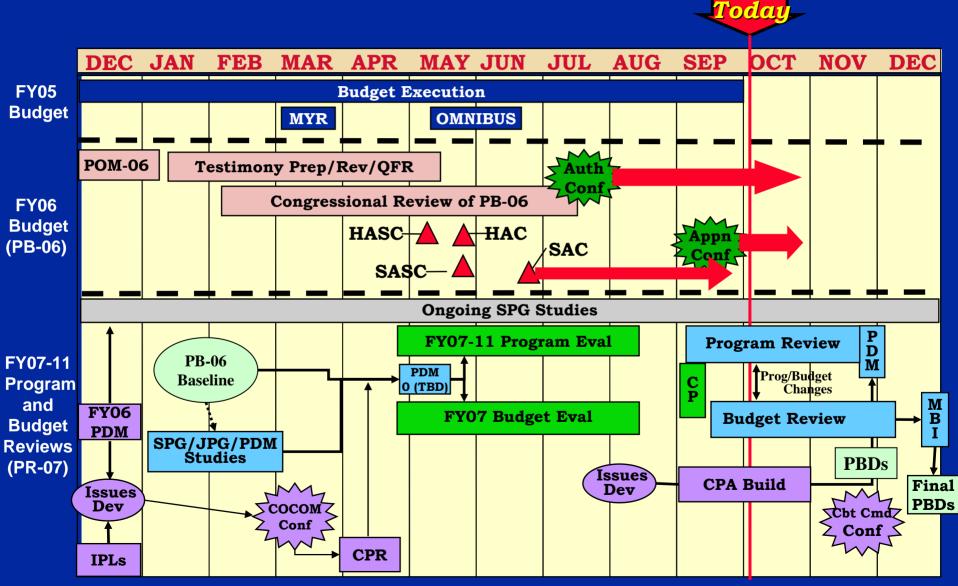


# Three Years of Budgets In Process



## Plus...

- Acquisition Reform
- Outsourcing
- "Buy America"
- Tax Policy
- Liability Indemnification
- And More...

A Complex Environment

## Who is the Customer?

(A Defense/Aerospace Perspective)

• Simple Question... Simple answer... right?

- The Procuring Agency

No!



# What Government Relations Experts Do for "You"

### Strategic

- The "Big Idea"
- Thought Leadership
- Insight
- Shaping the Game
- Face, Voice, Eyes, and Ears

### • <u>Tactical</u>

- Relationships With Key Government Customers
- Identify Business Opportunities
- Provide "Customer View" To the Campaign
- Help Develop and Execute the Strategy
- Advocate Programs In Congress and Executive Branch
- Assist With PR Campaigns
- Political Representation

An Integral Part of the Campaign

### **Executive Branch Environment**

- Focus Still On Current Operations
- Reliance On Supplemental Appropriations
- Budget Pressures Increasing
- DOD:
  - OSD Predominance
  - Everything Must Be "Joint", Including New JCIDS Customer
  - "Transformation" Still Underway
  - Capabilities-Based Thinking, Not Platforms
  - Evolutionary/"Good Enough" Acquisition
  - Best Partner/Best Value Balance
  - Overhang of Procurement Scandals
  - "Must Pay" Bills Growing
- Personnel Changes/Vacancies of Concern

# **Congressional Environment**

- Competing Priorities For Funds
  - Deficit
  - Tax Cuts
  - Cost Of Iraq War
  - Disaster Recovery
- But National Security Remains A Priority
- Internal Defense Budget Pressures Growing
- Congress Forcing Budget Choices
- Skeptical Of Many DOD Leaders
- Appearance/COI Issue
- 2006/2008 Elections Stressing



# Impacts on Government Relations Approach

#### • Executive Branch:

- Institutional/Joint Customer Very Important
- Sensitivity to Competing Priorities
- Must Offer "Gap Filler"/Spiral Approaches
- Best Partner and Best Value

#### Congress:

- Less Top Down Leadership, More Committee Control
- New Players Moving into Key Committee Leads
- Cardinals Still Powerful
- Election Uncertainties Strengthen Delegations
- Industry Credibility/Trust Issue Must be Managed
- Good Program Performance Vital for Survival

# Summary

- Increasing Complexity of Process
- New/More Decision Influencers
- Changing Power Dynamic
- "Keep Sold" More Challenging
- Decisions More Political
- Relationships Are Key

