



April 17, 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR: Distribution

SUBJECT: Department of Defense (DoD) and Intelligence Community (IC)
Initial Release of Universal Core (UCore)

REFERENCES: (a) DoD 8320.2, "Data Sharing in a Net-Centric Department of Defense," December 2, 2004.
(b) DoD 8320.2-G, "Guidance for Implementing Net-Centric Data Sharing," April 12, 2006.
(c) Intelligence Community Information Sharing Strategy, February 22, 2008 (E/S 2008-00014).

The DoD and the IC continue to strengthen our partnership and commitment to a shared data strategy with the initial release of the UCore.

UCore is a standard approach for representing a few elements of information that are common to many systems in the DoD and IC. The initial release of UCore covers the geospatial elements of "where" plus an absolute time and time period for "when." In addition, the UCore includes a consistent standard for security markings. In future spirals, UCore may include a small number of other elements such as "what" and "who."

UCore is intended to be used by systems when exposing or sharing information. Systems that adopt UCore benefit by:

1. Facilitating consistent understanding of a small number of the most commonly used elements in information exchanges;
2. Enabling organizations and automated systems exchanging information to easily understand the unambiguous meaning of commonly used terms.

UCore is consistent with the DoD Data Strategy defined in references (a) and (b), and the IC Information Sharing Strategy in reference (c), by facilitating information discovery and understanding. UCore also enables Communities of Interest to focus on the development of high value, mission-specific data vocabularies.

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