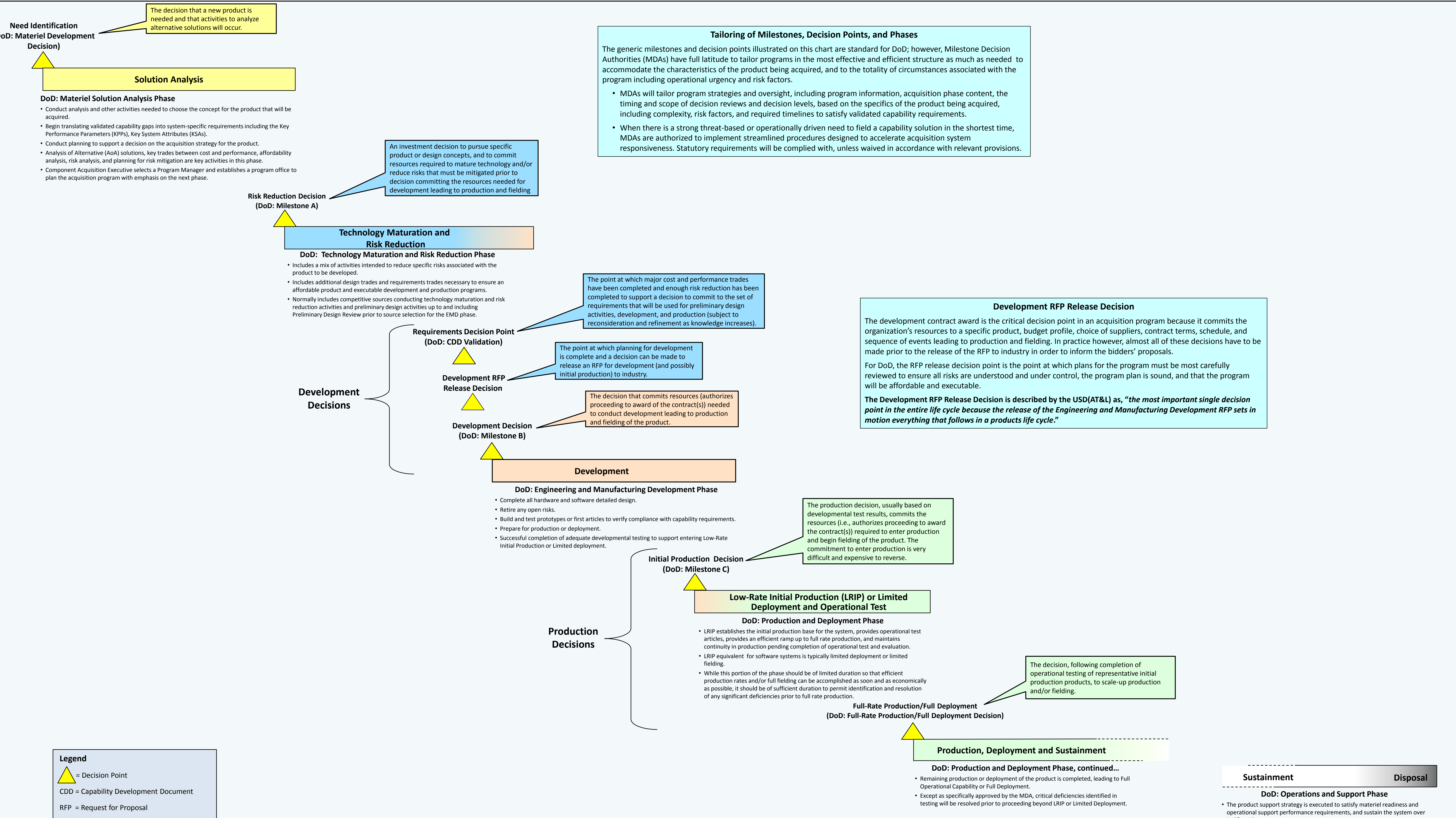




Generic Acquisition Process (Pre-Tailoring)

Acquisition Decision Points and Phases

This chart illustrates the sequence of events in a generic program, which could be a Defense program or, except for the unique DoD terminology, a commercial product. DoD Instruction 5000.02 milestones, other decisions, phases and major phase activities are shown in relation to the generic sequence of events.



Tailoring of Milestones, Decision Points, and Phases

The generic milestones and decision points illustrated on this chart are standard for DoD; however, Milestone Decision Authorities (MDAs) have full latitude to tailor programs in the most effective and efficient structure as much as needed to accommodate the characteristics of the product being acquired, and to the totality of circumstances associated with the program including operational urgency and risk factors.

- MDAs will tailor program strategies and oversight, including program information, acquisition phase content, the timing and scope of decision reviews and decision levels, based on the specifics of the product being acquired, including complexity, risk factors, and required timelines to satisfy validated capability requirements.
- When there is a strong threat-based or operationally driven need to field a capability solution in the shortest time, MDAs are authorized to implement streamlined procedures designed to accelerate acquisition system responsiveness. Statutory requirements will be complied with, unless waived in accordance with relevant provisions.

Development RFP Release Decision

The development contract award is the critical decision point in an acquisition program because it commits the organization's resources to a specific product, budget profile, choice of suppliers, contract terms, schedule, and sequence of events leading to production and fielding. In practice however, almost all of these decisions have to be made prior to the release of the RFP to industry in order to inform the bidders' proposals.

For DoD, the RFP release decision point is the point at which plans for the program must be most carefully reviewed to ensure all risks are understood and under control, the program plan is sound, and that the program will be affordable and executable.

The Development RFP Release Decision is described by the USD(AT&L) as, "the most important single decision point in the entire life cycle because the release of the Engineering and Manufacturing Development RFP sets in motion everything that follows in a products life cycle."

Legend

- ▲ = Decision Point
- CDD = Capability Development Document
- RFP = Request for Proposal

This chart illustrates the sequence of decision events in a generic program. It is not intended to reflect the time dedicated to associated phase activity.

Sustainment

DoD: Operations and Support Phase

- The product support strategy is executed to satisfy materiel readiness and operational support performance requirements, and sustain the system over its life cycle.
- At the end of its useful life, system is demilitarized and disposed of in accordance with all legal and regulatory requirements and policy relating to safety (including explosives safety), security, and the environment.

Disposal