From:	Cook, Katie
Subject:	Daily Media Clips - 5.30.18
Date:	Wednesday, May 30, 2018 10:00:14 AM
Attachments:	image005.png image003.png image004.png image006.png

switch to HTML

SECTION 809 PANEL

Daily Media Clips

May 30, 2018

The Section 809 Panel is a congressionally mandated panel designed to be a catalyst that restores agility and simplicity to defense acquisition through bold and effective recommendations.

Good morning! We found several articles that you may be interested in.

US Air Force Is Waiting a Year for Parts That It Could 3D-Print

May 29, 2018 | Marcus Weisgerber

Someday, the military will 3D-print missiles as needed, the U.S. Air Force's acquisition chief says. In the shorter term, he just wants to use additive manufacturing technology to get broken planes back in the air. The roadblock is legal, not technical.

"I have airplanes right now that are waiting on parts that are taking a year and a half to deliver. A year and a half," Will Roper, the assistant Air Force secretary for acquisition, technology and logistics, said in an interview.

Today's 3D-printers could make short work of those deliveries, but some of those parts' original manufacturers control the intellectual property — and so far, the service lacks clear policy for dealing with that.

"[The] reason I can't say we're going to do it is we're talking about government contracts and IP, so I have lawyers that are helping me and other contracts folks," Roper said. "But it's an area I'm going to stay focused because I see a way for win-win. And that doesn't happen often in the government."

Roper's own Pentagon conference table prominently displays a collection of small 3D-printed parts, including a door handle for a C-5 Galaxy transport. Industry executives said they have seen the parts there during recent meetings.

The Air Force is already 3D-printing niche projects whose original suppliers no longer exist. The problem is with parts whose manufacturers are still around, but which no longer make the specific item in need.

During the interview, Roper scanned his office looking for a 3D-printed toilet seat cover used in a C-17 cargo plane. "I guess I gave it away again," he said. The cover costs about $300 to print, he said, but the price to buy a new one is $10,000. How that's possible? "Because we don't need many of them," he said.

"You'll think: there's no way it costs that," Roper said. "No, it doesn't, but you're asking a company to produce it and they're producing something else. And for them to produce this part for us, they have to quit producing" what they're making now. "They're losing revenue and profit. So although it looks like it's a certain price in the GSA [Government Services Administration] catalog, the business case is what drives it up.

Read more HERE.

Other Articles of Interest

Poland offers up to $2 billion for a permanent US military presence
May 29, 2018 | Jaroslaw Adamowski

Here's why the Senate wants to split Pentagon's Personnel and Readiness Office
May 29, 2018 | Leo Shane III

Budget battle brews as Trump threatens another shutdown
May 29, 2018 | Andrew Taylor

Trump officially nominates new commander for Afghan war
May 29, 2018 | Rebecca Kheel

The Pentagon has a 'major' automated information systems problem
May 29, 2018 | Brandon Knapp

Here's how to ensure readiness of cyber forces
May 29, 2018 | Mark Pomerleau

Section 809 News

On this month's Bold Bites Podcast, Lt Col Sam Kidd provides us with information about topics such as Title 10, how to understand U.S. Code, and the complexity of this topic. Listen to this informative podcast to learn more about U.S. Code and the recommendations being considered here at the Section 809 Panel.

KATIE COOK, CAPM
Digital Media Project Manager
Section 809 Panel
1400 Key Blvd., Suite 210
Rosslyn, VA 22209
(**W**) 703-571-2989
(**C**) 571-342-0589

SECTION 809 PANEL | Streamlining & Codifying Acquisition