

Each issue of *Contract Management* features a number of articles focusing on the issue's topic, as well as other articles on a variety of aspects of contract management.

**JAN** **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**  
Start the New Year off right by planning for professional development—for yourself and for your organization's workforce. Topical coverage:

- Resources to gain knowledge and competence in contract management.
- Assessing knowledge gaps.
- Developing Individual Development Plans (IDPs).
- Professionalism, competency, and certification.

01

**FEB** **OUR MISSION**  
Spotlighting the varied and important missions contract managers help make happen. Topical coverage:

- The roles contract managers play in successful mission completion.
- Interesting acquisitions.
- Examples of the need for sound business judgment.
- What contract managers buy/sell (and why that's important).

02

**MAR** **THE FUTURE OF CONTRACTING**  
Envisioning the future of the business of contracting—as well as the contract management profession. Topical coverage:

- What will be the "new normal"?
- Managing a tele-workforce.
- AI, bots, cybersecurity certifications, etc.
- Nontraditional contracting methods.

03

**APR** **SUBCONTRACT MANAGEMENT**  
*(Distributed at SubCon Training Workshops 2021.)*  
All things related to buying, selling, and administering subcontracts within the supply chain. Topical coverage:

- Sourcing issues.
- Flowdown of terms and conditions.
- Subcontracting plans.
- IP protection, license/data rights.

04

**MAY** **BACK TO BASICS**  
Better understanding the business of contracting or reinforcing your foundational knowledge are both essential for success. Topical coverage:

- "Contracting 101": The fundamentals.
- Contract management standards and competencies.
- Contract life cycle phases—Pre-Award, Award, and Post-Award.
- Best practices.

05

**JUN** **MARKET INTELLIGENCE**  
Studying markets reveals whether current suppliers are sufficient to meet demand or whether new vendors—or even new approaches—are needed. Topical coverage:

- Economic/financial, regulatory, and sociopolitical factors affecting suppliers.
- Best practices in market intelligence.
- Methods to widen markets.
- Ensuring high-performing suppliers.

06

**JUL** **THE ACQUISITION TEAM ISSUE**  
*(Distributed at World Congress 2021.)*  
Examining the roles, responsibilities, and challenges of all those involved in the contracting process and how their "pieces" fit into the puzzle. Topical coverage:

- PM and CM cooperation, government/industry communication, etc.
- Working in teams, communications training.
- Requirements definition and writing effective statements of work.
- Contracting for non-CM team members.

07

**AUG** **BUILDING LEADERS**  
Effective leadership strategies and advice for emerging leaders on the qualities of great leadership. Topical coverage:

- Lessons learned and stories from leaders in the profession.
- Leadership transition planning.
- Generational issues.
- Insights from Contract Management Leadership Development Program (CMLDP) coaches and mentors.

08

**SEP** **SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT**  
Issues relating to the entire network of entities through which an item of supply flows—from its raw form to the finished product delivered to the ultimate end user/customer. Topical coverage:

- Compliance with new rules and standards.
- Supplier relationship management.
- Counterfeit parts/products.
- Cybersecurity compliance within the supply chain.

09

**OCT** **COMPLIANT CONTRACTING**  
The statutory and regulatory landscape of contracting is not only complex, but ever-changing. Topical coverage:

- Compliance with laws, regulations, and other rules and standards (e.g., the CMMC).
- Audits and accounting.
- Subcontractor flowdown compliance.
- Contractor Purchasing System Reviews (CPSRs).

10

**NOV** **COST AND PRICING**  
Ensuring fair and reasonable pricing through cost and price analysis. Topical coverage:

- Cost analysis, pricing, and price analysis.
- The FAR's Cost Principles.
- Trade-off, best value, etc.
- Cost Accounting Standards (CAS).

11

**DEC** **YEAR IN REVIEW/2022 OUTLOOK**  
*(Distributed at the Government Contract Management Symposium 2021.)*  
A review of the year's major events, policy changes, etc., and looking ahead at what next year may bring. Topical coverage:

- Analysis of major legislative, regulatory, case law, and policy updates.
- Success stories, hurdles encountered, etc.
- Recommendations for changes/improvements.
- Looking forward to the 2022 landscape.

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## ARTICLE/CONTENT SUBMISSION DEADLINES

ISSUE MONTH	ARTICLES/CONTENT DUE
January 2021	October 2, 2020
February 2021	November 2, 2020
March 2021	December 1, 2020
April 2021	January 4, 2021
May 2021	February 1, 2021
June 2021	March 1, 2021
July 2021	April 1, 2021
August 2021	May 3, 2021
September 2021	June 1, 2021
October 2021	July 1, 2021
November 2021	August 2, 2021
December 2021	September 1, 2021

For more information on the *Contract Management* submission process, and to access the magazine's Editorial Guidelines, visit [www.ncmahq.org/cm-magazine](http://www.ncmahq.org/cm-magazine).

## MONTHLY DEPARTMENTS\*

\*Department/column lineup subject to change.

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING DEPARTMENTS AND COLUMNS ARE ACCEPTED YEAR-ROUND.

Clause Corner	Analysis of one common contract clause—its history, purpose(s), and uses; common pitfalls; and proper application.
Counsel Commentary	A deep dive into a recent Court or Board decision; law, regulation, or policy change; or other legal issue.
Innovations	A column designed to help navigate this time of vibrant change by sharing new and inspiring ideas, approaches, methods, and tools.
View from Across the Table	Understanding how the other side does business and their motivations are key to successful acquisitions.
Mile in My Shoes	Sharing personal experiences of working within this diverse profession—a success story, a challenge overcome, an inspiring anecdote, etc.
Faces of NCMA	Spotlighting individual NCMA members, their experiences in the profession, and how the association has helped shape their careers.