



**Overview:** The Integrated Casting Order Network (ICON) received the Defense Manufacturing Technology Achievement (DTMA) award in the project category of Supply Chain Improvement. The challenge to DLA is, procuring high-quality, cost-effective spare parts for DoD legacy weapon systems due to fragmented supply chains, and a diminishing manufacturing base. From a manufacturer's standpoint, a major difficulty is sorting through the broad spectrum of DLA solicitations to find the right opportunities on which to bid. ICON helps to solve this difficulty.

## SUCCESS STORY

**Problem:** The problem that ICON's automated Supply Chain Solution addresses are the failure to identify casters who are, or may be in possession of the tooling, results in the design and manufacture of a new tool to produce a part, creating a potential "after-market" product and start-up, adding substantial costs and lead time. ICON expands the database of metal casters in the U.S. that matches the metal casters' capabilities to meet defense requirements and links them to open or posted metal casting solicitations. ICON increases the visibility (1) the producer of the original or legacy parts, (2) who maintains the initial tooling for the cast components, and (3) who are qualified metalcasters able to bid for manufacturing parts.

**Solution:** ICON allows casting suppliers to quickly and easily review relevant solicitations and, if available, locate existing casting tooling. ICON is also recognized for its automated quotation management, contract award, and inventory management capabilities. ICON's cloud-based program is the easiest way to identify relevant DLA/DoD sales opportunities for cast metal components. It helps resolve supply chain issues for cast components by uniting foundries, machine shops, and other stakeholders into a single procurement portal.

**Benefit:** The ICON project reduces tooling costs and lead times associated with the manufacture and design of tooling, increases the number of qualified bids per solicitation reducing the number of no-bids, and enables users to manage all aspects of providing cast components to the DLA entirely within the ICON portal of operations.



*"ICON is a user-friendly system that provides an abundance of critical procurement data daily and is a must-have for foundries seeking government work. Through the use of ICON, we receive new opportunities every day to bid on that we are capable of producing." –John Danko, Danko Arlington, Inc., Baltimore, MD*