

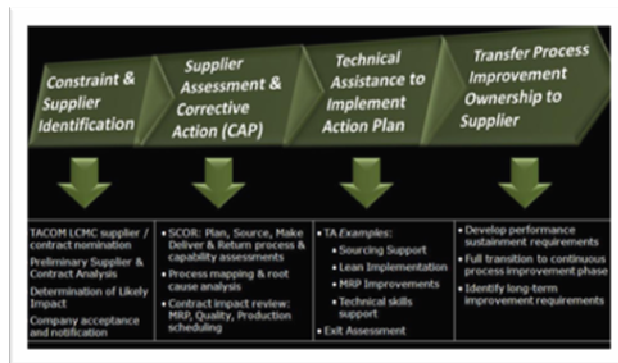
**The Asaba Group and US Army TACOM's Industrial Base Operations Launch Army MTAPP (July 2009)**



Continuing overseas activities in Iraq and Afghanistan have created a sustained surge in Warfighter requirements placing ever increasing demands on Army Tank & Automotive Command (TACOM) and its suppliers. To ensure the continued solid performance of its small and medium sized business industrial base, the IBO launched a three year effort to create an Army Manufacturing Technical Assistance Production Program (MTAPP) in July 2009. This program seeks to develop and deploy technical assistance tools in support of immediate and long-term TACOM requirements with the following overall mission:

***Provide expert technical assistance to resolve supply chain constraints, enhance production capabilities, improve quality assurance, and incorporate the Lean Six Sigma core principles within small business suppliers to ensure readiness and sustainment support for critical defense systems.***

Prior to program launch, TACOM awarded a program management and execution services contract to The Asaba Group to act as the lead technical services provider within MTAPP. Under this contract, The Asaba Group will work closely with the IBO to identify and address critical supply chain constraints with as many as 60 suppliers. Once identified, the suppliers will be assisted through a standardized development process as follows:



During the initial three year effort, the IBO and The Asaba Group will seek to collaborate with the Program Executive Offices (PEO), the TACOM Contracting Center, and Integrated Logistics Support Center (ILSC), to align MTAPP tools and small business engagement outcomes with the readiness and cost effectiveness objectives of LCMC's mission. Success during this pilot will be measured in large part by the contributions of MTAPP suppliers to weapon system development, reset, modernization, and sustainment needs through the current surge in demand for TACOM managed items and the inevitable drawdown period at the completion of current hostilities.

For more information on Army MTAPP go to [www.armymtapp.us](http://www.armymtapp.us)

