



THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-3010

OCT 18 2004

ACQUISITION,  
TECHNOLOGY  
AND LOGISTICS

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS  
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE  
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE  
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION  
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE  
DIRECTOR, PROGRAM ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION  
DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES

SUBJECT: The Defense Acquisition Guidebook

The Department's new vision for acquisition was published in DoD Directive 5000.1 and DoD Instruction 5000.2 on May 12, 2003. Those documents established the policy framework for translating mission needs into stable, affordable and well managed programs. Our intent, then and now, has been to transform our burdensome and over-regulated policy environment to a more agile and efficient system that fosters efficiency, flexibility, creativity and innovation.

At the time we released the re-designed policies, we committed to the publication of a Defense Acquisition Guidebook that would replace the cancelled DoD Regulation 5000.2 and be designed to provide an electronic reference to discretionary best business practice. This memorandum introduces that Guidebook.

The Guidebook is an interactive, web-based capability designed to provide the acquisition workforce and their industry partners with on-line instant access to best business practice as well as supporting policy, statute, and lessons learned. While the policy documents released last year explain "what" acquisition managers are required to do, the Guidebook complements those documents by suggesting "how."

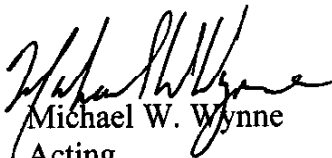
Defense acquisition professionals will be able to use the Guidebook to review business practice and then tailor that practice to the needs of their program. The "electronic" Guidebook moves the acquisition workforce further along the path to e-business by transitioning from a comparatively slow and unresponsive paper-based environment to one capable of providing world class business practice on a near real-time basis.



In addition to the wealth of information virtually available through the Guidebook, acquisition work force members may employ the Guidebook to access the Defense Acquisition University's Acquisition Knowledge Sharing System and many of DAU's other resources including on-line courseware and communities of practice.

The Defense Acquisition Guidebook is currently available on the Internet at <http://akss.dau.mil/dag>. Please publicize it and encourage your acquisition professionals to use it, take advantage of its flexibility, and give us feedback.

I look forward to your continued support and your active engagement as we work together to achieve acquisition excellence.



Michael W. Wynne  
Acting