



# ***A Strategy for Improved System Assurance***

***April 2008***

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**Office of the Under Secretary of Defense**

**Acquisition, Technology and Logistics**



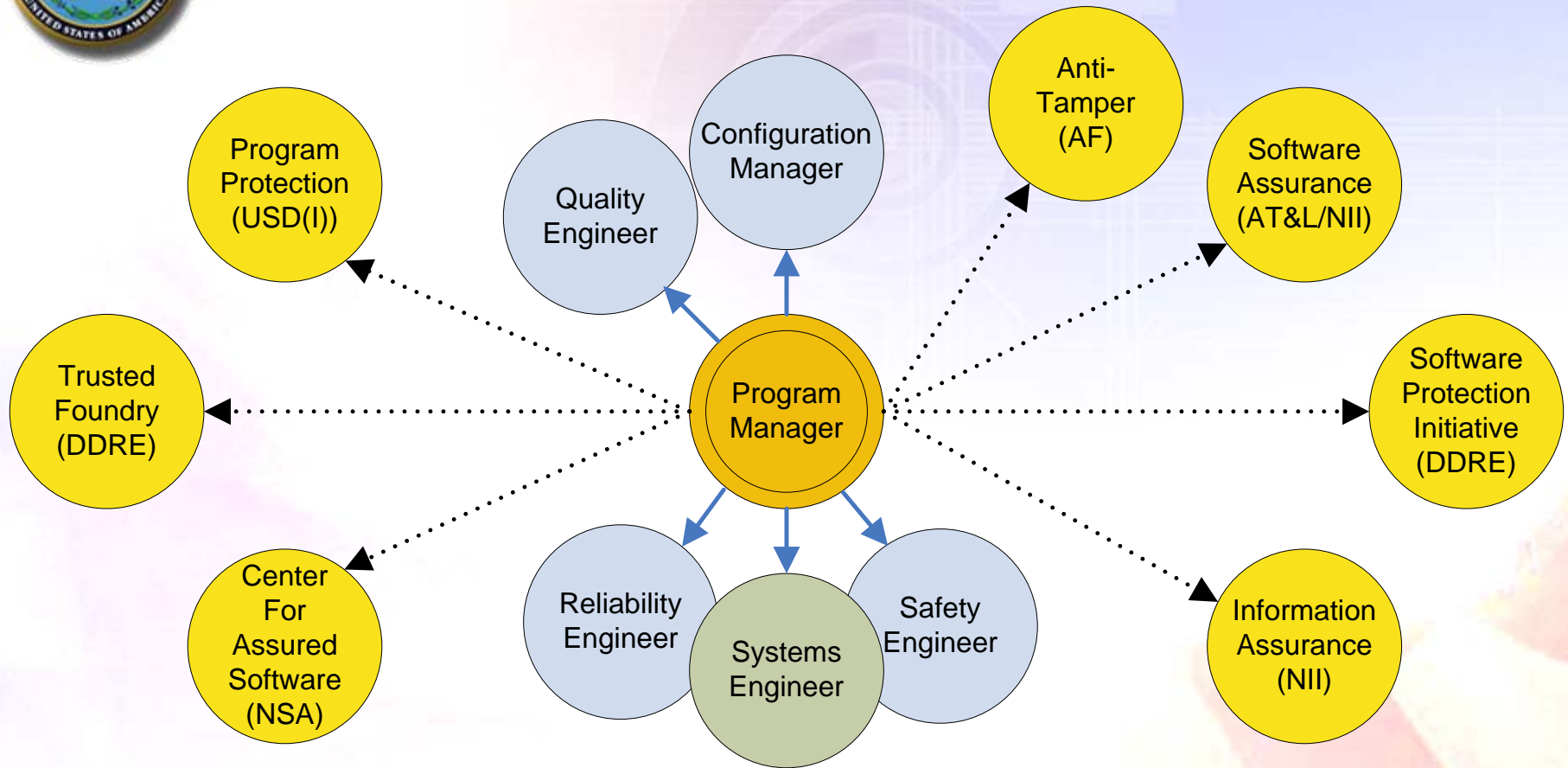
# System Assurance

- **We continue to be concerned with assurance of our critical DoD assets:**
  - Critical information
  - Critical technologies
  - Critical systems
- **Observations:**
  - Increasing numbers of network attacks (internal and external to DoD)
  - Broader attack space
- **Trends that exacerbate our concerns:**
  - Globalization of our contracts, expanding the number of international participants in our system developments
  - Complex contracting arrangements that further decrease transparency below prime, and visibility into individual components

***These trends increase the opportunity for access to our critical assets, and for tampering***



# System Assurance Context for the PM



## System Assurance – Working Definition

*Level of confidence that a system functions as intended, is free of exploitable vulnerabilities, and protects critical program information*



# Consequences of Fragmented Systems Assurance Initiatives

- Lack of Coherent Direction for PMs, and others acquiring systems
  - Numerous, uncoordinated initiatives
  - Multiple constraints for PMs, sometimes conflicting
  - Loss of time and money and lack of focus on applying the most appropriate engineering for systems assurance for each system
- Synergy of Policy – Multiple ownership
  - Failure to capitalize on common methods, instruction among initiatives
- DoD Risk Exposure
  - Lack of total life cycle view
  - Lack of a focal point to endorse system assurance, resolve issues, advocate PM attention
  - Lack of system-of-systems, architecture perspective on system assurance
  - Potential for gaps in systems assurance protection



# Acquisition Path Forward – Implementing the Requirement for Assurance

## Raise the bar:

### Awareness

- Knowledge of the supply chain
- Who has access to our critical assets

### Protection

- Protect critical assets through security practices
- Design our systems for assurance

- **Create a framework to integrate multiple security policies and guidance**
  - Leverage Program Protection requirement for all acquisition programs as set by 5200.39 policy
  - Integrate all assurance oversight, planning, and risk mitigation activity at the system level
- **Develop Guidance on Engineering for System Assurance**
  - Guidebook on Engineering for Assurance for program managers/engineers
  - Defines how assurance can be incorporated into system engineering and design:
    - e.g. Isolation, Redundancy, Quality and Fault Analysis



# Current Systems Security Policies

## Component Protection Sought

### Defense-In-Depth

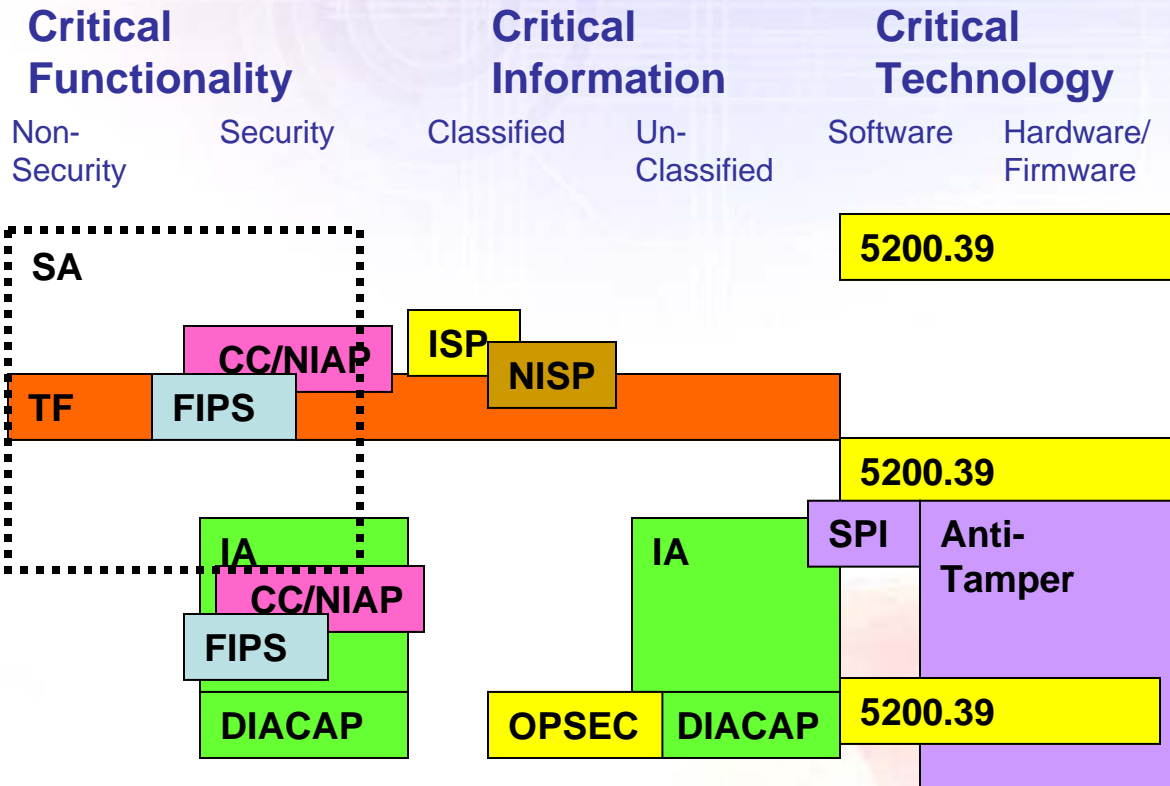
### Intelligence

### Supply Chain

### Engineering

### Certification

### Documented Plan



Policy Ownership	DoD - CIO/DSS	DoD - AT&L
DoD - AT&L/S&T	DoD - CIO/DISA	CC/NSA
DoD - NSA	DoD - USD(I)	NIST



# Proposed Framework for Security Policies

## Component Protection Sought

**Defense-  
In-Depth**

**Critical  
Functionality**

Non-  
Security

Security

**Critical  
Information**

Classified

Un-  
Classified

**Critical  
Technology**

Software

Hardware/  
Firmware

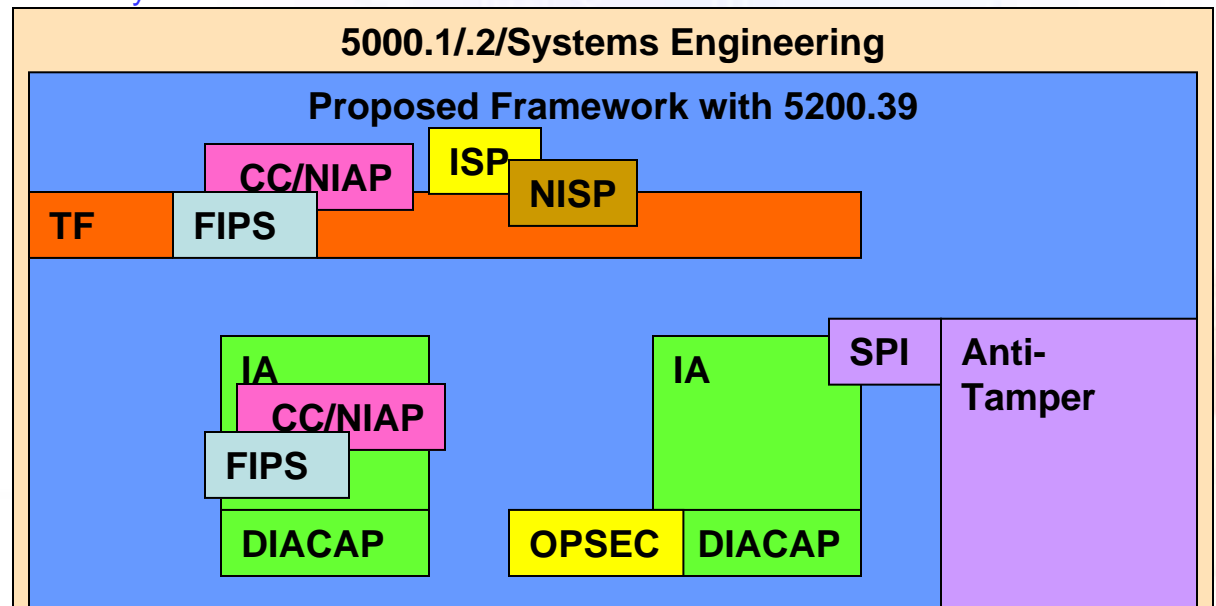
**Intelligence**

**Supply Chain**

**Engineering**

**Certification**

**Documented Plan**



Policy Ownership

DoD - CIO/DSS

DoD - AT&L

DoD - AT&L/S&T

DoD - CIO/DISA

CC/NSA

DoD - NSA

DoD - USD(I)

NIST



# Critical Program Information

## New Definition - Draft DoDI 5200.39:

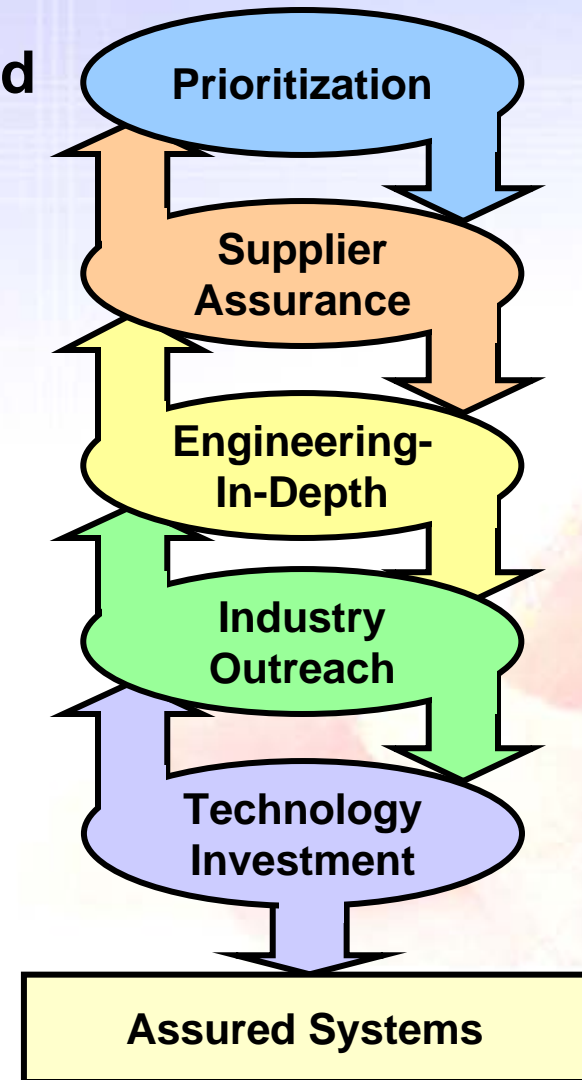
- E3.6. Critical Program Information (CPI). Elements or components of an Acquisition program that if compromised, could cause significant degradation in mission effectiveness, shorten the expected combat-effective life of the system, reduce technological overmatch, significantly alter program direction, or enable an adversary to counter, copy, or reverse engineer the technology or capability.
- E3.6.1. **Technologies** become eligible for CPI selection when a DoD Agency or military component invests resources to demonstrate an application for the technology in an operational setting, or in support of a transition agreement with a Program Manager.
- E3.6.2. Includes **information** about applications, capabilities, processes, and end-items.
- E3.6.3. Includes **elements or components** critical to a military system or network mission effectiveness.





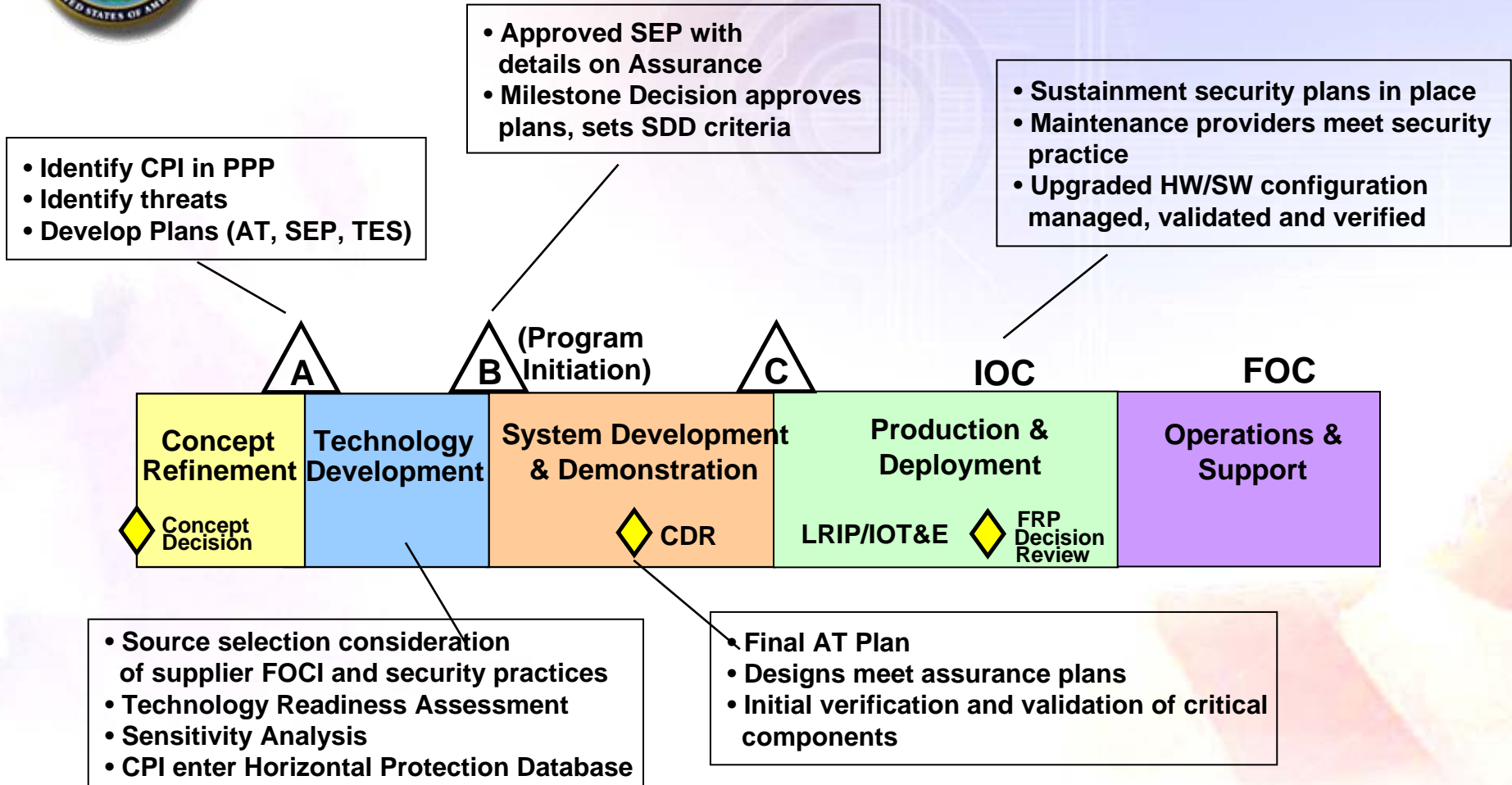
# System Assurance: What does success look like?

- The requirement for assurance is allocated among the right systems and their critical components
- DoD understands its supply chain risks
- DoD systems are designed and sustained at a known level of assurance
- Commercial sector shares ownership and builds assured products
- Technology investment transforms the ability to detect and mitigate system vulnerabilities





# Notional Assurance Implementation



*Total Lifecycle Approach to Assured Systems  
Better Emphasis at writing CPI requirements*



# ***Guidebook on Engineering for System Assurance***



# SA Guidebook Intent

- **Intent:**

- Provide *practical guidance* on augmenting systems engineering practice for system assurance
- Synthesize existing knowledge from organizations, standards and best practices
- Recap concepts from standards

- **Implementation:**

- Iterative releases with updates as new knowledge is gained and applied
- Multiple Views for information dissemination
  - Technical Project Manager
  - System Engineer
  - Subject Matter Expert Detail

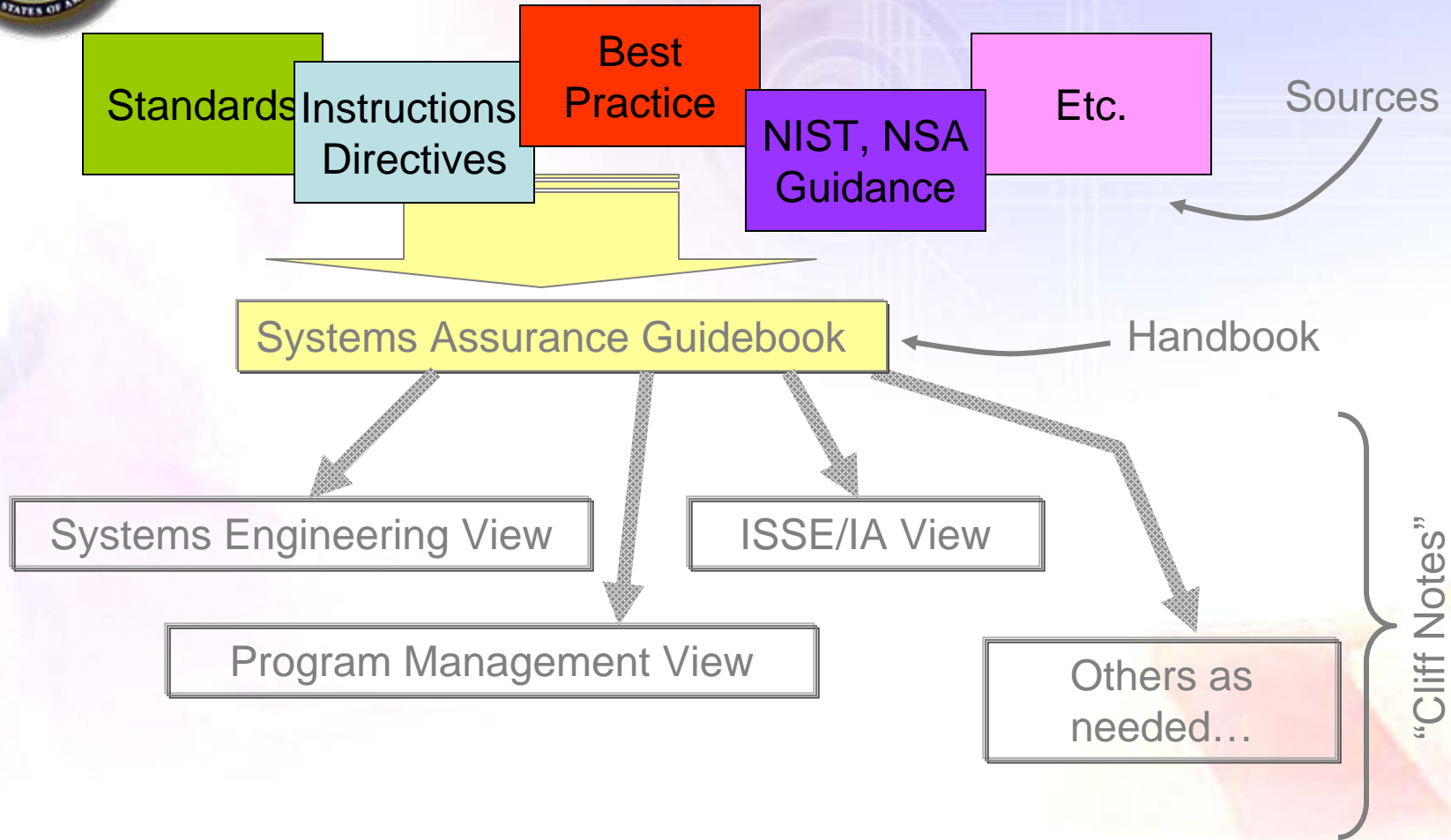


# **SA Guidebook – Engineering-in-Depth**

- **Augments SE from documentation through engineering processes and technical reviews**
  - Introduced as early as possible - Where there is the greatest impact
  - Continue through the life cycle
- **Consistent with international standard and current best practices**
  - E.g., Guidebook approach, presentation of process / procedure consistent with ISO/IEC 15288 standard for System Engineering
  - Integrates consideration and leverages numerous existing program protection or security disciplines (e.g., IA, AT, SwA, SPI, PPP)
  - Existing information security / assurance material is summarized, and leveraged by reference, not repeated
    - Test & Evaluation; Center for Assured Software (CAS)
    - Enhanced vulnerability detection techniques
    - SwA Body of Knowledge
- **Intent is to yield assured program / system with demonstrable evidence of assurance**



# Guidebook Strategy

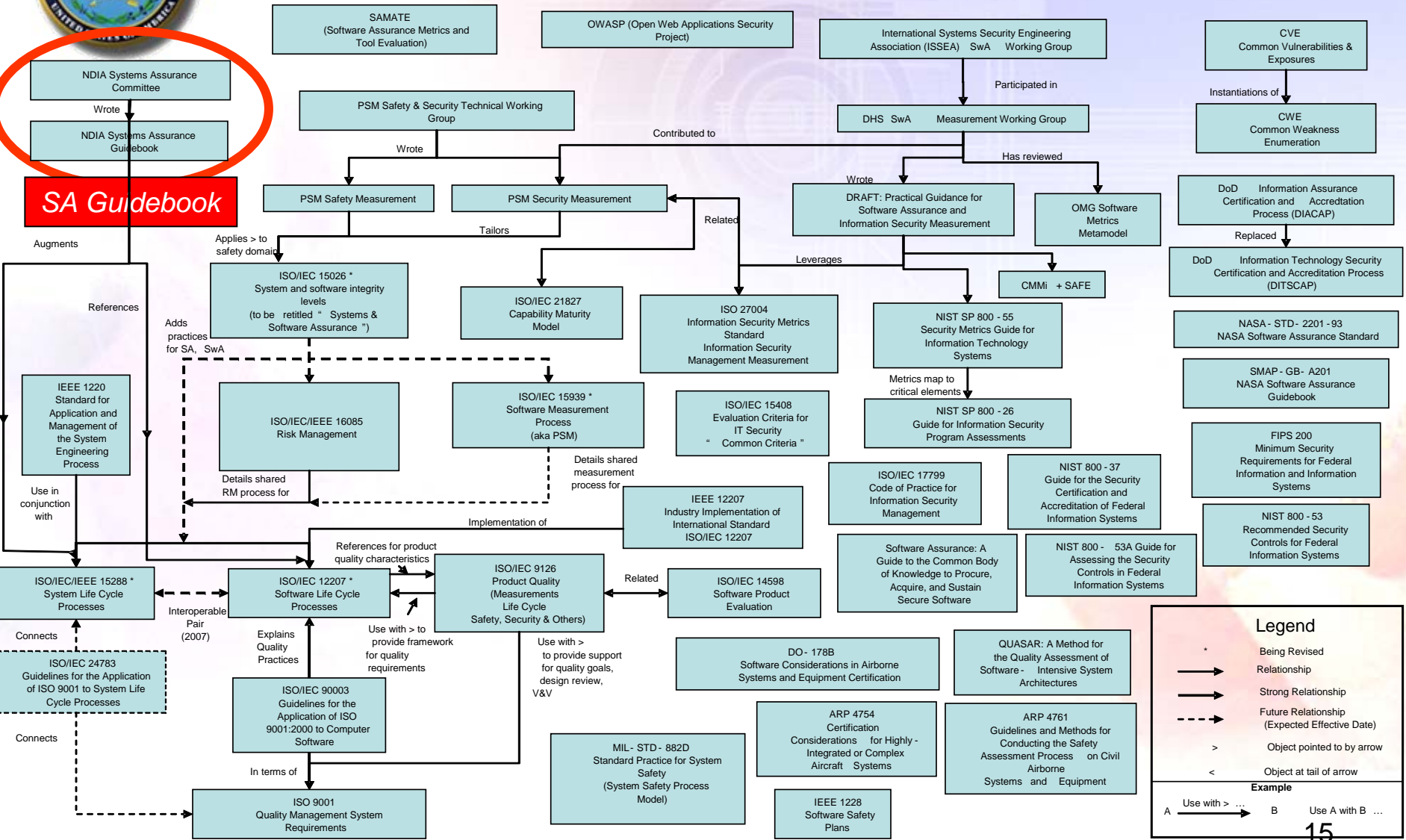


Future: Link to Acquisition Guidance, Evolve/Implement into training, education



# Why this is hard...

NDIA Systems Assurance Committee  
Wrote  
NDIA Systems Assurance Guidebook  
**SA Guidebook**



**Legend**

- \* Being Revised
- Relationship
- Strong Relationship
- - - - -> Future Relationship (Expected Effective Date)
- > Object pointed to by arrow
- < Object at tail of arrow

**Example**

A → with > ... B Use A with B ...

**Related Standards, Efforts, and Working Groups...**



# ***Contributors***

- **NDIA**
- **INCOSE**
- **MITRE**
- **IDA**
- **SEI**
- **OSD, Joint Staff, Services**
- **Contractor community**
- **Academe**





# Milestones & Plan

- **Stakeholder Review**
  - From the larger community, different perspectives
- **Pilots**
  - Systems Assurance innovators and areas where comprehensive expertise in one or more relevant domains exists
  - Starting FY09
- **Complete the Guidebook**
  - Release version 0.9 by 30 September 08
  - Version 1.0 in FY09

***Contact Wayne Young to participate in stakeholder review***



# Community Site

[http://www.ndia.org/Content/ContentGroups/Divisions1/Systems\\_Engineering/Systems\\_Assurance\\_Committee.htm](http://www.ndia.org/Content/ContentGroups/Divisions1/Systems_Engineering/Systems_Assurance_Committee.htm)

<http://tinyurl.com/222hvg>

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## Systems Assurance Committee

**Mission**

Assure effective functionality of our command, control, communications and related weapon systems with high confidence that the systems are not vulnerable to intrusion and cannot be compromised by:

- Establishing membership from across all communities of interest
  - Defense industry system integrators and subcontractors
  - Commercial industry (component suppliers)
  - Non-defense industry system engineers/integrators
- Capturing current industry practices
- Publishing a System Assurance White Paper
  - Definition of System Assurance Problem
  - Systems engineering community goals
- Developing a System Assurance Handbook
  - Practical guidance
  - Targeted for acquisition professionals and Program Managers
- Developing a plan for leveraging relevant standards and identifying gaps

**Committee Co-Chairs:**

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[Guidebook Status](#)

[Systems Assurance White Paper Project](#)



# **Backup Detail on Policies**



# Fragmented Systems Security Policies

## Each policy:

- **Affects different parts of the life cycle**
  - R&D, acquisition, foreign ownership
- **Applies to a different subset of DoD systems**
  - NSS, IT, MDA, ACAT 1C, etc.
- **Assures different 'type' of components**
  - information, leading technology, functionality
- **Mandates a different set of defense tactics**
  - intelligence, engineering, documented plan, certification & accreditation

- **CC – Common Criteria**
- **DIACAP – DoD Certification & Accreditation**
- **FIPS – Federal Information Processing Standards**
- **ITAR – International Traffic in Arms Regulation**
- **IA – Information Assurance**
- **ISP – Information Security Program**
- **NIAP - National Information Assurance Partnership**
- **NISP – National Industrial Security Program**
- **OPSEC – Operational Security**
- **5200.39 – DODD 5200.39 Security, Intelligence, and Counterintelligence Support to Acquisition Program Protection**
- **SA – System Assurance**
- **SPI – Software Protection Initiative**
- **TF - Trusted Foundry**

***Current approach does not have systems-of-systems perspective***