



# 10 Myths

## *About Performance Based Logistics*

Allan Banghart  
Deloitte Consulting LLP

25 February 2013





# Myth #1

---

**PBLs fail to deliver advertised  
mission readiness and cost improvements**

## What the Evidence Indicates

*Myth #1: PBLs fail to deliver advertised mission readiness and cost improvements*

---

- Proof Point Analysis (2010-2011) provides compelling evidence regarding cost and performance improvements
- DoD's Activity Based Costing capabilities invariably understate pre-PBL sustainment costs, whereas (commercial) PBL costs are known precisely
- Secondary/tertiary effects associated with non-PBL sustainment not accounted for in savings calculus

Bottom line:

*PBL performance improvements are significant and as advertised, ...*

*Cost saving estimates are understated*

# Myth #2

---

**PBLs must be developed and managed with precision  
to achieve  
significant cost and performance improvements**

## What the Evidence Indicates

*Myth #2: PBLs must be developed and managed with precision to achieve significant cost and performance improvements*

---

- Strength of PBLs can be determined by objectively measuring adherence to established PBL business model tenets
- None of the PBL arrangements examined in Proof Point Analysis exhibited strong adherence to all established PBL tenets
- Every PBL examined in Proof Point exhibiting at least moderate adherence to core PBL tenets experienced both cost and mission performance improvements \*

Bottom line:

*Moderate adherence to PBL tenets delivers success*

*Robust strategies deliver positive outcomes absent perfect execution,  
PBL is a robust business strategy*

# Myth #3

---

**PBL and outsourcing are synonymous,...  
negatively impacting Services' ability to comply with  
Core and 50/50 mandates**

## What the Evidence Indicates

*Myth #3: PBL and outsourcing are synonymous, ...negatively impacting Services' ability to comply with Core and 50/50 mandates*

---

- PBL sustainment may be 100% organic, 100% commercial, shared
- PBLs can be leveraged to drive work into organic DoD activities
  - Industry behavior incentivized by potential for improved profit, Return on Invested Capital (ROIC) and assured revenue streams
- Decision to outsource organic work is the Services

Bottom line:

*PBLs not synonymous with outsourcing  
Profit and ROIC can incentivize increased organic workload,  
making Core and 50/50 compliance less challenging*



# Myth #4

---

**Ensuring the “best deal” should be Services’ criteria  
for executing a PBL arrangement**

## What the Evidence Indicates

*Myth #4:* Ensuring the “best deal” should be Services’ criteria for executing a PBL arrangement

---

- Determining if a proposed arrangement is a “best deal” is not within the art of the doable, ...seeking it is costly and futile
  - Lack of strong Activity Based Costing capabilities
  - Inability to cost second and third order effects of pre-PBL sustainment
  - Lack of trust, ...and therefore transparency
  
- Delaying in the hope of identifying and negotiating a “best deal” forestalls establishing conditions that facilitate identification of “better deals” in the future
  
- Cost estimate of delay for a typical subsystem =  
**(.2 x \$ value of annual spend x # of years of delay)**

Bottom line:

*Prudent “speed to value” prevents  
excess, unrecoverable excess costs to the Services*

# Myth #5

---

**Industry makes “excess profits” on PBL arrangements, ...  
which hurts the Services**

## What the Evidence Indicates

*Myth #5: Industry makes “excess profits” on PBL arrangements which hurts the Services*

---

- PBLs afford: Reduced costs and improved readiness for Services in exchange for potential industry profits above negotiated levels, improved ROIC, assured revenue streams
- The Key: A Firm Fixed Price contract of sufficient length to warrant investments in product quality and process improvements
- Acting to constrain industry’s profits (excess or otherwise), reduces Services’ cost and performance improvement potential

Bottom line:

*PBLs incentivize “Win-Win” behavior, and drive down Service costs*

*Transactional logistics commands higher profit margins,  
adding costs the Services pay, ....  
for less performance*

# Myth #6

---

**PBLs increase Services' mission and financial risk**

## What the Evidence Indicates

*Myth #6: PBLs increase Services' mission and financial risk*

---

- Complexity and uncertainty are risk drivers
- Over 30+ year life of a typical sub-system employing transactional sustainment, Services and DLA will integrate, synchronize and source myriad requirements and write/oversee 1000s of contract actions
- “Integration” PBLs reduce above complexity to <10 contracts
- A multi-year, Firm Fixed Price contract for a specified level of performance eliminates budget uncertainty

Bottom line:

*PBLs reduce financial and performance risk*

*A single PBL is more difficult than a single transactional contract  
Over a system's lifetime, PBLs are far less complex and uncertain*

# Myth #7

---

**PBLs negatively impact  
“year-of-execution” funding flexibility**

## What the Evidence Indicates

*Myth #7: PBLs negatively impact "year-of-execution" funding flexibility*

---

- “Year-of-execution funding flexibility”:
  - Percent of total funds available to shift between accounts
  - Total amount of funds available to the Service
  
- PBLs reduce the percentage of total funds available to shift between accounts in the year of execution
  
- PBLs increase the total funds available to the Service by reducing the cost of sustainment by ~20%

Bottom line:

*20% savings are 100% flexible*

*Transactional logistics effectively increase costs by ~20%  
Reducing available discretionary funds by an equal amount*

*20% added cost is 0% flexible*



# Myth #8

---

**Where only one commercial maintenance provider exists,  
PBL cannot deliver  
mission readiness and cost improvements**

## What the Evidence Indicates

*Myth #8: Where only one commercial maintenance provider exists, PBL cannot deliver mission performance and cost improvements*

---

- Distinguishing characteristic of PBL strategy: “Manufactures ” competition” regardless of the competitive landscape
  - Firm Fixed Price contract with an appropriate Period of Performance and clearly defined requirements
  - Provides known revenue stream
  - Enables targeted investments in quality and process improvements
  - Provider improves profitability by “competing” against its product quality and process challenges
  
- Services share in improved profitability at contract renegotiation or through gain sharing during the Period of Performance
  
- Transactional logistics commands higher profit margins, incentivizes more repairs/sales and lacks investment incentives

Bottom line:

*PBLs align Service and industry interests*

# Myth #9

---

**Where Services do not own  
maintenance-related data rights,  
PBL arrangements cannot deliver  
mission performance and cost improvements**

## What the Evidence Indicates

*Myth #9: Where Services do not own maintenance-related data rights, PBLs arrangements cannot deliver mission performance and cost improvements*

---

- Data-rights ownership a negotiation lever, ...not the only one
- Industry highly incentivized by assured revenue streams
  - Influence on profit margins
- Industry highly incentivized by Return on Invested Capital
  - Influence on “where” the work is performed
- PBLs “manufacture” competition” regardless of data ownership
- Companies owning data rights have added negotiation leverage, ...they do not have all the leverage

Bottom line:

*Industry won't ignore opportunities to improve profit & ROIC*

# Myth #10

---

**PBLs result in a loss of Service “control”**

# What the Evidence Indicates

*Myth #10: PBLs result in a loss of Service “control”*

---

- Transactional logistics arrangements where the government is the integrator often provide less real control than imagined
  - Disparate activities impact organic sustainment: operators, depots, Service supply & contracting activities, DLA, comptrollers, ... and commercial service providers and suppliers
- Commercial PBL provider integration can significantly reduce the challenges present in the Department’s sustainment value chains
  - Integrated planning, demand signal management, sourcing of services and supplies, financial controls, etc.

Bottom line:

*PBLs can provide the Services greater real control over their sustainment operations*

# Myths #11 - #17

---

- 11. PBL strategy dictates a one-size-fits-all approach.**
- 12. Exhaustive and expensive BCAs are required to develop PBLs**
- 13. PBLs lock Services into long term, inflexible contracts**
- 14. PBLs can only be successful for sub-systems or components**
- 15. All equipment should be maintained under a PBL arrangement**
- 16. PBLs must be Firm Fixed Price**
- 17. PBLs must have five year or more Periods of Performance**

# In Summary

---

Properly structured and executed,  
PBLs reduce the Services' cost per unit-of-performance  
while simultaneously driving up absolute levels of  
system, sub-system and component readiness

**Deloitte.**

**Al Banghart**

**Deloitte Consulting LLP**  
1919 N. Lynn St.  
Arlington, VA 22209  
USA

Direct: + 1 571 227 8232  
Mobile: +1 703 347 5623  
abanghart@deloitte.com  
www.deloitte.com

Member of  
**Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu**





Copyright © 2013 Deloitte Development LLC. All rights reserved.  
Member of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited