



RESEARCH
AND ENGINEERING

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
3030 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3030

May 31, 2022

Congratulations on the 70th Anniversary of the Defense Standardization Program!

This milestone is an opportunity to reflect on the past, anticipate the road ahead, and to recognize the hard work of the men and women in the DoD whose dedication contributes to our ability to embark upon technological innovation, pursue interoperability, and improve operational effectiveness.

Since the creation of the Defense Standardization Program (DSP) on July 1, 1952, when the 82nd Congress passed the "Defense Cataloging and Standardization Act," the DSP has remained steadfast in its mission. Over the past seven decades, as the pace of innovation and technology accelerated, the DSP constantly adapted its policies, procedures, guidance documents, and tools. As the world continues to race towards the next generation innovative technology, such as artificial intelligence, autonomous weapons systems, big data, biotechnologies and quantum technologies, standards have become more important than ever before. Despite changes in leadership, administrations, and system and operational requirements, the DSP continues to adapt to the needs of the Department.

The DSP provides the framework from which the research, engineering, logistics, and acquisition communities can foster standards development and engage with non-government standards bodies in support of innovation. Program initiatives, such as the Government Industry Data Exchange Program; Parts Management; Diminishing Manufacturing and Materiel Shortages; Qualification Program; and Joint Standardization Boards enable the Department to advance cutting-edge engineering technology and practices to ensure our U.S. warfighters have the best technology and systems available to defend our Nation.

On this very special occasion, I extend my sincere congratulations to the DSP on the celebration of the 70th anniversary of its creation!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Heidi Shyu".

Heidi Shyu

Under Secretary of Defense
Research & Engineering