U.S. Coordination on NATO Committee for Standardization Matters

2018 International Standardization Workshop

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Standardize - It’s the Law!

Defense Cataloging & Standardization Act
Title 10, U.S. Code Chapter 145
Section 2451-2457
(Approved July 1, 1952)

- Establishes a single, unified standardization program in DoD
- Requires standardization of items used throughout DoD to the highest degree practicable
- Requires standardization and interoperability of equipment with North Atlantic Treaty Organization members and other countries
U.S. Law, Regulations and DOD Policy

- OMB Circular A-119, Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Consensus Standards and in Conformity Assessment Activities
- Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) paragraph 11.101(b) on Order of Precedence for Requirements Documents
- CJCSI 2700.01, 18 March 2015, "Rationalization, Standardization, And Interoperability (RSI) Activities"
- DoDI 2010.06, 29 July 2009, “Materiel Interoperability and Standardization with Allies and Coalition Partners”
- DoDI 4120.24, 13 July 2011, “Defense Standardization Program (DSP)”
U.S. Commitment to Interoperability and Standardization with NATO

• **Interoperability between US forces and coalition partners is defense acquisition policy.**

• **It is US law and policy that:**
  - equipment procured for U.S. Forces employed in Europe under the terms of the NATO be standardized or at least interoperable with equipment of other members; and
  - the highest practicable degree of standardization of items & practices used throughout the Department of Defense (DoD)

• **Although, policy states that standardization within NATO is voluntary, it requires the U.S. to standardize equipment, including weapons systems, ammunition, and fuel for the use of the armed forces of the U.S. under the NATO or at least to make that equipment interoperable with equipment of other NATO members.**
DoD’s Role in Implementing Laws and Regulations

• Develop standardization and interoperability policy, procedures and guidance documents

• Contribute to the technical underpinning for standards

• Participate in standards development
  – Through the voluntary process, has an equal seat at the table with other stakeholders

• Implement standards
  – In product purchases (Government Procurement)
  – Through incorporation into regulations, doctrine and tactics
Use of Non-Government (Civil) Standards

  - Preference for developing and using non-government standards instead of government specifications and standards
- OMB Circular A-119, Federal Participation in the Development and Use of Voluntary Consensus Standards and in Conformity Assessment Activities
  - All Federal agencies must use voluntary consensus standards in lieu of government-unique standards in their procurement and regulatory activities
- Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) paragraph 11.101(b) on Order of Precedence for Requirements Documents
Summary of Responsibilities

- **Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD)**
  - Establishes overall policy and guidance on interoperability and standardization within NATO and with other allies and partners.
    - Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (*USD(A&S)*)
    - Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (*USD(R&E)*)
  - Consult with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on the interaction of interoperability and standardization.
  - Represents the DoD on the NATO Committee for Standardization (CS) and Conference of National Armaments Directors (CNAD)
  - Communicate and coordinate with DOD Components on CS and CNAD matters
Summary of Responsibilities (con’t)

• **Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS)**
  - Advise the Secretary of Defense on the interaction between international RSI activities and national military force goals, planning, and programs.
  - Identify opportunities for and impediments to improved interoperability of U.S. forces with allies and coalition partners.
  - Encourage and monitor U.S. participation in international military RSI activities.
  - Provide guidance for U.S. responses to NATO standardization and interoperability requirements.
  - Coordinate doctrine and operational concepts with those of U.S. allies and coalition partners.

• **Joint Staff**
  - Provide formal and informal coordination of U.S. positions on NATO operational standards
Summary of Responsibilities (con’t)

• **DOD Components**
  – Establish policies and procedures to fulfill their assigned Lead Agency/Lead Agent roles
  – Engage with U.S. representatives to the CS, USMILDEL, CNAD, etc. to ensure compliance with coordination requirements

• **U.S. Delegation to the NATO Military Committee (USDELMC)**
  – Represent the CJCS in all MC actions and advise the CJCS on NATO matters.
  – Provides U.S. co-representation to the CS (when necessary) to ensure Joint and Service operational standardization equities are represented
  – Coordinate with the DoD Components on standardization policy and procedural matters when appropriate
  – Ensure Lead Agents (LAs) are continually informed of on-going developments within their assigned functional responsibilities
  – When required, provide U.S. participation to MC Standardization Boards on behalf of the LA
Summary of Responsibilities (con’t)

• Lead Agent (LA)
  – Represents and act on behalf of the Secretary of Defense or the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for all RSI activities.
  – LAs are typically agreed rather than appointed, and assume the following responsibilities:
    o Oversight for assigned RIS activities, to include fully coordinating U.S. positions in advance of meetings, and ensuring that DoD components and other interested parties affected are engaged.
    o Ensure there is appropriate U.S. representatives at standardization and interoperability meetings.
    o Program and fund participation in RSI activities, as required.
    o Appoint Heads of Delegation, Points of Contact (to act as the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR))
U.S. Coordination on NATO Standardization

• What does DoD policy state about coordination?
  – DoD will support rationalization, standardization and interoperability (RSI) activities, and provide staff officers/civilians and subject matter experts as required.
  – Those involved in RSI activities must present a unified and consistent U.S. national position to all multinational bodies, forums, working groups, conferences, etc. in which they participate.
  – They will endeavor to promote them as positive instruments to foster improved military cooperation between the U.S. and its multinational partners.
  – U.S. representatives to international organizations or meetings must present consistent national positions to our multinational partners in order to achieve RSI coherence; bearing in mind that national positions can, and do, change in the course of actual negotiations or meetings.
U.S. Coordination on NATO Standardization (con’t)

- The U.S. does not have a one-stop shop for all things standardization. Coordination is based on standardization domains – operational, materiel and administrative.

- **Operational**
  - The U.S. Delegation to the NATO Military Committee (USDELMC), in conjunction with the Joint Staff, is the focal point for NATO operational standardization.

- **Materiel**
  - Defense Standardization Program Office (DSPO)

- **CS Policy**
  - Office of Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), International Cooperation
NATO Standardization Domains

Operational
- Doctrine
- Tactics
- Training
- NATO Military Committee
- ASIC

Materiel/Acquisition
- Equipment
- Standards
- MIL-STDs
- MIL-SPECs
- CNAD Groups

International Cooperation

CS & SMG

Joint Staff (J7)
USMILDEL
Military Departments

DSPO
Who’s Who?

- **U.S. Committee for Standardization (CS) Representative**
  - LA: USD (A&S), International Cooperation
  - Representative: Eric Fleming

- **Responsibilities:**
  - Presents the U.S. position on NATO standardization policy and procedures
  - Assign representatives and delegations to CS Subordinate and Ad-Hoc Working Groups
  - Works with operational and materiel (civil) standardization subject matter experts to coordinate and finalize U.S. position
  - Host information sharing and educational events activities, i.e. Defense Standardization Roundtable
  - Engage with NATO Standardization community within the U.S.
Who’s Who?

• Standardization Management Group (SMG)
  – LA: USD (R&E), DSPO
  – Member: Latasha Beckman

• Responsibilities:
  – Support the U.S. representative to the CS
  – Staff and coordinate CS and SMG work products documents for comment and review
  – Engage with NATO, U.S. and DOD standardization stakeholders on international standardization-related matters, as necessary
Who’s Who?

- **Operational Standardization**
  - LA: Joint Staff
  - Points of Contact: Joint Staff (Pete Croteau)
    USMILDEL (CAPT Chanden Langhofer)
  - Staff and coordinate documents for comment on operational side
  - Support information sharing and standardization activities with Military Departments
  - Engage with SMG member and CS representative, as needed
Tools - NATO Standardization Website

https://nso.nato.int

- Forums
  - CS Meeting Documents
  - Standardization Policy and Procedures
  - SMG Communication Portal
  - Military Committee Standardization Boards

- Terminology
  - TTF
  - NATO Term

- NATO Standardization Document Database (NSDD)
  - Access NATO Standards

- E-Feedback/Ratification
Official repository for specifications and standards developed and used by DoD.
Challenges/Opportunities

- **STANAG implementation and implementation reporting to ensure interoperability**
  - The United States does not have a mechanism (policy, procedures and technology) for tracking implementation across the department.

- **Ensuring standardization documents support DoD goals**

- **Training**
  - Providing the standardization community with training

- **Facilitating cooperative work among military and civilian practitioners, and resolving divergent views**

- **Encouraging the use of “suitable” civil standards**
  - Cost of civil standards – they are not free

- **Transparency and openness on policy and procedure documents**
  - Communicating and coordinating with standardization community
Questions? Want to learn more?

Points of Contact

• Committee of Standardization (CS)
  – Eric Fleming, eric.b.fleming.civ@mail.mil

• Operational Standardization
  – Joint Staff:
    o Peter Croteau, peter.l.croteau.civ@mail.mil
  – Military Committee:
    o CAPT Chanden Langhofer, chanden.s.langhofer.mil@mail.mil

• Standardization Management Group (SMG)
  – Latasha Beckman, latasha.beckman@dla.mil