



THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY
AND LOGISTICS

September 13, 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
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UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
DEPUTY CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER
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ASSISTANTS TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT
DIRECTOR, NET ASSESSMENT
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DoD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Directive-Type Memorandum (DTM) 10-017 – Development Planning to Inform Materiel Development Decision (MDD) Reviews and Support Analyses of Alternatives (AoA)

References: (a) DoD Directive 5134.01, “Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (USD(AT&L)),” December 9, 2005
(b) Public Law 111-23, “Weapon Systems Acquisition Reform Act of 2009,” May 22, 2009
(c) DoD Instruction 5000.02, “Operation of the Defense Acquisition System,” December 8, 2008
(d) Defense Acquisition Guidebook, current edition

Purpose. This DTM, in accordance with the authority in Reference (a) and pursuant to Reference (b), establishes policy, assigns responsibilities, and provides guidance for development planning in support of defense acquisition. This DTM is effective upon its publication to the DoD Issuances Website and shall be incorporated into Reference (c). This DTM shall expire effective April 20, 2011.

Applicability. This DTM applies to OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the Department of Defense (hereafter referred to collectively as the “DoD Components”).

Policy. It is DoD policy according to Reference (c) that the Materiel Development Decision (MDD) is the formal entry point into the acquisition system. At that point, the Milestone Decision Authority (MDA) must not only decide whether to initiate Material Solution Analysis to address the capability gap, but also determine the fundamental path that the materiel development will follow. Decisions must be based on effective development planning and a strong technical foundation. To support those decisions, in accordance with this DTM, the DoD Components shall provide evidence at the MDD Review that will facilitate the MDA’s determination that:

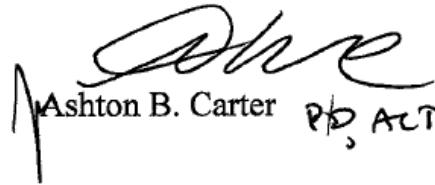
- The candidate materiel solution approaches have the potential to effectively address the capability gap(s), desired operational attributes, and associated dependencies.
- There exists a range of technically feasible solutions generated from across the entire solution space, as demonstrated through early prototypes, models, or data.
- Consideration has been given to near-term opportunities to provide a more rapid interim response to the capability need.
- The plan to staff and fund analytic, engineering, and programmatic activities supports the proposed milestone entry requirements as identified in Reference (c).

Responsibilities

- The Director, Defense Research and Engineering, under the authority, direction and control of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisitions, Technology, and Logistics (USD(AT&L)), shall:
 - Cooperate with the Director, Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, and, as agreed upon with that organization, serve as a standing participant and technical advisor in the development of AoA Study Guidance and on the AoA Study Advisory Group for potential programs under USD(AT&L) oversight to facilitate the consideration of technology and engineering risks for the alternatives under consideration.

- Monitor and review the effectiveness of the policy in this DTM and develop additional development planning guidance as needed for incorporation into acquisition policy and the Defense Acquisition Guidebook (Reference (d)).
- The Heads of the DoD Components shall comply with the policy as established in this DTM.

Releasability. UNLIMITED. This DTM is approved for public release and is available on the DoD Issuances Website at <http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives>.


Ashton B. Carter PD, ACTIVE