Enhancing PEO IWS Acquisition Processes Using the Lean Launchpad and AI Integration

NPS PRAESTANTIA PER SCIENTIAM 1909

NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

Abstract

This Innovative Capstone Project focuses on improving acquisition strategy processes within Program Executive Office (PEO IWS) using the Lean LaunchPad methodology. Addressing challenges faced by Assistant Program Managers (APMs), the study highlights inefficiencies in acquisition strategy development, including complex stakeholder management, extensive documentation requirements, and lengthy approval processes. The team utilized beneficiary discovery, the Mission Model Canvas (MMC), and iterative market research to identify and validate a Minimum Viable Product (MVP). The final MVP leverages the AI platform "Ask Sage," tailored to PEO IWS needs, improving efficiency, decision-making, and compliance. The prototype provides a centralized repository, standardized templates, and automation tools, reducing the cognitive load on APMs and ensuring alignment with PEO IWS's strategic objectives.

Team DAP with our sponsor after presenting our MVP at PEO IWS

Methods

- Application of the Lean LaunchPad Methodology learned through the Hacking for Defense® curriculum offered at NPS: Beneficiary Discovery, Mission Model Canvas, and Minimum Viable Product development.
- Interviews: Conducted 33 interviews with beneficiaries and stakeholders to understand the core pains APMs face at PEO IWS
- Market Research: Evaluated generative AI platforms (Ask Sage, AWS GovCloud, ADVANA for suitability)

- MVP Development: Partnered with Ask Sage to develop, tailor, and test "PEO IWS Acquisition In-a-Box".
- Sponsor Presentation: Presented MVP to sponsor and over 200 APM to gain valuable feedback towards future MVP iterations.
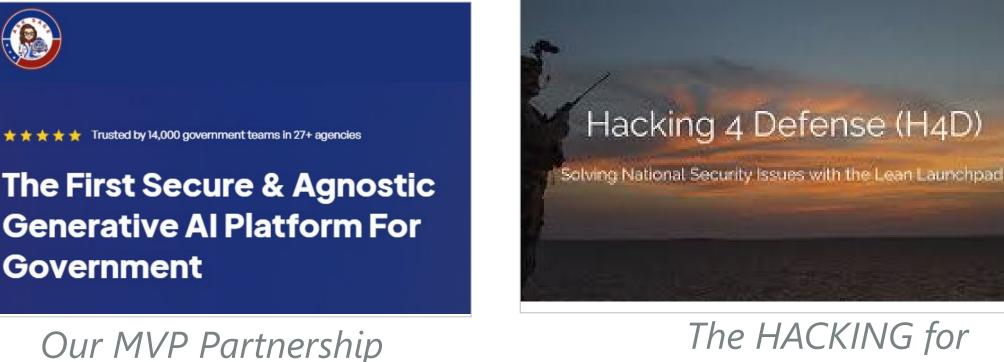
Results & Their Impact

- Efficiency Gains: Reduced acquisition strategy lead times and enhanced document standardization
- Compliance Support: Intergrated real-time regulatory updates and feedback mechanisms

- Stakeholder Collaboration: Centralized platform improved alignment across stakeholder feedback.
- Operational Impact: Support the U.S Navy's mission to maintain maritime superiority by expediting acquisition processes.
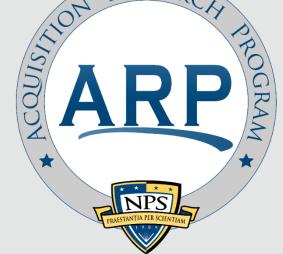

Team DAP with our NSIN Partner at PEO IWS

AI and PEO IWS relationship graphic

The First Secure & Agnostic Generative AI Platform For Government

Our MVP Partnership (Ask Sage)

Hacking 4 Defense (H4D)

The HACKING for DEFENSE® curriculum used

Acquisition Research Program

www.acquisitionresearch.net

ARP

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