

**SUMMARY FACT SHEET  
March 1992**

**THE CENTER FOR INFORMATION MANAGEMENT, DISA**

**SUMMARY**

The Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) offers a total technical service capability in information management. Part of the agency's objective is a fully integrated, requirements-driven, standards-based hierarchy of DoD information systems that provides information transfer and information processing services. To this end, one of its newest organizations, the Center for Information Management (the Center) is specifically tailored to satisfy customer needs in strategic planning, information engineering and information systems engineering, software systems engineering, telecommunications, standards, and interoperability.

The Center, established a little more than a year ago, has a staff of specialists culled from many parts of the Department and DISA, as well as from the private sector and academia. It is organized along vertical market lines to meet the full spectrum of technical needs in information management: consultation, facilitation and training in business process improvement, economic analysis, and information engineering; data administration; reusable software and data products; software process management; information systems architecture development; and information systems integration. These products and services constitute thorough technical and consulting assistance in "cradle-to-grave" implementation of information systems to support organization-wide information needs.

## **FACTS/DISCUSSION**

### **STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR FUNCTIONAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

Today's functional managers across the Department and throughout the Military Services must continue to maintain their mission capability, yet decrease costs. The Center has designed a line of information management products and services to guide these managers through a process of planning, analysis, and business redesign that will enable them to achieve mission effectiveness as well as cost efficiencies.

#### **Business Process Improvement**

- Business process and mission activities analysis
- Business process modeling
- Functional economic analysis
- Enterprise and functional modeling
- Functional integration
- Project management

#### **Information Engineering**

- Data administration (data standardization, data architectures, data and process models, data integration, data element dictionary, and data repository)
- Quality assurance (independent validation and verification)
- Proof of concept services
- Methodology facilitation
- Methods and tools application
- Technical training

## **TECHNICAL INTEGRATION MANAGEMENT**

The Director of Defense Information chartered the Technical Integration Management function in the Center. The Technical Integration Managers are tasked to "...establish and manage configuration control for the technical architecture and interfaces between systems, and ensure coordination of technical integration actions and plans with inter-function and intra-service/agency technical integration programs." Because the task of implementing information systems strategies requires considerable technical integration and project coordination, the Center provides technical integration services to functional information managers (FIMs). This support extends to the development and implementation of adequate and feasible technical migration strategies for functional information systems. These strategies include functional requirements, current baselines, the state of open systems technologies, and business case data to ensure an optimum evolution path. The following functional areas are currently supported: human resources management, medical, financial, Reserve Affairs, C2, material management, acquisition, and Computer-Aided Acquisition and Logistic Support (CALs).

### **Integration Management Support Services**

- Technical implementation plan review
- Technical consultation to FIMs
- Functional information system architectures including databases, applications, and associated infrastructure requirements that conform to approved architectural guidelines and standards
- Management and monitoring of design, development, deployment, operation and maintenance of functional information systems
- Configuration control
- Prototyping and testing of development approaches
- Technical facilitation
- Technical integration mechanism to control system baseline and interfaces
- System integration within and across functional areas
- Coordination and synchronization
- Information exchange mechanism for system developers and functional proponents

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## **INFRASTRUCTURE MODERNIZATION**

The Center promotes the concept of a corporate-wide computer/communications open systems infrastructure that includes end user information support systems, modernized and efficient central data processing, local automatic data processing equipment (ADPE) configurations, and high bandwidth value added communications. To this end the Center offers assistance in developing open systems architecture. The target environment features standards for all new ADP acquisitions, promoting interoperability and competition, reducing costs of diversity, and facilitating management of the computer/communications infrastructure as an organization-wide resource.

### **Infrastructure Management and Analysis**

- Open systems technical architecture
- Open systems methodology guidelines
- Data processing installation assessments
- Infrastructure baseline assessments (assets, performance and costs)
- Cost effectiveness and options studies
- Technology evolution strategy
- Information technology acquisition planning

### **Technical Support Products and Services**

- Automated resources management system
- Open systems information processing utility template
- Corporate information management open systems reference model
- Sharing and reuse of information technology resources
- Benchmarks
- Office automation modernization
- Streamlined acquisition

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## **SOFTWARE LIFE CYCLE MANAGEMENT**

With an eye towards improving quality while holding down the cost of developing and sustaining software applications, the Center offers guidance and methods for enhancing design, development, implementation, management, and maintenance of software. By making continuous improvement, an organization can retain and increase quality yet realize life cycle savings in time, effort and resources in the acquisition and use of application software.

### **Development and Life Cycle Management**

- Software architecture for information systems
- Software process assessments
- Software process and product measurement, and feedback
- Facilitation of process improvement implementation
- Performance measurement
- Software technical integration and configuration management
- Project management

### **Technical Methods and Tools**

- Software metrics
- Reusable software library (high quality, low cost components)
- Computer aided software engineering (CASE) tools
- Tool repository
- Software maturity model
- Methods and tools application
- Quality assurance (independent validation and verification)

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