Storing, managing and utilizing chemical and material information properly have never been easy, especially for large organizations. This issue has become even more difficult, given the influx of new products and the complexities of their formulations. Furthermore, potential exposure pathways and toxicological data are constantly evolving. How does an organization with limited resources effectively prioritize its efforts to successfully manage its chemical and material usage?

Acknowledging that multiple factors can oftentimes confound an organization from making the best, i.e., informed decisions, this talk presents an overview of the most recent steps taken by DoD, where the Agency’s chemical management stakes are high. Topics include: intended as well as unintended consequences of (1) materiel scarcity and diminishing manufacturing sources, vis a vis the development and adoption of alternative materials and products; (2) new technologies such as nano-enabled devices, vis a vis defense readiness; and (3) changing regulations, policies and economics, vis a vis materiel cost, availability and performance, including counterfeit products. The goal of this work is to protect both the integrity and affordability of the products within the defense supply chain, and the ability to sustain defense systems into the future, critical to the defense mission.