

# THE STANDARDIZATION NEWSLETTER

5203 Leesburg Pike, Suite 1403  
Falls Church, VA 22041-3466

ISSN 0897-0254

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN, DEFENSE STANDARDS IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

My congratulations to the people and organizations who recently received the 1995 Standardization Awards presented by the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, **Dr. Paul G. Kaminski**.

**Dr. Kaminski's** speech, which is reprinted in this Newsletter, not only highlights some of our achievements, but sets the direction for this year. There are a few points from this speech on which I wish to expand.

Non-government standards continue to be a cornerstone of MilSpec Reform. On March 7, 1996, **President Clinton** signed into law, P.L. 104-113, which requires federal agencies to use non-government standards and to participate in their development, when it meets the mission needs of an agency. At a recent Non-Government Standards Conference, a speaker from the Office of Management and Budget noted that this legislation was considered necessary to ensure the same level of commitment from all federal agencies as exhibited by the DoD. Nice compliment for the many of you who participate on non-government standards committees.

**Dr. Kaminski** expressed a concern about "disguising a detailed military design specification in performance terms." I share his concern about cosmetic disguises. I recently reviewed a guidance handbook that was identical to the detailed standard it replaced, except all of the "shalls" were changed to "shoulds." Such action, while expedient, clearly does not meet the spirit of MilSpec Reform since the language suggests mandatory compliance. Handbooks need to be written more along the lines of an engineering textbook or report. We plan to issue more guidance on appropriate language style for handbooks in the near future.

The new DoD Directive 5000.1 and DoD Regulation 5000.2-R were approved on March 15. **You can obtain copies of these documents by accessing the World Wide Web on <http://www.acq.osd.mil/api/asm/>.** These documents establish the fundamental policies and principles for defense acquisition. Key points concerning specifications and

## INSIDE

3/15/96 Keynote Address by Dr. Paul Kaminski (given at the Defense Standardization Program Awards Ceremony)

Open Systems Approach to Weapon Systems Design

Standardization Awards Program Photos

National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995

Frequently Asked Questions on the New Standardization Project Transmittal Sheet, DD Form 1585

standards include:

- Performance specifications shall be used, unless the Milestone Decision Authority grants a waiver to use a military specification or standard.
- Performance specifications include defense performance specifications (for example, MIL-PRF-123), commercial item descriptions, and performance-based non-government standards.
- Commercial items supplied shall be based on non-government standards and commercial item descriptions to the maximum extent practicable.

**Peter Drucker** once observed that 60 percent of the problems in business are the result of miscommunication. Despite the fact that over 13,000 people have attended MilSpec Reform Road shows, over 5,000 people have received formal training, and our MilSpec Reform Home Page is in the top 5 percent of the most frequently accessed Home Pages on the Internet, I often hear that “the word” is not getting out or that the message being sent is not the message being received. While we will continue to look for better ways of communicating the MilSpec Reform message, we can certainly use your help. For example, the Aerospace Industries Association is creating an electronic “Early Warning System” to make sure their members are kept better informed about MilSpec Reform activities. More organizations need to follow such leads.

In the movie *Cool Hand Luke*, the prison guard turns to **Paul Newman** and says, “What we’ve got here is a failure to communicate.” This is a great line for the movies, but I solicit your help in making sure this line doesn’t relate to MilSpec Reform.

**MARCH 15, 1996, KEYNOTE  
ADDRESS GIVEN BY THE  
HONORABLE DR. PAUL G.  
KAMINSKI, UNDER SECRETARY  
OF DEFENSE FOR ACQUISITION  
AND TECHNOLOGY**

It’s a great pleasure to be here this afternoon to acknowledge those outstanding individuals and organizations who, by their achievements, have led the way in implementing the Department of Defense reform of its specifications and standards.

I’d like to start by sharing with you the story of the fisherman and the game warden. . .

One morning, they both went out to fish together. When they got to the middle of the lake, the game warden baited his hook and threw his line out.

Then the fisherman reached into a tackle box, pulled out a stick of dynamite, lit it and threw it into the water. . .

After the ensuing explosion, the fisherman took out his net and began retrieving the dead fish which were now floating on the surface of the lake.

The game warden couldn’t believe what he was seeing. . . he composed himself and said “You can’t do that—it’s illegal!”

At this point, the fisherman pulled out another stick of dynamite, lit it, threw it in the game warden’s lap and then said

*“Are you going to just talk, or are you going to fish?”*

The award recipients we are about to honor here today are in the business of fishing, not just talking. But as we fish, we are also committed to ensuring that the specifications and standards we use support the overall goals of reducing costs; facilitating further integration of the commercial and military industrial bases; and allowing for the rapid insertion of new technologies into our weapon systems.

We have found, and much of industry has echoed, that our prior application of military specifications and standards often presented barriers to achieving these goals.

### STRATEGY

To help eliminate these barriers, we are pursuing two paths.

**First**, we are committed to using non-government standards developed by consensus standards organizations, such as the American Society for Testing and Materials, and the Society of Automotive Engineers.

While this has long been the Department's policy, we have significantly increased the number of such standards adopted by DoD, adding over 1200 during fiscal year 1995, the largest annual increase ever. We now have adopted over 7,000 non-government standards, nearly one-fifth of all the specifications and standards listed in the DoD Index of Specifications and Standards.

The **second** major reform path pertains to the use of performance based specifications-- rather than “build to” specifications.

Performance specifications should focus on what is expected, not how to accomplish the task. When written properly, performance specifications should promote competition, drive down prices, and enhance quality, reliability, and supportability.

On the other hand, “build to” standards can freeze technology and hamper innovation

because they invariably are rigid and require specific solutions to technical requirements.

I challenge you to use your creativity, as well as your technical competence, to develop true performance specifications, rather than disguising a detailed military design specification in performance terms.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In the last 18 months, you have done much to implement **Secretary Perry's** June, 1994, memorandum that initiated MilSpec reform.

Today. . .

- Requirements in solicitations are being described in performance terms.
- Waivers must first be obtained in cases where military or federal specifications or standards are deemed to be necessary.
- Solicitations that cite military or federal specifications or standards, typically also contain language encouraging offerors to propose alternatives.

Additionally, under the oversight and management of the Defense Standards Improvement Council, policies have been modified to place greater reliance on performance specifications, commercial items, and commercial practices.

Training curricula have been developed or modified to make sure the new policies are understood and put into action.

Over 2,600 detailed military and federal specifications and standards have been canceled to date; and every military specification and standard in the DoD Index of Specifications and Standards — over 30,000 documents — has been screened with a view towards cancellation, inactivation, or replacement with a performance specification, non-government standard, or guidance handbook.

### NEXT STEPS

We are now prepared to take the next step. . . this task will require your continued support in terms of leadership and, to the extent that you are in a position to influence them, funding and manpower.

Let me call on each of you, as leaders in your organizations, either by the office that you occupy or by your individual initiative, to focus on the following four key areas where additional emphasis is needed to finish what we have set out to do:

First, **Challenging the Acquisition Requirements** . . . We have made good progress in scrubbing solicitations for ACAT I and II programs to ensure requirements are stated in performance terms.

Now, we need to apply similar, aggressive reviews to our ACAT III programs as well. Re procurements must also reflect performance requirements in a way that facilitates use of commercial products and practices, wherever possible. Conducting thorough market research and, where appropriate, greater use of integrated product teams are our best tools to achieve these objectives

Second, **Implementing Document Improvements** . . . The comprehensive screening of our documents required a great deal of effort. It is imperative that we now follow through with the planned actions, or we will have merely expended resources -- not invested them. Some of the improvements will be difficult, but I challenge you to overcome the obstacles and persist, so that we can improve our capability to buy quality products and services for our "warfighters."

Third, **Cooperating with Industry** . . . We must work in partnership with industry to determine where non-government standards should be used instead of military documents to describe commercial products and practices.

**Dr. Deming** once remarked that "Standards are so commonplace ... we forget that they have to be created: they do not come into the world ready made and without effort." Those of you being recognized today can fully appreciate the wisdom in **Dr. Deming's** observation.

We also need to recognize that some needed non-government standards may never become available without the active participation and leadership of DoD personnel. I encourage each of you to participate in appropriate standards-developing professional societies and industry associations, to include assuming leadership roles on committees.

For those of you in management positions, I encourage you to support the participation of your assigned personnel in these bodies, both to develop them professionally and to facilitate the creation of better non-government standards that DoD can use.

Fourth and finally, we need to **Establish an Electronic Document Data Base** . . . We've made a good start on developing a full-text, searchable, electronic data base of specifications and standards.

I ask that you support the document preparation and validation efforts required to complete this data base by the end of fiscal year 1996. This tool will significantly enhance industry's ability to respond to our needs, as well as greatly improve our capability and flexibility to support our acquisition system.

### CLOSING

In closing, I call on each of you to recommit to completing Specifications and Standards Reform—to **fish rather than talk**.

Your continued leadership and, where necessary, personal participation are critical to our successfully finishing that which we have started. You must remain committed, active participants in this process.

I challenge you to maintain an individual enthusiasm for, and an organizational

environment that facilitates, cultural change. This very definitely should include training and, maybe even retraining, employees until the desired cultural change is achieved throughout the Department.

Finally and most importantly I would like to extend, on behalf of **Secretary Perry** and myself, our personal congratulations to all of today's Standardization Award recipients

### **REGIONAL METRIC TOWN MEETINGS AND WORKSHOPS**

Pictured above (left to right) is **Senator Claiborne Pell** (D-RI) and **Mr. John Tascher**, Standardization Program Division, at a meeting of the Interagency Committee on Metric Policy, March 20, 1996.

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has announced that Metric Town Meetings and Workshops will be held:

- May 17-18, 1996, **Boston, MA**, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Stratton Student Center.
- September 6-7, 1996, **Seattle, WA**, at the University of Seattle's Piggott Auditorium.
- October 18-19, 1996, **Chicago, IL**, at the University of Chicago Graduate Business School.

- November 8-9, 1996, **San Francisco, CA**, at the Bank of American Center (tentative)
- January 10-11, 1997, **Dallas, TX**, at Southern Methodist University

These regional meetings will attempt to build on the key themes--trade, education, and public awareness--emerging from the first National Metric Town Meeting, held March 27-28, 1995, at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg, MD. At each meeting, Americans will have the opportunity to hear from international experts on the benefits of using the metric system to increase our global competitiveness, commercialize new technologies, and enhance job skills of America's workforce. Open forum discussions will probe critical metrication issues.

Each meeting will seek to build state and regional partnerships (1) to accelerate adoption of the metric system in trade and commerce; (2) encourage use of the metric system in all facets of education, including honing of worker skills; and (3) develop positive and enjoyable programs of public awareness. Each town meeting and workshop will devote a half day to each of these areas--Friday morning to trade and commerce, Friday afternoon to public awareness, and Saturday morning to education--seeking to develop joint strategies to advance the Nation's metrication. NIST seeks widespread involvement in these meetings, invites your participation, and welcomes comments during all planning stages. For information, contact the Metric Program at NIST:

**PHONE** (301) 975-3690  
**FAX** (301) 948-1416  
**E-MAIL** [metric\\_prg@nist.gov](mailto:metric_prg@nist.gov)

(John Tascher/ SPD/703-681-9340)

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### **ADPA 36th Technical Information Division (TID) Symposium**

#### **“Managing Technical Information in the Global Environment”**

May 20-23, 1996

**Tampa, Florida**

The ADPA will hold the 36th TID Symposium at the Wyndham Harbour Island Hotel, in Tampa. The Symposium will feature plenary addresses from senior level officials in Government, Industry/Commercial and International organizations, as well as displays and demonstrations of cutting edge technology products and services in the technical data world. Other Symposium features will include:

- A Plenary Session on Military Specifications and Standards Reform and the Application of Commercial Specifications
- Educational Workshops on:
  - Conversion to Performance Specifications
  - Transition of Drawing Preparation Requirements
  - Product Information Management
  - MIL-HDBK-61 (Configuration Management)

There will be professional certification opportunities for Configuration and Data Managers. A CM/DM certification preparation course will be offered on May 18th and 19th, followed by Examinations on May 20th, prior to the Symposium opening. (PLEASE NOTE: Exam applications are due 30 days in advance, even if you do not plan to take the preparatory course.)

Contact ADPA for information at 703-522-1820.

## **SES ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

The 45th annual Standards Engineering Society (SES) conference will be held October 14-15, 1996, at the Washington National Airport Hilton in Arlington, VA. The conference theme is “Standards: Solutions for Success.” The conference is being held during National Standards Week, and will feature many prominent people from industry, government, and standards developing organizations. The conference is very topical, highlighting such key standards issues and opportunities as:

- Consortium standards or “traditional” standards? Is one type better? Will one type dominate in the future?
- Automated Development, Coordination, and Dissemination of Standards.
- Applying Quality Management Techniques to Standards Development.
- How Standards Affect Productivity and Profitability (this will include an update on the aerospace industry’s Standards Early Warning System, which will alert industry of key DoD standards actions that may impact industry).

If you are interested in receiving the conference brochure, which also includes information on National Standards Week activities, and the SES Standards Course and an HTML Course being taught after the conference, please contact **Donald Kear** on 513-258-1955.

## TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION PROGRAM--PARTNERSHIP WITH INDUSTRY

**When: June 4-6, 1996**

**Where: Radisson Hotel Philadelphia Airport**

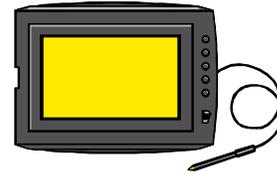
The Defense Logistics Agency, Defense Personnel Support Center, Clothing and Textiles Directorate, **4th Annual Clothing and Textiles Technology Modernization Conference and Customer EXPO**—this is a forum for government, industry, and academic representatives to share cutting-edge technology. The forum provides industry and potential government customers the opportunity to learn about the Defense Personnel Support Center and the advantages of doing business with the Defense Logistics Agency and informs the audience of new and future items being developed for the military. Last year, over 250 industry representatives attended.

The 4th Annual Clothing and Textiles Technology Modernization Conference and Customer EXPO will be held at the Radisson Hotel Philadelphia Airport, Philadelphia, PA. Contact **Mr. Joseph Nilsen** Clothing and Textiles Directorate, at 215-737-3601 or DSN 444-3016 for details about the conference.

### WORTH REPEATING

“Americanism means the virtues of courage, honor, justice, truth, sincerity and hardihood--the virtues that made America.”

**Theodore Roosevelt**  
(1858 - 1919)  
U. S. President



## SUBSCRIPTIONS

*The Standardization Newsletter* is issued quarterly, prepared and published for the **Director, Acquisition Practices Directorate, by the Standardization Program Division**. Single copies are sent free of charge to those on our mailing list. All editions are posted on our Defense Standardization Program Home Page on the Internet World Wide Web, where they can be viewed or downloaded. The Home Page can be reached by using a Web browser, such as Mosaic or Netscape, and entering the following Universal Resource Location (URL):

**<http://www.acq.osd.mil/es/std>**

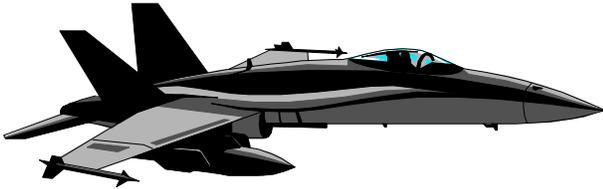
*The Standardization Newsletter* provides information on policy and related actions taking place, conference/seminar and meeting schedules, training opportunities, and personnel changes. We welcome related articles!

Mail articles to *The Standardization Newsletter* Editor, **Sharon Strickland** using the address on the front page. Requests to be added to the mailing list and address changes should be faxed immediately to the Editor at 703-681-7622 or DSN 761-7622.

### FYI

**FAR Changes** The Federal Acquisition Institute (FAI) offers a guide that is available at **<http://www.gsa.gov/staff/v/training.htm>**

For more info, contact **Gladys Poindexter** at 202-501-0964.



**THE “OPEN SYSTEMS  
APPROACH” TO WEAPONS  
SYSTEM DESIGN--LINKING  
ACQUISITION REFORM AND  
COMMERCIAL STANDARDS TO  
THE DOD WEAPONS  
ACQUISITION PROCESS**

One of the most promising elements of Acquisition Reform is a shift towards open systems standards for electronics systems. Proven in commercial computing and telecommunications, this approach has been used successfully by the military C4I community and is now being implemented in the weapons systems acquisition community through the Open Systems Joint Task Force. This open systems approach is integrated into the new DoD Directive 5000.1 and the 5000.2-R.

**Why Open Systems?**

The open systems approach brings commercially available, widely accepted standard products from multiple vendors into the weapons systems world. The open systems concept originated in the information technology (IT) world. The common use of proprietary products locked customers into one supplier with little incentive to reduce cost or improve the product. The single-vendor approach also limits design flexibility because it depends on the vendor being willing to meet the customer needs. All other vendors' products are incompatible, so only a small after-market develops and options for supportability are limited.

A key advantage of the open systems approach is that the wide availability of a large variety of compliant products makes rapid design and prototyping much easier than when every element of the system must be custom designed. Designers are free to concentrate on performance and features rather than spending resources on basic design elements. This makes design modifications rapid and cost-effective. The open systems approach is a life-cycle approach for cost control, maintenance, and design innovation.

**Applying the Open Systems Approach to Weapons Systems Acquisition**

Some people think that the open systems approach means using consumer grade products in military systems. This is not true: **all open systems designs must still meet military requirements** Many commercial environments are as demanding as military environments, and the products that meet those environments will also meet the military environment. In all cases, DoD programs need to accurately specify environments, and not merely specify the harshest possible case. This will broaden the field of candidates for inclusion in the system design.

There are some performance limitations to open systems, and in those cases, the use of the open systems approach may be either inappropriate, or can be modified to permit the desired level of performance. Weapons systems may have security, reliability, real-time, or harsh environment requirements that are hard to meet with commercially based products. Those products can be dealt with on a case-by-case basis through the systems engineering process. But, where open systems standards and their corresponding products meet the required performance, large cost reductions are possible.

**DoD Policy on Open Systems**

On November 29, 1994, **Dr. Paul G. Kaminski**, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, directed that the open systems approach be used for the acquisition of electronics in weapons systems. The new DoD Directive 5000.1 and 5000.2-R apply consistent policy for all systems acquisition in the DoD, including the mandate for open systems. These documents establish the expectation that the open systems approach will be integrated with the other activities essential to the reformed acquisition process.

### **What is the Open Systems Approach?**

The open systems approach is a business strategy that selects either standard or non-standard interfaces based on a broad definition of cost and performance. That strategy will increasingly use consensus standards in designing and building military systems. It takes advantage of the fact that firms in the commercial sector, pursuing their own self-interest, have developed a body of hardware, software, and systems standards for designing and building computing, telecommunications, display, sensing, and signal processing systems. The main goals of these systems are reduced life-cycle cost and increased design flexibility.

A principal characteristic of the open systems approach is that systems are built using consensus standards developed with participation by vendors, customers, and other stakeholders. Where standards do not meet performance requirements of military systems, they can be profiled to meet unique military needs. And, where neither the existing open standard nor a military profile exists, military standards can and should be used.

The open systems approach also requires that the standards used have wide

market acceptance. A fully described ("open") but narrowly available product line is little different in effect from the traditional DoD

approach. Being a small-time player means increased costs no matter how "open" the system.

### **Interface Control**

One implication of the open systems approach is that interfaces must be managed much more rigorously than previously. **An interface is a shared boundary between one element of a system and another.** Because it is a shared boundary and may impact other systems as well as its own internal performance, an interface standard is inherently a performance standard used as such by industry, and is recognized by DoD.

In a traditional design solution, interfaces could be changed at will, provided all parties agreed. But, an open systems interface is controlled by a larger public consensus process. It is critical that system design does not violate the interface. Any tendency toward a unilateral, non-open solution opens a future path to higher costs and less flexibility.

In an open system, the controlled interfaces must be unambiguously defined and must remain inviolate. Designers must not unilaterally redefine them. Designers must not interface between elements, including making unilateral use of "user definable" features, proprietary extensions, or any other factor that is not recognized in the standard. The designer must not do anything on one side of the interface that causes anything on the other side of the interface to behave differently from what is specified in the standard. For example, if the standard specifies message formats for information passed across an interface, a system designer may not unilaterally redefine them.

At whatever level the system configuration is controlled, these rules must be followed or the design will not achieve the

benefits of an open system. Below that level, the designer should be free to design so long as the modifications or technology selections follow the rules and meet performance, support, and environmental requirements.

### **Conclusion**

The open systems approach is a new way of doing business for many DoD programs. It is an important part of Acquisition Reform, and is consistent with **Secretary Perry's** initiative to reduce dependence on military specifications and standards. Beyond that is one simple fact: the open systems approach is a smart way to do business. Program managers, hard pressed between budget constraints, and the need to continually upgrade or maintain the capability of U. S. military forces, would do well to consider open systems even if it were not DoD policy.

Additional information is available from the Internet World Wide Web at the **Open Systems Joint Task Force Home Page** <http://www.acq.osd.mil/osjtf> (H. Leonard Burke (OSD) 703-578-6568 and Joseph P. Carr (Navy) 703-604-6240)

## **WORLD STANDARDS DAY**

**OCTOBER 16, 1996**

### **A U. S. CELEBRATION**

"U.S. National vs. International Standards" will be the theme of the 1996 World Standards Day paper contest, organizers of the event announced. **The author of the winning paper will receive a \$2,500 cash award, a commemorative plaque, and national recognition.** The winner will be honored at a special function to be held during the World

Standards Day celebration in Washington, DC on October 16, 1996.

The paper should make a case for whether U. S. National Standards or International Standards are more in the best interests of the United States. The paper may also present the pros and cons of National and International Standards. The paper can be written from your organization's or industry's point of view or it may be from your personal experience illustrated by research and evidence from that experience.

The contest is open to any individual in the private sector or government, including employees of standards developing organizations, working in a facility located in the United States. Papers prepared in accordance with the rules should be received by the World Standards Day Committee no later than September 1, 1996.

Copies of the rules and the entry forms are available by writing to the following address or by calling **Ms. Carolyn Anderson** UL, Inc., at 919-549-1877 or FAX: 919-547-6018.

Write to:

Underwriters Laboratories Inc.

**ATTN: Carolyn Anderson**

World Standards Day Paper Competition

12 Laboratory Drive

Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

## **MILSPEC REFORM** **HITS DATA TOO**

In conjunction with MilSpec Reform efforts, the Technical Data Management Program's analysis and actions on Data Item Descriptions (DIDs) resulted in elimination of 394 DIDs available for use in DoD contracts. (Roland Henderson/CALS and EDI)

## **NEW AIR FORCE ACQUISITION** **EXECUTIVE CONFIRMED**

**Mr. Arthur L. Money** was confirmed as the new Air Force Acquisition Executive on January 26, 1996.

**Mr. Money** has made it known that he will be fully involved in acquisition activities. During his confirmation process **Mr. Money** reaffirmed his strong support for the Air Force's many acquisition reform efforts. It is expected that many new efforts will be initiated in the upcoming months. Additionally, he emphasized integrity as his personal guiding principle.

### **DEFENSE SPECIFICATION MANAGEMENT COURSE IN DC METRO AREA, JUNE 11-21, 1996**

The Washington metro area offering of the Defense Specification Management two week DAU course, PQM 103, will be held at the new DLA HQ Complex from June 11 to 21, 1996, from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm daily.

Training will be taught by ALMC instructors and the cost is \$0.00 for DoD employees. There are 15 slots open to DLA personnel and DLA serviced organization personnel. Non-DoD and industry personnel are charged a fee of \$594. Industry training requests must be submitted by the DoD organization having a contract with the industry group. Forms are submitted to ALMC with fees paid directly to the DAU. This course will be fully attended (and only 30 seats are available). For questions, contact ALMC at 804-765-4479 or DSN 539-4479. **This will be the only offering of this course in the metro Washington area this fiscal year.**  
(Sharon Strickland/SPD/703-681-9340)

### **NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND ADVANCEMENT ACT OF 1995**

On March 7, 1996, **President Clinton** signed into law, PL 104-113, National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995. Section 12, Standards of Conformity, of this Act codifies OMB Circular A-119, Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary (non-government) Standards. This section requires federal agencies to adopt and use, to the extent practicable, technical standards developed by voluntary, private-sector, industry-led, consensus standards bodies and to work closely with those organizations to ensure that these standards are consistent with agency needs. PL 104-113 does include a requirement to submit to OMB a summary report explaining reasons for not using non-government standards. OMB and the federal agencies are just beginning to develop a strategy for FY97 implementation of this reporting requirement.

(Trudie Williams/SPD/703-681-9340)

### **INCREASING NUMBER OF PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATIONS**

As of March 8, 1996, 177 performance specifications (MIL-PRFs) were indexed and available for use. This is an increase from 69 as of September 20, 1995. The Standardization Program Division (SPD) is reviewing all MIL-PRFs and found generally that there is good understanding and compliance. We've found some that still needed some refinement prior to issuing, and a few that should have been CIDs. Of the 177 issued, 58 were not sent to SPD in accordance with Policy Memo 95-2A

"Processing Performance Specifications," dated March 10, 1995, which directs that a copy of each certified performance specification to be listed in the DoDISS shall be sent to SPD for

information only. Though it is our intention, eventually to stop the 100% post publication review, this area is very sensitive. Evidence to date suggests that it is also subject to varying interpretations, so the reviews will continue until everyone is more comfortable with performance specifications.  
(John Tascher/SPD/ 703-681-9340)

### **DO YOU KNOW?**

For how long does U. S. copyright protection now endure?

**Author's life --plus 50 years**

### **GETTING ACQUISITION HELP - FAST!!**

To assist our readers in finding useful acquisition information, we developed the following list of Universal Resource Locators (URLs):

Defense Acquisition Revolution (OSD Page)  
<http://www.acq.osd.mil/ar>  
(OSD Acquisition Initiatives/Reform)

Army Acquisition Reform:  
<http://www.sarda.army.mil/sard-zp/zpgatewy.htm>  
(Army Acquisition Initiatives and Policies)

Navy Acquisition Reform:  
<http://www.acq-ref.navy.mil/>  
(Navy Acquisition Initiatives and Policies)

Air Force Acquisition Model:  
<http://afamsun.wpafb.af.mil/>  
(Acquisition Models, Action Officer's Guide, Lessons Learned)

Aeronautical Systems Center Bulletin Board:  
<http://www.wpafb.af.mil/az/title.htm>  
(Acquisition Reform Toolbox, Training, Industry Guide, Lots of Links)

Air Force Country Store:

<http://www.hanscom.af.mil/Hanscom/Groups/Cstore/>  
(INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY Services, Software Tools, Hardware, etc.....)

Federal Acquisition Jumpstation:  
<http://procure.msfc.nasa.gov/fedproc/home.html>  
(Links to Federal Acquisition Information)

DTIC Acquisition Information:  
<http://procure.msfc.nasa.gov/fedproc/home.html>  
(Defense Technical Information Center Links and Search Engines)

Federal Acquisition Reform Net:  
<http://www-far.npr.gov/>  
(Acquisition Best Practices)

To use these listings, you need software such as Netscape or Mosaic. Many of these sites (but not all) can also be accessed from commercial services (e.g., America On Line) and local Internet access providers.  
(Sharon Strickland/SPD/703-681-9340)

### **STANDARDS ENGINEERING SOCIETY (SES) ISSUES NEW AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD, SES 1:1995**

The SES has announced the release of SES 1:1995, *Recommended Practice for Standards Designation and Organization*. The standard addresses the concerns of users and standards developers by providing guidance on identifying and designating standards. It also attempts to standardize where information should be located within broad generic types of standards.

The standard project was initiated after a conference of users convened by the SES identified difficulties in locating standards and asked SES to prepare a standard. SES established a Standards Committee to develop this American National Standard as part of its stated mission to promote the use of standards

and enhance the knowledge of standardization. The standard addresses needs for improvements expressed by users in attempting to identify and locate existing standards, and then, to find specific information within such standards. In addition, developers of company standards and members of standards developing organizations needed uniform guidance on the format and designation of standards.

The standard may be ordered from the SES, 1706 Darst Avenue, Dayton, OH 45403-3104, telephone 513-258-1955, FAX 513-258-0018, at a non-member cost of \$25 per copy (bulk quantity rate \$20) and SES member cost of \$20 (bulk quantity rate \$18). Bulk rate applies to 20 or more copies purchased on one order.

Readers should note that the DoD is adopting the standard and will ensure that each DoD standardization management activity gets one copy each. (Sharon Strickland/SPD/703-681-9340)

### **EDITOR'S CORNER**

Congratulations to **Mr. George E. Gianios**, Deputy Director, Defense Printing Service (DPS) Detachment Office, Phila., PA, a recent recipient of the Meritorious Civilian Service Award. **Mr. Gianios** received the award in recognition of his exemplary support of the Defense Standardization Program. As a direct result of his efforts, exceptional presentation skills, and technical expertise in document automation technology, DPS has been designated as the Executive Agent for the Defense Standardization Automation Program. He has been directly responsible for achieving significant progress in establishing this program as a model for entering into and fully utilizing the many benefits to be realized in today's digital environment.

**Mr. Gregory E. Saunders**, Deputy Director, Acquisition Practices, has been named Chairman of the Standards and Data Services Committee, American National Standards

Institute. He replaces **Mr. Paul Mercer**, who recently retired as a senior manager of the Boeing Company. The committee was formed by the ANSI Board of Directors to address the ever-changing information needs of its members and customers. In 1992, the committee developed a strategic plan for the electronic development, production, and delivery of standards and standards-related information. This plan became the basis for the National Standards Systems Network (NSSN) Program. The NSSN is an electronic network that will link the standards systems of the hundreds of organizations involved in the non-developmental items (NDI) and to use more commercial buying practices. Congratulations, **Greg!**

### **THE CHANGING WORLD OF STANDARDS--EQUAL PARTNER IMPLEMENTATION CONFERENCE (EPIC) VI**

The sixth EPIC conference, March 4-6, brought together government and industry professionals to discuss the ever-changing world of standards and strategies for the future.

A popular conference event was the tutorial offered by **Mr. Steve Lowell**, Standardization Program Division, on the role of non-government standards (NGSs) in defense acquisition reform. He reaffirmed DoD's commitment to using NGSs by pointing out the recent changes to DoD Regulation 5000.2-R, "Defense Acquisition Policies and Procedures" which states that commercial items shall be based on NGSs and commercial item descriptions to the maximum extent possible. He discussed the future implementation of the National Standards System Network which will change NGS adoption procedures and National Institute of Standards and Technology plans for an on-line directory of government-wide NGS participation.

Another topic presented at EPIC VI was a panel addressing industry views on the government transition to NGSs. Panelists indicated that while DoD has made great strides in replacing military or federal documents with NGSs and communicating policies, there are still areas for improvement, e.g., increased partnering with industry and greater user participation on NGS bodies.

EPIC VI attendees recommended the formation of an industry, academia, and government consortium to formulate natural groupings of standards and specifications for transition to NGSs.

(Trudie Williams/SPD/703-681-9340)

### **BLOCK CHANGES INSTITUTED AT TEXAS INSTRUMENTS (TI)**

The TI Defense Systems and Electronics Group, and the DoD reached agreement on April 4, 1996, for TI to become the first U.S. defense contractor to institute a common set of manufacturing methods for all its products. The block changes will make production methods more efficient by using commercial practices on single production lines. Previously, making changes would involve laborious renegotiation of each of the 150 contracts at TI. The company was making weapons for the three U.S. services on different production lines, not for efficiency, but to meet contract clauses. Other defense contractors are negotiating for institution of block changes. These changes are made under the Single Process Initiative policy, announced in December 1995, by Under Secretary Kaminski. This policy allows companies to change the specifications and standards on existing contracts without rewriting each contract. All parties agree that these changes will cut costs throughout the life cycle of weapons from production to disposing of toxic substances when they are taken out of service.

(John Tascher/SPD/703-681-9340)

### **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS ON THE NEW STANDARDIZATION PROJECT TRANSMITTAL SHEET, DD FORM 1585**

These are some frequently asked questions about the **new** DD Form 1585 and SD-4 database, which are used to track standardization projects.

**1. With the creation of the new SD-4, "Status of Standardization Project Database," do I need to transfer my projects from the old SD-4 database?**

**ANSWER:** Generally no. The only projects that should be transferred are those related to accomplishing actions directed by the Defense Standards Improvement Council or indicated by the preparing activity's military specifications and standards questionnaires. Since very few projects in the old SD-4 implement MilSpec reform actions, very few projects should be transferred.

**2. How is information implementing a MilSpec reform action transferred from the old SD-4 database to the new SD-4 database?**

**ANSWER:** Prepare a letter to the DoD Single Stock Point (DoDSSP). Include the project number and the basis code (get the basis code from the **new** DD Form 1585), and request they transfer information on that project from the old SD-4 database to the new database. Provide the Lead Standardization Activity (LSA) with a copy of your letter. Include your name and phone number on the letter in case DoDSSP has questions.

**3. If projects are in the old SD-4 database and do not implement a MilSpec reform**

**action, how is the information in the old SD-4 kept current?**

**ANSWER:** It doesn't need to be kept current. The old SD-4 was printed once in April 1996 and will be printed again one year later. Projects in the old SD-4 are automatically extended until that time. For old SD-4 projects that are completed or discontinued, just send a letter to the DoDSSP and the LSA indicating completion or discontinuation. In April 1997, any project that has not been completed in the old SD-4 will be discontinued automatically.

**4. If a document is included in OSD's mass cancellations, do Preparing Activities need to submit a DD Form 1585 to cancel the project?**

**ANSWER:** No. Everything will be covered in OSD's mass cancellation effort. However, if a document is being canceled and is not a part of OSD's mass cancellations, a DD Form 1585 must be initiated to cancel the document. The documents that are being massed canceled are those the DSIC directed be canceled; the preparing activity indicated could be canceled without replacement; or for which a questionnaire was not submitted.

**5. Can I submit the new DD Form 1585 for a project that does not implement a MILQUEST questionnaire?**

**ANSWER:** Yes. The Basis Code Block of the DD Form 1585 should be checked "X" if the document does not implement a planned MILSPEC or MILSTD questionnaire action.

**6. If a MILQUEST questionnaire was submitted to convert a standard to another type of standard or handbook, or non-government standard, do I need to submit more than one DD Form 1585?**

**ANSWER:** Yes. In this case, two DD Forms 1585 need to be submitted. One will initiate a cancellation notice for the standard to be replaced and the other will initiate the development or adoption of the replacement document.

**7. An interim guidance memorandum, dated August 29, 1995, indicated that Preparing Activities were not required to get project numbers for any inactive for new design actions. Is this still the case?**

**ANSWER:** No. The interim guidance was issued to expedite some MilSpec reform actions and pending the release of policy memorandums in coordination. A new guidance memo was issued April 10, 1996, which cancels the August guidance. Since most of the documents that could be inactivated have been inactivated, we are returning to the policies of DoD 4120.3-M, which requires a project number and coordination by the preparing activity.

**8. If only a cover page change is being made to redesignate a document, should a new project be taken out?**

**ANSWER:** No. Project numbers are not required for cover page changes. For example, if a MILSTD is being redesignated as a Standard Practice by a cover page change, the Preparing Activity should send to the DoDSSP a copy of the revised cover page with a letter requesting that the revised cover page be rescanned into the Print on Demand System. This information is provided in Policy Memo 95-6.

(Karen Bond/SPD/703-681-9340)

Pictured above standing is the **Honorable Dr. Paul G Kaminski** Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, delivering the keynote address to the attendees of the 1995 Defense Standardization Program Honorary Awards Ceremony. Seated at the head table are the Standardization Improvement Executives and key dignitaries (including **Brigadier General Henry T. Glisson** Commander, US Army Soldier Systems Command; **Rear Admiral George Wagner** Commander, Space and Naval Warfare Command; **Dr. Helmut Hellwig** Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Science, Technology and Engineering; **Dr. Marshall H. Bailey** Associate Executive Director for Policy Systems and Engineering, HQ, DLA; **Mr. John B. Goodman** Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Affairs; **LTC James Cambron** **Walter B. Bergmann II** Director, OSD Acquisition Practices Directorate, and **Gregory E. Saunders** Deputy Director, OSD Acquisition Practices Directorate). Representing the Services and HQ, Defense Logistics Agency are:

OSD                    **Walter B. Bergmann II**  
Chair, Defense Standards Improvement Council

Army                **Dale G. Adams**

Navy                **Daniel Porter**

Air Force         **James Bair**

DLA                **Thomas Ridgway**

**Dr. Kaminski's** keynote address is printed verbatim in this edition of the newsletter. He stressed in his remarks that the DoD is committed to ensuring that the specifications and standards we use support the overall goals of reducing costs, facilitating further integration of the commercial and military industrial bases; and allowing for the rapid insertion of new technologies into our weapon systems.

Pictured above with the **Honorable Dr. Paul G. Kaminski** Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, are the 1995 recipients of the Defense Standardization Program Honorary Achievement Awards. Seated in the front row are, from left to right **Mr. Gene R. Grant** U. S. Army Materiel Command (individual recipient); **Mr. Dennis Rilling** Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command Standards Improvement Executive (activity recipient); **TC Beverly Bodenhamer** Chief, Special Programs and Technology Branch, Defense Personnel Support Center, DLA (activity recipient); **Mr. Edward L. Dotson** Operations Support Group, Defense Supply Center, Columbus, DLA (individual recipient); **Major Steve DeCou** Program Manager, Space and Missile Systems Center, Air Force Materiel Command, Los Angeles AFB, NAVSTAR Global Positioning System Block IIF Satellite Integrated Product Team (activity recipient). Second row, left to right are **Mr. Joseph Smith** Standardization Team, US Army Natick RD&E Center, US Army Soldier Systems Command (activity recipient); **Mr. Michael S. Zsak** Test Systems Engineering and Evaluation Directorate, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology (individual recipient); **Dr. Paul G. Kaminski**; **Mr. Rick Rodemer** Defense Printing Service Detachment Office, DoD Single Stock Point, Standardization Document Acquisition Division (activity recipient); and **Dr. John C. Halpin** Aeronautical Systems Center, Directorate of Engineering, Wright-Patterson AFB (individual recipient). Not pictured was **Mr. Allen E. Crout** former Director, Electrical Engineering Group, Naval Sea Systems Command, who retired on February 7, 1996. **Mr. Crout**, Navy's individual award recipient, received his award in a special ceremony in late February. The above pictured individuals and activity recipients represent awards that benefited the government an estimated total of well over One Billion in expected savings and cost avoidance.

Pictured above, from right to left, are the **Honorable Dr. Paul G. Kaminski** Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, presenting a 1995 Defense Standardization Program Honorary Achievement Award to **Major Steve DeCou** Program Manager, Space and Missile Systems Center, Air Force Materiel Command, Los AFB. **Major DeCou**, as Program Manager, **NAVSTAR Global Positioning System Block IIF Satellite Integrated Product Team** received the 1995 Air Force activity award for the members of the Integrated Product Team (Core team: 25 members/Extended team: 124 members). Standing with **Major DeCou**, from right to left, are **COL John P. Caldwell** Deputy Systems Program Director, NAVSTAR GPS Joint Program Office, Space and Missile Systems Center, AFMC, Los Angeles, AFB; **Dr. Helmut Hellwig** Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Science, Technology and Engineering; **Mr. James Bair** Air Force Standards Improvement Executive; **COL Terry Talbot** Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Science, Technology and Engineering; **Mr. Clark Walker** Air Force Departmental Standardization Officer; and **Major Walter Hallman** Air Force Standardization Program Manager. The work of this team provided major tangible and intangible benefits to the Defense Department. In addition to dramatic savings of over one billion dollars and lower unit prices over the system life cycle, commercial practices will mitigate technology obsolescence, give war-fighting capability sooner, and ensure faster implementation of dual-use civil and military utility to civil and international navigation. This team has been highly praised by **Dr. Kaminski** and **Mrs. Darleen Druyun** Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, for their work and perseverance. Their work will long be recognized in DoD for its trailblazing and revolutionary achievements.

**Points of Contact for the Defense Standardization Program (MAY 1996)**

Following is an updated list of the Departmental Standardization Office Heads, and the Standards Improvement Executives (SIEs). The Defense Standards Improvement Council (DSIC) is comprised of the SIEs **Changes are in boldface type**.

#### Departmental Standardization Office Heads

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department/Agency</u>	<u>Telephone</u>	<u>Facsimile</u>
Andrew D. Certo certoat@acq.osd.mil	DASD(IA)/AP/SPD	703-681-9340 DSN 761-9340	703-681-7622 DSN 761-7622
Walter Gooley, Jr. POC: Lynn Mohler lmohler@hqamc.army.mil	Army Materiel Command AMCRD-IEEE	703-617-9655 703-617-5101 DSN 767-5101	703-617-8256 DSN 767-8256
CDR Robert Petroka Petroka_Bob_CDR@asnrddad.acq-ref.navy.mil	ASN(RD&A)APIA/AP	703-602-0136 DSN 332-0136	703-602-5481 DSN 332-5481
Clark Walker <b>walkercl@aqqo.hq.af.mil</b> POC: Maj Walter Hallman hallmanw@aqqo.hq.af.mil	SAF/AQR(DepSO)	703-693-3218 DSN 223-3218 703-693-3221 DSN 223-3221	703-614-2936 DSN 223-2936 703-614-2936 DSN 223-2936
Lt Col Dan Mahrer MAHRERD@WPGATE1.WPAFB.AF.MIL	(Air Force COMSO)	513-257-1903 DSN 787-1903	513-476-2892 DSN 986-2892
Ray Hutter HUTTERR@WPGATE1.WPAFB.AF.MIL	(AF COMSO Staff)	513-257-5384 DSN 787-5384	513-476-2892 DSN 986-2892
David Taylor david_taylor@hq.dla.mil	DLA	703-767-1642 DSN 427-1642	703-767-2602 DSN 427-2602
COL James Williams POC: David Sweet <b>sweetd@ncr.disa.mil</b>	DISA	703-735-3541 DSN 653-3541	703-735-3575 DSN 653-3575
Billy Love loveb@dma.gov	DMA	<b>703-275-8509</b> DSN 235-8509	<b>703-275-8659</b> DSN 235-8659
Jerry Rainville POC: Glenn Plonk glenw@romulus.ncsc.mil	NSA	301-688-9010 DSN 644-0111	301-688-9006 DSN 644-9006

#### Standards Improvement Executives

<b>OSD - (Chair, DSIC)</b>			
Walter B. (Brad) Bergmann bergmawb@acq.osd.mil	DASD(IA)/AP	703-697-0957 DSN 227-0957	703-693-6990 DSN 223-6990
<b>Army</b>			
Dale G. Adams dadams@hqamc.army.mil	USA/HQ/AMCDCG-A	703-617-9560 DSN 767-9560	703-617-7460 DSN 767-7460
<b>Navy</b>			
Daniel Porter Porter_Dan@asnrddad.acq-ref.navy.mil	ASN (RD&A)	703-602-0136 DSN 332-0136	703-602-5481 DSN 332-5481
<b>Air Force</b>			
James Bair BAIRJ@WPGATE1.WPAFB.AF.MIL	AF/AFMC/EN	513-257-0066 DSN 787-0066	513-476-1089 DSN 787-1089
<b>Defense Logistics Agency</b>			
Thomas Ridgway thomas_ridgway@hq.dla.mil	DLA	703-767-2610 DSN 427-2610	703-767-2602 DSN 427-2602

