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MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR, DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AGENCY (DISA)

SUBJECT: Managing ^{IT} Standards as a Business

As the Department downsizes, the staffs and resources of the Defense standardization offices have declined. The thrust is to minimize the development of military standards, and to participate in, adopt and use Federal, national and international standards. The Information Technology (IT) standards development and testing activities require more resources than are available. Prioritization is required to optimize these resources.

To facilitate accurate prioritization, DISA should operate the ^{IT} standards process as a fee-for-service business, and recover the cost of standards adoption, development, and testing from its customers.

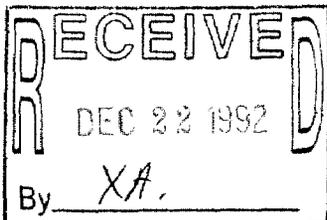
To institute the practice of operating the DISA ^{IT} standards process as a business, the following guidance is provided. DISA is requested to build on the business practices that DISA/CIM has been formulating and to develop and submit to the Director of Defense Information for approval the following plans by March 1, 1993:

- 1) Business Strategy for IT Standards, (including rate structure, requirements collection, and service & product schedules)
- 2) Business Implementation Plan for IT Standards, and
- 3) Business Configuration Management Plan for IT Standards (including standards testing)

These plans should describe how DISA will participate in IT standards activities, provide standards services and propose to go fee-for-service and receive funding from the user communities to help cover the IT standards development, testing and maintenance costs. DISA should take aggressive steps to move forward towards managing the standards process as a business.

Paul

Paul A. Strassmann
Director of Defense Information



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