

WM2009 Conference Panel Report

Panel Session 37 -EFCOG Overview and Priorities

Panel Reporter: John Longenecker, Longenecker & Associates, Inc. (USA)

The following individuals participated in the panel

- Pamela Horning, B&W Technologies, EFCOG Chair
- George Jackson, Fluor, Vice Chair
- Norm Barker, Energy Solutions, ISM/QA WG Chair
- Cynthia Williams, SRNS, ESH WG
- Steve Mournighan, Longenecker & Associates, Inc, Acquisition Management WG
- Charles Kronvall, Engineering Practices WG
- Sonny Goldston, Waste Management WG
- Roland Knapp, LANL, Performance Assurance WG,
- Jeff Jay, SRNS, Human Capital WG
- Mike Auble, LLNL, D&D WG
- Mark Sueksdorf, LLNL, Project Management WG
- Jim Mulkey, B&W Y-12, Security WG

The panel addressed the functions of EFCOG, its key activities, current priorities, and how companies can access its best practices and lessons learned most effectively.

Pam Horning, the EFCOG chair began with an overview of EFCOG, and its mission to promote excellence in all aspects of the operation, management, and integration of DOE facilities in a safe, environmentally sound, efficient and cost-effective manner.

Horning then reviewed the EFCOG value proposition for DOE, noting that EFCOG is committed to the achievement of DOE's goals through performance excellence by partnering with DOE and its stakeholders in a collaborative and trusting environment. EFCOG provides an integrated, proactive contractor view on topics of common interest. EFCOG facilitates multiple forums for open communication, provide constructive feedback, and proposes solutions to meet mutual challenges.

Next, Horning reviewed the value proposition for member companies, stating that EFCOG offers members a leveraged opportunity for involvement with DOE leadership through a relationship of mutual trust. EFCOG provides a forum for solving crosscutting problems and creating best practices. EFCOG's goal is to enhance mission accomplishment through performance improvement.

Horning reviewed the EFCOG cornerstones of knowledge transfer, issue resolution, performance analysis and customer member assistance.

However, she stressed that EFCOG does not:

- Engage in lobbying.
- Take public positions opposing DOE on issues, regulations, DOE orders, etc.
- Require standardized approaches among member companies, but encourages members to customize solutions to fit their needs.

Next Horning discussed the Critical Few items on which the EFCOG board of directors focuses. These include:

- Integrated Safety Management
- Security
- Project Management
- Infrastructure Management
- Contractor Performance Assurance
- Human Capital

Horning then introduced the EFCOG working groups, noting that they are the backbone of EFCOG. The working groups include:

- Acquisition Management
- Contractor Performance Assurance
- D&D
- Energy Efficiency
- Engineering Practices
- Environment, Safety and Health
- Human Capital
- Infrastructure Management
- Integrated Safety Management
- Safety and Security Regulatory
- Project Management
- Safety Analysis
- Security

She noted that each working group must have:

- Clearly defined objectives
- DOE sponsorship
- Tangible accomplishments each year

The EFCOG board reviews each WG at least annually and makes a decision on whether the group is generating value and should be continued.

Horning then reviewed some of the more significant accomplishments of EFCOG over the past year. In closing, Horning noted that 2009 was a year of great change in all aspects of DOE's projects and programs, and that EFCOG was preparing to adapt to these changes to continue to add value for its members and DOE customers.

Following a presentation by the WG representatives, George Jackson closed the session by describing how companies can get involved with and benefit from membership in EFCOG. The attendance at the session varied from 50-70 people.

It is clear that the session provided useful information to those interested in accessing best practices and lessons learned from EFCOG.