Aug 17, Tinker AFB

Stock Take II

22-23 Jun 17, Tinker AFB

Note: Was previously Robins AFB

AoP FAQs & Common Misperceptions:

How does AoP apply in a non-production environment? AoP provides an operational view of critical processes and uses data to identify the constraint most impacting the process whether it be a production or non-production process. AoP core tenets apply to both production and non-production environments. These tenets are 1) the Leadership Model, 2) the Radiator Chart, 3) defining flow, 4) identifying WIP, 5) identifying the constraint, and 6) resolving the constraint. Examples of AoP applied in a non-production environment are available on the AoP SharePoint folder.

Please NOTE the AoP SharePoint URL has changed:
<https://cs4.eis.afmc.af.mil/sites/1508/AoP/default.aspx>