The Defense Standardization Program Office (DSPO) manages the day-to-day activities of the Defense Standardization Program (DSP) to champion standardization processes, products, and services to provide the warfighter with interoperable, reliable, technologically superior, and affordable equipment. DSPO develops DoD-wide standardization policies and procedures and serves as the DoD representative to Federal agencies, non-Government standards bodies, international organizations, treaty organizations, and industry. DSPO also serves as executive sponsor for Diminishing Manufacturing Sources and Material Shortages (DMSMS) and Government-Industry Data Exchange Program (GIDEP).

DSP INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY TOOLS
DSPO maintains tools to automate processes and enable analysis by standards management activities:

- ASSIST – official source for defense standardization documents, and workflow tool for managing standards; integrated with QPD, the NATO Standardization Document Database, and WSIT
- Qualified Products Database (QPD) – for managing and accessing qualified products/manufacturers lists (QPL/QML)
- Weapon System Impact Tool (WSIT) – enables tracing the use of standards and specifications by weapon systems and parts
- Pin Point – Government-only query engine for federal supply chain parts and commercial parts
COLLABORATION AND CONSENSUS-BASED STANDARDIZATION

Standardization is an enabler for operational readiness and reducing the cost of defense systems. Through the DSP, DoD activities collaborate across the Military Services, with partners in academia and defense industry, and with international partners and allies to standardize in support of the warfighter. The USG National Standards Strategy for Critical and Emerging Technology outlines how the U.S. Government will strengthen U.S. leadership and competitiveness in international standards development and protect the integrity of the standards system.

NON-GOVERNMENT STANDARDS

DoD prefers the use of NGS, using adopted (charted above) and non-adopted NGS in engineering and procurement.

DSPO provides guidance for implementing Federal and DoD policy for participating in and using Non-Government Standards (NGS). Participation in NGS bodies (NGSBs) fosters relationships so the NGSBs might better understand DoD needs and assist in supporting DoD’s commercial acquisition goals. Using NGS conserves DoD resources, supports the U.S. industrial base, allows for dual-use technology, and improves DoD’s mobilization capabilities. Use of NGS is codified in the following:

- Public Law 104-113 The National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act of 1995
- The DoD Manual 4120.24, Defense Standardization Program

JOINT STANDARDIZATION BOARDS

The Defense Standardization Executive (DSE) charters, and DSPO helps facilitate, Joint Standardization Boards (JSBs) as forums for Military Departments, Defense Agencies, the defense industry, academia, and allies and partners (e.g., NATO) to achieve common, mutually satisfactory standardization solutions. Current JSBs include Aerial Refueling, Expeditionary Shelters and Basing Equipment, Mobile Electric Power, and Fuze & Initiation Systems.

INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION

International standardization supports DoD’s involvement in activities to develop, maintain, and implement international standardization agreements with allies and partners. DSPO participates in the development of standardization policy and procedures, coordinates U.S. positions within the Department, and engages with allies and partners on standardization policy, procedures, and other related matters of mutual interest, including in the following bodies:

- ANSI ISO Council, and International Policy Advisory Group
- Materiel Standardization Harmonization Team (MSHT)
- European Defense Agency (EDA) (maintain awareness of standardization policy matters)

RESOURCES

DSPO Website - https://www.dsp.dla.mil
ASSIST (Standards) – http://assist.dla.mil
Scan the QR code for more information

Standardization is foundational to interoperability, innovation, and competition.