



**ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-6000**

JUL 15 2003

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INTEGRATION

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: DoD Information Assurance/Information Technology Designated Approving Authority (DAA) Training and Certification Requirements

- References:** (a) DoD Directive 8500.1, "Information Assurance (IA)," October 24, 2002.
(b) DoD Instruction 8500.2, "Information Assurance (IA) Implementation," February 6, 2003.
(c) DoD Instruction 5200.40, "DoD Information Technology Security Certification and Accreditation Process (DITSCAP)," December 30, 1997.

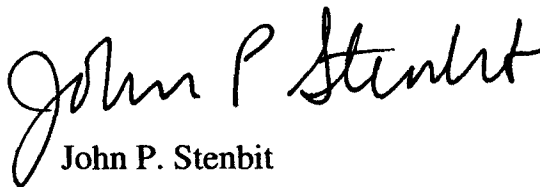
Reference (a) directs that a DAA be appointed for each DoD information system operating within or on behalf of the Department of Defense and requires that all DAAs be U.S. citizens, DoD employees and have a level of authority commensurate with accepting, in writing, the risk of operating DoD information systems under their purview. It further requires that all DoD personnel to be adequately trained and certified as appropriate in order to perform the tasks associated with their IA responsibilities and makes the Heads of the DoD Components responsible for ensuring that DAAs are appointed for all Component information systems. Reference (b) enumerates DAA responsibilities, including granting DoD information systems under their purview formal accreditation to operate under reference (c).

If they have not already done so, Components shall take immediate steps to comply with the above-described requirements. All DAAs should minimally complete the DoD DAA computer-based training (CBT) product. The CBT, titled, "DAA, Designated Approving Authority," can be obtained from DISA at <http://iase.disa.mil/eta/index.html>. The course completion certificate, also available at <http://iase.disa.mil/eta/index.html>, should be signed and maintained as a part of the DAA's personnel file. DAAs who already hold the DAA course completion certificate need not retake the CBT.

It is particularly important that DAAs have sufficient command or management authority to carry out their responsibilities, to include denying authority to operate a system that does not meet certification requirements. The level of authority and status of training of DAAs will be high interest management review items and you may expect that an initial report on the status of Component DAA appointments and training will be requested at the end of FY 2003.



My point of contact for this action is Mr. George Bieber, the Defense-wide Information Assurance Program (DIAP) at george.bieber@osd.mil, (703)-602-9980.


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