18 January 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

Subj: EXTENSIBLE MARKUP LANGUAGE (XML) NAMING AND DESIGN RULES
OFFICIAL RELEASE

To comply with joint requirements as embodied in the DoD Net-Centric Data Strategy and to achieve the FORCEnet requirement for a common structure and language for information handling, the Department of the Navy (DON) is issuing Naming and Design Rules (NDR) that facilitate the discovery and use of common data across the naval enterprise. XML, an open standards based technology, is a key enabler of the Department's net-centric data strategy.

The NDR provides additional rigor necessary to efficiently and effectively operate in a net-centric data-sharing environment. These rules move the DON forward to ensure that all XML is based on a consistent set of schema through the application of open standards that align with the Federal Enterprise Architecture Data Reference Model and Global Information Grid. The result will be an environment that is sustainable, responsive, and agile.

The NDR is the product of expertise and energies contributed by representatives from 13 key Navy, Marine Corps, and Secretary of the Navy organizations who participated in the DON XML Working Group. To ensure these rules are applicable and current, the DON Chief Information Officer (DON CIO) has established the XML Business Standards Council and is proceeding to charter the Net-Centric Technical Standards Council to serve as liaison to organizations developing national and international standards for XML and Web Services technologies.

All commands in the Navy and Marine Corps that are developing systems that use XML, in accordance with our DON XML Policy, should apply these standards in order to maximize interoperability and enable a net-centric environment for enhancing supportability of operations across the Department.

The DON XML NDR can be downloaded from the web at www.doncio.navy.mil. If you have questions concerning DON XML policy and guidance, or would like to participate in our DON XML initiatives, you can contact us from the DON CIO webpage.

D. M. Wennergren

18 January 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

Subj: DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY (DON) EXTENSIBLE MARKUP LANGUAGE
        (XML) NAMING AND DESIGN RULES (NDR), JANUARY 2005

Ref: (a) DoD Directive 8320.2, "Data Sharing in a Net-Centric
            DoD," of 2 Dec 04
        (b) DON XML Vision of 15 Mar 02
        (c) DON XML Policy of Dec 02

Encl: (1) DON XML Naming and Design Rules, January 2005

     To comply with joint requirements as embodied in the "DoD
Net-Centric Data Strategy," reference (a), and to achieve the
FORCEnet requirement for a common structure and language for
information handling, the Department of the Navy Chief
Information Officer (DON CIO) is issuing the Naming and Design
Rules that enable the discovery and use of common data across
the naval enterprise. XML, an open standards based technology,
is a key enabler of the Department's net-centric data strategy.

     Reference (b) promulgated the DON XML vision — to fully
exploit XML as an enabling technology to achieve
interoperability in support of maritime information superiority.
Reference (c) established formal DON XML Policy to establish the
necessary roles, responsibilities and governance structure to
achieve that vision. DON enterprise-level XML Naming and Design
Rules (NDR), Enclosure (1), provides the third component of our
strategic approach and is required for use by all DON
organizations developing new or updated XML components that will
be registered in accordance with the guidance provided in
reference (a).

     The DON XML NDR is a culmination of the contributions of
representatives from Navy, Marine Corps, and SECNAV
organizations actively engaged in the DON XML Working Group over
the past two years. The NDR establishes rules that move us
toward the use of the latest XML components such as XML schemas.
It provides explicit requirements for developing a robust,
enterprise-level XML, an approach that will ensure that XML
enhances, rather than detracts, from DON Enterprise
interoperability. The NDR supersedes the DON XML Developers
Guide, Version 1.1.

Subj: DEPARTMENT OF NAVY (DON) EXTENSIBLE MARKUP LANGUAGE (XML)
      NAMING AND DESIGN RULES (NDR), JANUARY 2005

     As we implement solutions that leverage the benefits of
XML, adherence to the NDR is critical. Your support is
essential for the Department to successfully transform to an
interoperable, net-centric environment and to align with the DoD
Net-Centric Data Strategy. I encourage you to participate in
the DON XML working groups that will continue to provide
necessary standards, guidance, and harmonization processes to
support XML implementation initiatives across the DON and to
assure alignment with emerging Federal and Department of Defense
net-centric strategies.

     The DON CIO recognizes that not all projects and systems
will be able to take advantage of this technology immediately.
In that event, please coordinate with my staff to develop a
migration path that will allow you to implement conformant XML
solutions in the future. If you have questions concerning DON
XML policy and guidance, or would like additional information
about DON XML initiatives, please contact my DON CIO point of
contact for Data Management, Mr. Bob Green, at 703-607-5654, or
via email at robert.a.green2@navy.mil.

                              D. M. Wennergren

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