

TECHSTAT ACCOUNTABILITY SESSIONS

I. Purpose

This Directive establishes the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) policy for TechStat Accountability Sessions (TechStats). A TechStat is a direct, evidence-based review of an Information Technology (IT) investment with support from senior leadership, which strengthens IT governance and facilitates efficient and effective Department-wide IT delivery.

II. Scope

This Directive applies throughout DHS.

III. Authorities

- A. Title 44, United States Code, Chapter 35, "Coordination of Federal Information Policy"
- B. Delegation 04000, Delegation for Information Technology
- C. Federal Chief Information Officer, "25 Point Implementation Plan to Reform Federal Information Technology Management"
- D. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum M-11-29, "Chief Information Officer Authorities"
- E. DHS Chief Information Officer Memorandum, "Implementation of TechStat Reviews at DHS Components"

IV. Responsibilities

- A. The **DHS Chief Information Officer (CIO)**:
 - 1. Leads, maintains, and manages the TechStat process within the Department;

2. Appoints the personnel responsible for TechStat activities, as administered by the Enterprise Business Management Office (EBMO);
3. Identifies investments for review;
4. Facilitates Department TechStat sessions;
5. Tracks and monitors action items resulting from TechStat sessions;
6. Provides recommendations to the DHS Chief Acquisition Officer and Acquisition Decision Authority(ADA)/Component Acquisition Executive (CAE);
7. Provides training, guidance, mentoring, and tools for the Component TechStat Teams;
8. Interacts with the ADA/CAE, supports the Management Line of Business (LOB) Chiefs (where appropriate), Business Owners, Program Managers, and OMB to facilitate TechStat sessions; and
9. Coordinates analysis of TechStat with inputs from across the Management LOBs on investments and acquisitions identified for TechStat review.

B. The **Component Chief Information Officers:**

1. Maintain oversight of the TechStat process, by appointing the responsible personnel, identifying investments for review, facilitating TechStat sessions, and tracking action items resulting from TechStat sessions;
2. Conduct Component TechStats on underperforming or at risk projects/programs on a periodic basis;
3. Ensure a representative of the EBMO TechStat Branch is involved throughout the TechStat process; and
4. Ensure timely access to documentation and TechStat artifacts as requested by the EMBO TechStat Branch.

C. The **Program Managers** and **Business Owners:**

1. Provide full and complete documentation to support TechStat reviews;
2. Support the development of TechStat briefs;

3. Arrange personnel interviews as needed; and
4. Attend TechStat sessions.

V. Policy and Requirements

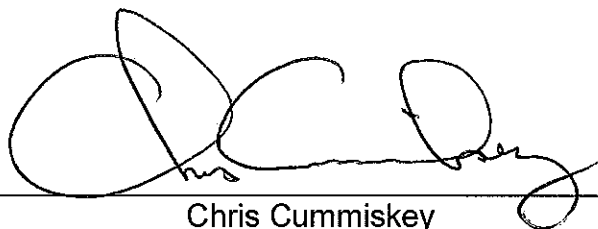
A. DHS has strengthened IT governance by the adoption of the TechStat model, to determine an IT investment's compliance with scope, schedule, and budget parameters in order to improve performance.

B. The TechStat model improves communication between project teams and senior executives, increases the precision of ongoing measurement of IT program health, and enhances the quality and timing of senior leadership interventions to keep investments on-track.

C. Through the TechStat process, investments are carefully analyzed with a focus on problem solving.

VI. Questions

Address any questions or concerns regarding this Directive to the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), Enterprise Business Management Office (EBMO) or TechStat@hq.dhs.gov.



Chris Cummiskey
Acting Under Secretary for Management

10/10/14
Date