

Thinking outside that proverbial box

Signaleers,

I am very excited about this edition of *Army Communicator*. Knowledge management is one of the most important, and controversial subjects in the Signal Regiment in 2011. I told my team that I wanted this issue to capture the full-range of the Regiment's ongoing discussion of KM, and I think they did a great job. This issue is full of strong, diverse, professional opinions on KM.

One often hears about the importance of "Thinking Outside the Box." The origin of that particular phrase is thought to come from a puzzle introduced around 1969. The puzzle asks people to connect nine dots by drawing four straight continuous lines. We all know the only way to solve this nine dot puzzle is to draw lines outside the confines of the square area defined by the dots themselves. The puzzle only seems difficult when we imagine a boundary around the edge of the array (see the solution on the inside back cover).

In this edition you will find no fewer than five different definitions of KM. Clearly, the Regiment's discussion of KM is not bounded by anything as mundane as the definition of KM, or by a failure of imagination. An unbounded discussion of KM is exactly what we need right now and it is exactly what we are publishing. All of these opposing opinions on KM are rooted in honest dissent, and a strong commitment to our customers and to our profession. We will get KM right, and take care of our customers, because we are exploring the full, unbounded range of KM.

President Theodore Roosevelt once said, "In any moment of decision the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing." We will make some very important decisions about KM in 2011 and 2012. I encourage each one of you to participate in the KM discussion. This issue of *Army Communicator* will tell where those discussions are taking place, and how to get involved.

We are continuing to make sweeping changes to our Regiment and we are taking input from the field every day. Just this week we decided that we needed to create a new military occupation specialty for an Information Assurance/Computer Network Defense noncommissioned officer. Personnel will be accessed into this new MOS at the staff sergeant level. This new network defender and cyber expert will receive a world-class education, and have tremendous promotion potential.

Please enjoy this edition and keep in touch!

Pro Patria Vigilans!



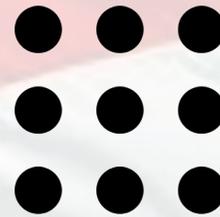
Join the Discussion
<https://signallink.army.mil>



"Here in America we are descended in blood and in spirit from revolutionists and rebels - men and women who dare to dissent from accepted doctrine ... As their heirs, may we never confuse honest dissent with disloyal subversion."

- President Dwight D. Eisenhower

Nine Dot Puzzle



Without lifting the pencil, draw no more than four straight continuous lines to connect all of the dots.

