



THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

OCT 10 1997

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MORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
ATTN: SERVICE ACQUISITION EXECUTIVES
ACTING DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
(ACQUISITION REFORM)
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE PROCUREMENT
DIRECTOR, ACQUISITION PROGRAM INTEGRATION
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY

SUBJECT: Single Process Initiative and Packaging Policy

The Logistics community revamped MIL-STD-2073-1C, the DoD Standard Practice for Military Packaging in October 1996. MIL-STD-2073-1C emphasizes the maximum use of commercial packaging for the Department, and specifies that military packaging is required only on items expected to enter the military distribution system. These exceptions include items intended for war reserve materiel, long-term storage, security assistance programs, or overseas shipments. Implementation of this new standard will result in cost savings on current contracts and cost avoidances on future contracts with no impact on mission accomplishment.

I realize that to take full advantage of the revised MIL-STD-2073-1C, DoD automated materiel management systems must be revised to reflect the new preservation and packaging coding structure. To achieve this goal, I request that all DoD Components evaluate the steps necessary to change their automated systems and report back to the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Logistics by November 15, 1997, when they expect that the necessary system changes will be effected.

I encourage all program and item managers to actively lead the change to commercial packaging practices to the maximum extent practicable. You should begin immediately to review all packaging requirements with your industry partners to maximize the cost savings on existing and future contracts. Under the Single Process Initiative (SPI), industry has submitted numerous packaging proposals seeking to capitalize on the DoD's preference for commercial packaging. I expect these proposals to be swiftly reviewed by the packaging community in order to reach agreements with the submitting industry activity within the 120 day goal set by the SPI process.

R. Noel Longuemare
Acting Under Secretary of Defense
(Acquisition and Technology)