

Component Resolution Service

I INTRODUCTION

This document is designed to provide information for those either using, or considering to use the AVCOM Obsolescence Monitoring Tool and Service.

Once an obsolescence risk has been identified by AVCOM, a key task that Obsolescence Engineers / Managers need to perform is the engineering investigations that need to be undertaken to fully understand the impact of an obsolescence risk. An investigation also needs to be performed to be able to find and propose a logistical or technical resolution to the obsolescence issue.

If you do not have the capability or resources to achieve this, using the experience and expertise of AVCOM personnel to perform this investigation is an option that is available to you.

This is called the AVCOM '**Component Resolution Service**'

This document explains this service and the benefits that it can deliver.

2 WHAT IS THE STANDARD AVCOM SERVICE?

If you have a standard license (AVL or Structure Builder) for the AVCOM tool and service, the normal statusing of parts involves verifying the status of the given component from the manufacturer and providing any recommended alternates from that supplier or any potential alternates based on similar technical characteristics listed in AVCOM.

3 WHAT IS THE COMPONENT RESOLUTION SERVICE?

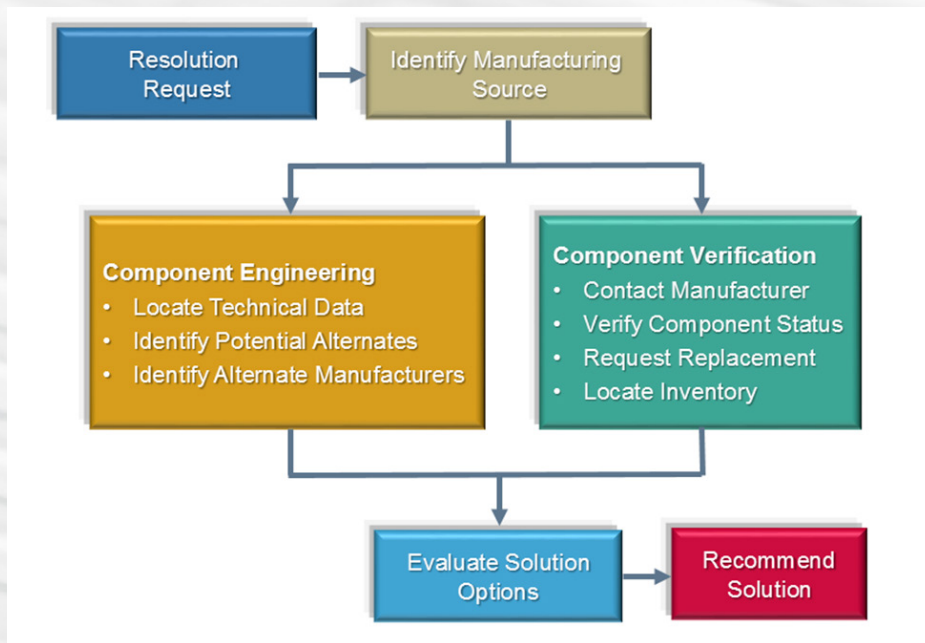
The Component Resolution Service goes beyond the standard service to proactively seek to find a solution and provide a recommended alternate based on all the alternatives that were discovered. These options will include, but are not limited to:

- Form Fit Function replacements
- Upgrades / Downgrades
- Alternative Manufacturing sources
- Alternative Sources of Supply
- Packaging Alternatives

AVCOM Component Resolution Service utilizes many years of expertise in sourcing parts and engineering capabilities to identify engineering and logistical solutions for obsolete or hard-to-find components. At the heart of the Component Resolution Services is the Component Resolution Group, a dedicated, experienced team of Component Engineers as well as Verification and Data Specialists that have:

- Unique supplier relationships
- A vast knowledge of manufacturer product lines
- Technical expertise
- Many years of experience in tracking acquisitions
- Extensive contacts within the aftermarket industry and contacts within BAE Systems' manufacturing and engineering

Together, they provide an extremely valuable level of service that every possible solution option has been thoroughly researched and evaluated to recommend the best and most cost efficient solution. In essence, AVCOM component resolution staff will thoroughly research any requested item to identify all possible solutions and provide a recommendation in an organized and easy to read report. It's a service that takes the research "man-hour effort" off an engineer's and/or buyer's task list and provides them with the real solution options to consider. A high-level process for this service is shown in Figure 1.



4 WHAT IS THE COMPONENT RESOLUTION GROUP?

AVCOM has over 20 years of experience & expertise in resolving obsolescence issues. They have approximately 140 US based employees with skills and expertise in multiple technical disciplines including:

- Program & Project Management
- Production Engineering
- Component Engineering
- Quality Assurance
- Logistics Support
- Software Engineering

The analysis & resolution support that the Component Resolution Group provides includes:

- Both Engineering and Logistics Solutions
- Identify obsolescence problems, analyse data and recommend solutions
- Management of all part types (electronics, mechanical, structural)

Over the years, we have had many successes in providing resolutions and have won numerous Industry Team & Individual Awards due to their success in this area.

5 WHAT BENEFIT WILL I RECEIVE IF I USE THIS SERVICE?

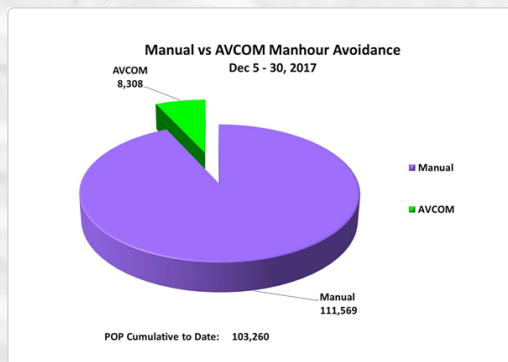
One important aspect of using the AVCOM service is having the confidence that comes along with using people who have significant skills and experience in investigating obsolescence issue.

If you use this service, you can feel confident that AVCOM have done significant research to identify a solution with the given information and resources that they have. Sometimes, no alternate solutions are discovered and a redesign may be required. However, if this is the only option, you can have confidence that a thorough logistical and technical investigation has been performed and that this will be the only realistic resolution option.

6 IS IT NOT CHEAPER TO DO THESE INVESTIGATIONS MYSELF?

AVCOM have been the USAF tool of choice since 2000. In this program, AVCOM have demonstrated that the amount of man-hours that can be saved by using their services has been significant and the service is much more cost effective than developing and using an internal resource.

Figure 2 demonstrates the amount of hours that would have been utilized by manually completing the same tasks vs using the AVCOM service.



7 HOW DO I GET STARTED?

Contact, Randy Shropshire, Business Development Manager- AVCOM & Obsolescence Management Services, at 850-499-4867 / randall.shropshire@baesystems.com to discuss your support needs.