

May 15, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR DOD STANDARDIZATION MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Policy Memo 00-1, Copies of Adopted Non-Government Standards

As of October 1, 2000, copies of non-government standards adopted by the Department of Defense (DoD) will no longer be available from the DoD Single Stock Point. Adoption notices will continue to be used to signify DoD usage of a non-government standard, to identify a responsible DoD point of contact, and to give the standard visibility by including it in the ASSIST database and the DoD Index of Specifications and Standards.

The widespread use of the government IMPAC card for micro-purchases makes it easier and more cost effective for DoD users to obtain copies of non-government standards directly from the originating standards developing organizations than in the past. In addition, non-government standards bodies are increasingly refusing to allow the DoDSSP to scan their documents and print them on demand. Many non-government standards bodies are now insisting the DoDSSP purchase paper copies, which are expensive to buy, stock, and distribute. For these reasons, the time has come for the DoDSSP to stop providing copies of non-government standards to DoD users.

There may be some situations, however, where it may make economic sense for the DoDSSP to purchase large quantities of a specific non-government standard for widespread distribution. In this case, the DoD adopting activity should work with the DoDSSP to identify quantity and distribution requirements, and the DoDSSP will negotiate to purchase the needed amounts at reduced prices. In addition, we are exploring the possibility of enterprise wide licensing agreements that would allow DoD users online access to non-government standards issued by a standards developer or provider.

Because most of the adoption notices now indicate that DoD personnel may obtain copies of an adopted non-government standard from the DoDSSP, we will work with the DoDSSP to update automatically all of the adoption notices in the system. We will also be reviewing current policies to determine if any changes are needed for the DoD adoption process.

If you have any questions, about these changes in non-government standards availability, please contact Ms. Trudie Williams on DSN 427-6875 or commercial (703) 767-6875.

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