

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM
Washington, D.C. 20305-2010

NCS DIRECTIVE 4-1

TECHNOLOGY AND STANDARDS

Federal Telecommunication Standards Program

1. Purpose. This directive establishes the policies for the Federal Telecommunication Standards Program (FTSP).
2. Applicability. This directive is binding upon the Executive Agent, NCS; Manager, NCS; NCS Committee of Principals and member organizations; and other affected Federal government entities.
3. Authority.
 - a. Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 as amended, authorizing the General Services Administration (GSA) to administer the Federal Standardization Program, and to promulgate Federal Telecommunications Standards (FTS).
 - b. Computer Security Act of 1987 authorizes the Department of Commerce (DOC) and the National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST) to develop and promulgate Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS).
 - c. Executive Order 12472, assigning management responsibility for the FTSP in support of national security and emergency preparedness telecommunications to the Manager, National Communications System (NCS).
4. Supersession. This directive supercedes NCS Circular 175-1, Federal Telecommunication Standards Program, June 6, 1973.

-Office of Primary Responsibility: NCS-TS
-Distribution: NCS

5. General.

a. In accordance with Executive Order 12472 relating to the Management responsibilities for the FTSP, the Manager, NCS established the Federal Telecommunication Standards Committee (FTSC) in which NCS member agencies may participate. Other Federal Government Agencies may participate with concurrence of the Manager, NCS. The FTSC is chaired by the Assistant Manager, Office of Technology and Standards.

b. GSA administers, issues and promulgates Federal Standards under the Federal Property & Administrative Service Act of 1949 as amended.

c. DOC issues Federal Information Processing Standards under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act as amended by the Computer Security Act of 1987 for Federal Computer Systems as defined in 15 USC § 278g-3.

6. Policy. The Manager, NCS and member organizations of the FTSC will accomplish FTSP business by:

a. Developing the technical and procedural Federal standards and other technical guidance required to achieve interoperability among telecommunication networks of the National Communications System.

b. Coordinating proposed Federal Standards within the Federal Government, the Public, and Industry, including consultation with the NCS Committee of Principals (COP).

c. Forwarding proposed Federal Standards to either GSA or DOC, as appropriate.

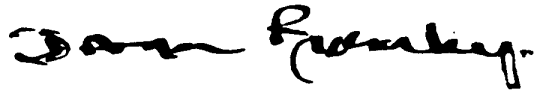
d. Participation in development of positions to be taken in national and international standards-setting forums.

e. Increasing the cohesiveness and effectiveness of the Federal Telecommunication community's participation in national and international standards development programs.

7. Authorization Provision. NCS manuals and handbooks implementing this directive are authorized.

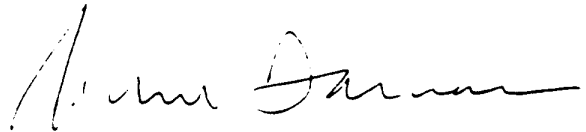
8. Effective Date. This directive is effective immediately.

9. Expiration. This directive is in effect until superceded or cancelled.



Director
Office of Science and Technology
Policy

Date: 1/2/91



Director
Office of Management and Budget

Date: 2/2/91



Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs

Date: 12/29/90

Summary of Changes: Initial Issuance.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

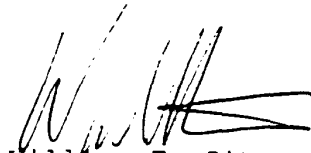
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February 22, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR LTG THURMAN RODGERS
Manager, National Communications System

SUBJECT: National Communications System Directive on
Federal Telecommunications Standards Program
(NCS 4-1)

At Tab A is the approved NCS Directive 4-1 for publication and
distribution as appropriate.



William F. Sittmann
Executive Secretary

Attachment
Tab A NCS Directive 4-1