



THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

JAN 07 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ACQUISITION WORKFORCE

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Instruction 5000.02

This memorandum issues the new Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 5000.02 and cancels the interim version that was implemented on November 25, 2013. This version implements many of the policies and practices included in the sequence of three sets of Better Buying Power initiatives.

Successful defense acquisition depends on careful thinking and sound professional judgments about the best acquisition strategy to use for a given product. Even more than previous versions, this DoDI 5000.02 emphasizes tailoring of program structures, content, and decision points to the product being acquired. DoDI 5000.02 contains several program structure models instead of a single model. These models, however, are not alternatives from which a Program Manager must choose; they serve as examples and starting points that can and should be tailored to the actual product being acquired. Program Managers and Program Executive Officers should use these models as references to assist their thought processes and analysis of the best structure to use on a given program. Milestone Decision Authorities have been given broad authority to tailor program acquisition strategies.

Better Buying Power is based on the concept of continuous process improvement. We will never stop learning from our experience, and we will never completely exhaust the potential for improvement in how we acquire weapons and other systems for the Department. Therefore, I do not consider this or any version of DoDI 5000.02 to be the final word on acquisition policy. In fact, I hope that some positive changes to this DoDI 5000.02 can be implemented soon. One of them, which we are working closely with the Congress on, is to simplify and rationalize the complex set of statutory requirements that have been levied on our managers over the past few decades. These burdensome and overlapping requirements are reflected in the dense tables in Enclosure 1. I am hopeful that a much shorter set of the tables in Enclosure 1 can be published as a result of our ongoing legislative initiative in acquisition reform that we are working in collaboration with Congress. I have also already initiated work on a new enclosure that will deal with the increasingly serious problem of designing for and managing cyber-security in our programs. We must do a better job of protecting our systems and everything associated with them from cyber threats.

DoDI 5000.02 provides policy guidance, but it is also a tool that should be used by acquisition professionals, and the operational, programming, and intelligence professionals we work with, to deliver products that meet our warfighters' needs and deliver value to the American taxpayer.

Frank Kendall