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Other News

The DoD Corrosion Exchange Community of Practice

The use of the term *community of practice* was first defined by Jean Lave and Etienne Wenger, researchers at the Institute for Research and Learning, in their book *Situated Learning* (1991) to describe how organizations create and share knowledge. Communities of practice are not a new idea—people have banded together for hundreds of years to problem solve, exchange ideas, and transfer knowledge.

A community of practice generally consists of informal networks of people who share common concerns, problems, interests, or a passion about a particular topic, and who come together to broaden and enhance their understanding and knowledge by collaborating and communicating with like-minded people on an ongoing basis.

In the case of the DoD Corrosion Exchange (DoDCE) community of practice, the concerns, problems, and interests center on preventing, controlling, and reducing the cost of corrosion in terms of dollars and operational readiness, particularly as it relates to DoD weapon systems, equipment, related commercial assets, and infrastructure. Using the community of practice knowledge strategy combined with quality content and a robust suite of information-sharing and collaboration tools, the DoDCE Web site allows members to freely collaborate and share ideas, data, information, and knowledge online 24/7 in an open forum or secured environment tailored to their specific needs.

Visit the DoD Corrosion Exchange at www.DoDCorrosionExchange.org and join members from industry, academia, and the DoD/government in the fight against corrosion.