

## OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

## 3030 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3030

AUG 1 4 2012

## MEMORANDUM FOR SERVICE STANDARDIZATION EXECUTIVES

SUBJECT: North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Standards for Use in the Acquisition of Munitions

The Department relies heavily on the development and implementation of the most suitable standards to meet its operational needs. In the area of munitions acquisition, NATO standardization documents, such as NATO Standardization Agreements (STANAGs), Allied Publications (APs) and Standardization Recommendations (STANRECs), provide the necessary guidance, and technical and operational solutions to help us remain interoperable with our allies and partners. Therefore; it is imperative that our acquisition community become familiar with and use NATO standardization documents, when appropriate, in the acquisition of munitions.

Once the Department has ratified or approved a NATO standardization document for munitions, it will be made available to all acquisition personnel for use in the acquisition of munitions. To ensure the latest standards are available for munitions design and development, even if the NATO has not completed promulgation of the document, the document will be archived in ASSIST (https://assist.dla.mil), which is the Department's online repository of military and federal specifications, standards, international standardization agreements and other related standardization documents.

To ensure consistency in the U.S., I hereby delegate U.S. ratification and approval authority for all munitions NATO standardization documents under the auspices of Ammunition Safety Group (AC/326) to Mr. Jose Gonzalez, Deputy Director, Land Warfare & Munitions, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics). For documents associated with storage, transportation, and handling, Mr. Gonzalez can delegate his authority to the Chairman, DoD Explosives Safety Board. U.S. Heads of Delegation must coordinate their efforts with Mr. Gonzalez upon receipt of this memorandum to ensure compliance with the Department's policy. He can be reached at: (703) 693-9203; e-mail: jose.gonzalez@osd.mil.

Stephen P. Welby

Defense Standardization Executive