Info Alert

New DoD 5000 Documents Released

On October 23, 2000, DoD released two new acquisition policy documents. These documents re-frame the DoD acquisition system, clarify the implementation of earlier acquisition initiatives and incorporate new initiatives intended to expedite deployment of higher performance defense capabilities at lower cost. Cornerstone principles include:

- Interoperability – Satisfactorily define and acquire systems that will interoperate within and among U.S. forces and U.S. coalition partners.

- Evolutionary Acquisition – Deliver militarily useful capabilities incrementally, based on time-phased requirements and the maturity of the technology being employed. Evolutionary acquisition is the preferred, but not the only approach. The new policy permits multiple entry points into the acquisition system depending on the maturity of the technology.

- Technical Readiness – Programs must demonstrate the readiness of the technology being employed before beginning systems-level work. In addition, programs must complete a full systems demonstration before committing to low-rate production.

- Logistics - Integrate logistics planning more fully into the acquisition process early in the design process in order to optimize total system performance and minimize total ownership cost.

DoD Directive 5000.1 The Defense Acquisition System. This Directive establishes the fundamental principles or framework on which the acquisition system is based. In addition to the areas listed above, the Directive addresses such concepts as integrated test and evaluation, competition, and principles critical to effective program management. The Directive is applicable to all acquisition programs.

DoD Instruction 5000.2 Operation of the Defense Acquisition System. This instruction establishes a simple and flexible process for moving from mission needs to operational capabilities. It provides a detailed discussion of the milestone process. It applies to all technology projects and acquisition programs. Some requirements, where specified, apply only to MDAPs and MAISs. The instruction provides the following guidance for transitioning to the new procedures:

- Programs approved for or in Engineering and Manufacturing Development (EMD) will continue to following the sequence of milestones in their program documentation

- New policies and procedures apply to all efforts not yet approved as acquisition programs (pre MS-I), unless otherwise directed by the Milestone Decision Authority (MDA).

- New policies and procedures shall be applied to programs that are post MS-1 but are not yet in EMD, at the discretion of the MDA.

Implementation Guidance DoD 5000.2-R, Mandatory Procedures for Major Defense Acquisition Programs (MDAPs) and Major Automated Information Systems (MIAS) Acquisition Programs has been cancelled as a result of the rewrite of DoD Directive 5000.1. Therefore, DoD has issued a memorandum that provides interim guidance for MDAPs and MIASs in implementing the new documents until DoD 5000.2-R is reissued.

The memo aligns the procedures contained in DoD 5000.2-R with the new acquisition model. Work continues on the revision to DoD 5000.2-R.

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