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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES
COMMANDER, U.S. SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

SUBJECT: Policy Update for Item Unique Identification (IUID) of Tangible Personal
Property

As the IUID capability continues to mature across the Department of Defense, it is
important for each of us to keep strategic objectives in focus -- facilitating materiel
readiness and progressing toward an unqualified audit opinion. We have achieved
tremendous progress; for example, IUID requirements are now included in the DoD
financial improvement and audit readiness plans, but we need to sustain momentum
toward achieving paperless management of property in the possession of contractors in
FY 2007 and furthering depot planning and implementation.

The GAO requires quarterly reporting on DoD-established goals for UID policy
implementation under the "DoD Plan for Improvement in the GAO High Risk Area of
Supply Chain Management with a Focus on Inventory Management and Distribution."
The goal is that all acquisition category (ACAT) programs must have a UID
Implementation Plan accepted by OSD. In order to respond to GAO, request newly
designated ACAT programs submit UID Implementation Plans to the UID policy office
within 90 days of their designation. Updates to existing plans are to be submitted at least
annually. To ensure a timely response to GAO, Component quarterly updates for all
ACAT programs should be submitted to the UID policy office by the first day of each
fiscal quarter. The reports for the 1st quarter of FY 2007 should be submitted within 10
days of the date of this memorandum.

Secretaries of the Military Departments and Directors of the Defense Agencies and
Field Activities should lead IUID implementation for both newly acquired and legacy
items currently in inventory or operational use. Component officials leading engineering,
logistics, finance, acquisition, operations, information systems, and procurement must be
accountable for success. Commanders of Systems and Material Commands and Centers
should aggressively require marking of equipment and ensure contract compliance to
enable use of the unique item identifier.

Additional, specific guidance regarding IUID implementation is attached.

IUID policy questions may be addressed to Mr. Rob Leibrandt at 703-695-1099 or to Mr. Greg Kilchenstein at 703-614-0862 in the Materiel Readiness Office (ADUSD (MR&MP)).

Kenneth J. Krieg

cc:
DUSD(L&MR)
DIRECTOR, ARA
DIRECTOR, DPAP
TECHNICAL ADVISOR, INTEROPERABILITY

Attachment:
As stated

For uniquely identifying legacy items, a phased approach should be considered in accordance with USD(AT&L) memorandum dated December 23, 2004, which is accessible at http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/UID/policy.htm. The prioritized list of legacy assets for addition into the IUID registry is also available on the UID Web site at http://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/UID/. Phase I legacy assets must be entered into the IUID registry no later than September 30, 2007; Phase II no later than September 30, 2008; and Phase III no later than September 30, 2009. It is essential that major equipment end items (all items that are capitalized in accordance with the Financial Management Regulation; e.g., ships, aircraft, land vehicles) are entered into the IUID registry by the end of FY 2007. Where feasible, these items should also be marked to achieve a "critical mass" of marked parts (reference MIL-STD-130 "Identification, Marking of U.S. Military Property"). A majority of the IUID required items in the inventory should be candidates for marking with a modest investment in labels or changes to data plates. Consideration of Configuration Management processes other than Class I Engineering Change Proposals (ECPs) to implement these marking changes is encouraged.

International recognition of the value of IUID continues to grow. On October 4, 2006, the International Standards Organization (ISO) approved format code "12" for text element identifiers to replace format code "DD". A rapid transition to the use of format code "12" is encouraged, with a target date of March 1, 2007, to cease using the "DD" format for any newly marked items. In addition, on September 1, 2006, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization distributed STANAG 2290, "Unique Identification of Items," formalizing DoD developed ISO compliant marks, data formats, and pedigree data for formal ratification by the Alliance.

Effective February 1, 2007, the maximum allowable length of a concatenated UII will be reduced to 50 characters. This change will facilitate greater acceptance among the international community and enable many legacy information systems and enterprise resource planning implementations to leverage IUID.

IUID continues to be a special interest item; program compliance should be addressed in the "Program Issues" section of the Defense Acquisition Executive Summary and as part of the Department's Overarching Integrated Product Team and Defense Acquisition Board process. Newly designated ACAT ID programs should submit IUID plans to the UID Program Office within 120 days of that designation. The Joint Logistics Board and/or the Defense Logistics Board will address legacy item resource and implementation strategies, including automatic identification technology infrastructure.

Enforcement of warranties is essential to effective and efficient material readiness. In addition to current warranty marking requirements in Mil-Std 130, the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, will define the requirements to track warranties for IUID required items in the IUID registry, enabling effective administration of warranties as described in FAR 46.703.

The Army, as document custodian of Department of Defense Standard Practice, Military Marking for Shipment and Storage (MIL-STD-129), should ensure consistent policy with IUID requirements. I request the Military Departments and Defense Logistics Agency should ensure MIL-STD 129 is used to leverage IUID.