



Department of Defense

INSTRUCTION

NUMBER 5134.17

October 25, 2011

Incorporating Change 3, October 15, 2018

USD(R&E)

SUBJECT: Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Developmental Test and Evaluation (DASD(DT&E))

- References:
- (a) Sections 139b and 196 of title 10, United States Code
 - (b) DoD Directive 5134.01, "Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (USD(AT&L)), December 9, 2005, as amended
 - (c) Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum, "Establishment of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering and the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment," July 13, 2018
 - (d) DoD Instruction 5000.02, "Operation of the Defense Acquisition System," January 7, 2015, as amended
 - (e) DoD Instruction 5000.66, "Defense Acquisition Workforce Education, Training, Experience, and Career Development Program," July 27, 2017
 - (f) Section 904b of Public Law 112-239, "The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013," January 2, 2013

1. PURPOSE. This Instruction establishes policy, assigns responsibilities and functions, and prescribes relationships and authorities for the DASD(DT&E) pursuant to Reference (a) and in accordance with the authority in Reference (b).

2. APPLICABILITY. This Instruction applies to OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the DoD (hereinafter referred to collectively as the "DoD Components").

3. POLICY. It is DoD policy that the DASD(DT&E) shall be the focal point for all policy, practice, procedures, and acquisition workforce issues relating to developmental test and evaluation (DT&E) within the DoD.

4. RESPONSIBILITIES. See Enclosure 1.

5. RELATIONSHIPS. See Enclosure 2.

6. AUTHORITIES. See Enclosure 3.

7. RELEASABILITY. **Cleared for public release.** This issuance is available on the Directives Division Website at <http://www.esd.whs.mil/DD/>.

8. SUMMARY OF CHANGE 3. This change reassigns the office of primary responsibility for this issuance to the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering in accordance with the July 13, 2018 Deputy Secretary of Defense Memorandum (Reference (c)).

9. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Instruction is effective October 25, 2011.



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Under Secretary of Defense for
Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics

Enclosures

1. Responsibilities
2. Relationships
3. Authorities

Glossary

ENCLOSURE 1

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. DASD(DT&E). The DASD(DT&E) is the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (USD(AT&L)) on DT&E in the DoD in accordance with Reference (a). In this capacity, the DASD(DT&E) shall:

a. Serve concurrently as the Director of the Test Resource Management Center (TRMC) in accordance with section 139b of Reference (a).

b. Develop policies and guidance for:

(1) The conduct, including the planning, execution, and reporting, of DT&E in the Military Departments and other elements of the DoD (e.g., Defense Agencies), including integration and DT&E of software.

(2) The integration of developmental and operational tests and evaluations in coordination with the Director of Operational Test and Evaluation (DOT&E).

(3) The conduct, including the planning, execution, and reporting, of DT&E executed jointly by more than one Military Department or Defense Agency.

(4) The use of DT&E planning principles and best practices.

(5) The development of Test and Evaluation Master Plans (TEMPs) in conjunction with the DOT&E.

(6) The inclusion of provisions in requests for proposals that relate to DT&E.

(7) The use of DT&E approaches to support effective reliability growth programs.

(8) The reporting of DT&E results to the DASD(DT&E) and USD(AT&L).

c. Provide advice and make recommendations to the Secretary of Defense and the USD(AT&L) regarding DT&E and the execution of these activities within and across defense acquisition programs. Issue guidance to and consult with the Heads of the DoD Components with respect to DT&E in the DoD.

d. Provide guidance with respect to defense acquisition programs for developing and documenting the program's evaluation strategy and management approach in the TEMP throughout the program's life cycle.

e. Review and approve or disapprove DT&E plans in the TEMP in accordance with DoD Instruction 5000.02 (Reference (d)) for each Major Defense Acquisition Program (MDAP),

Major Automated Information System (MAIS), or USD(AT&L)-designated special interest program.

f. Provide guidance to ensure adequate levels of DT&E are planned, resourced, and executed in a timely manner to achieve interoperability certification for MDAP, MAIS, and USD(AT&L)-designated special interest programs.

g. Beginning with the materiel development decision, monitor and review the DT&E and development planning activities of the pre-MDAPs and pre-MAIS programs.

h. Monitor and review the DT&E activities of MDAP, MAIS, and USD(AT&L) designated special interest programs, including the activities of Chief Developmental Testers and lead DT&E organizations.

i. Serve as the functional leader for the T&E acquisition career field within the DoD. Provide advocacy, oversight, and guidance to the acquisition workforce responsible for T&E in accordance with DoD Instruction 5000.66 (Reference (e)).

j. As an advisory member of the Defense Acquisition Board (DAB) and other key acquisition bodies, provide independent assessments, planned and ad hoc, of programs' DT&E, execution, and risk.

k. Periodically review the organizations and capabilities of the Military Departments with respect to DT&E and identify needed changes or improvements to such organizations and capabilities, and provide input regarding needed changes or improvements for the T&E strategic plan developed in accordance with section 196 of Reference (a).

l. Submit not later than March 31 of each year, to the congressional defense committees, an annual report in compliance with section 139b(d) of Reference (a), that includes:

(1) Information on DASD(DT&E) activities undertaken during the preceding year pursuant to sections 139b of Reference (a).

(2) An assessment of the activities of the TRMC during the preceding year.

(3) An assessment of the organization and capabilities of OSD, the Military Departments, and the Defense Agencies for DT&E with respect to MDAP.

(4) An assessment of the adequacy of resources available to the DASD(DT&E) and to the lead DT&E organizations of the Military Departments to carry out the responsibilities in accordance with section 139b of Reference (a).

(5) An assessment of DT&E activity with respect to MDAPs in the preceding year.

(6) A discussion of the extent to which MDAPs are fulfilling the objectives of their DT&E plans contained in the approved TEMP.

(7) A discussion of waivers and deviations from requirements in TEMPs and other testing requirements during the preceding fiscal year with respect to MDAPs, concerns raised, and actions taken or planned to address such concerns.

m. Inform USD(AT&L), consistent with section 904b of Public Law 112-239 (Reference (f)):

(1) When an MDAP proceeds with implementing a TEMP that includes a developmental test plan disapproved by the DASD(DT&E).

(2) When an MDAP proceeds to initial operational test and evaluation following an assessment by the DASD(DT&E) that the program is not ready for operational testing.

n. In coordination with the Director of Performance Assessments and Root Cause Analyses (PARCA) and the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Systems Engineering (DASD(SE)), jointly issue guidance on:

(1) Development and tracking of detailed, measurable performance criteria as part of the Systems Engineering Plans (SEP) and the DT&E plans of MDAPS required in TEMPs.

(2) Use of DT&E to measure the achievement of performance objectives.

(3) A system for storing and tracking information relating to the achievement of the performance criteria and objectives specified pursuant to section 139b of Reference (a).

o. Provide the Milestone Decision Authority (MDA) with a program assessment at the Development Request for Proposal Release Decision Point, Milestones B and C, and updated to support the Operational Test Readiness Review(s) or as requested by the MDA or Program Manager. The DT&E program assessment will be based on the completed DT&E and any operational T&E activities completed to date, and will address the adequacy of the program planning, the implications of testing results to date, and the risks of successfully meeting the goals of the remaining T&E events in the program (IAW page 96, paragraph 6.b. of Reference (d)).

p. Establish and lead a senior-level forum, with participation from the DoD Components, as a means to collaborate and leverage activities within the Components and to provide a forum to institutionalize DT&E across the DoD.

q. Ensure that all DASD(DT&E) policies, guidance, procedures, and programs are designed and managed to improve standards of performance, ethics, economy, and efficiency.

r. Provide advocacy and guidance for integrated testing as appropriate on all programs.

s. Report reliability growth curve progress to plan at Defense Acquisition Boards and Defense Acquisition Executive Summaries.

t. Perform such other activities relating to the DT&E activities of the DoD as the USD(AT&L) may prescribe.

2. OTHER OSD OFFICIALS AND THE HEADS OF THE DoD COMPONENTS. Other OSD officials and the Heads of the DoD Components shall coordinate with the DASD(DT&E) on all matters under their purview related to the authorities, responsibilities, and functions assigned in this Instruction in accordance with section 139b of Reference (a).

ENCLOSURE 2

RELATIONSHIPS

In the performance of assigned functions and responsibilities, the DASD(DT&E) shall:

- a. Report to the USD(AT&L) through the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (ASD(R&E)).
- b. Serve as an advisory member of the DAB.
- c. Cooperate with the Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation (DCAPE) and, to the extent agreed upon with the DCAPE, serve as a participant and technical advisor in the development of Analysis of Alternatives (AoA) study guidance and serve on the AoA Study Advisory Group to facilitate the consideration of technology and engineering risks for the alternatives under consideration.
- d. Work with the DoD Components and the designated lead DT&E Government organization that is qualified to conduct detailed planning and execute DT&E and is responsible to gather objective T&E information on defense acquisition programs and provide the report of results to the DASD(DT&E).
- e. In consultation with the ASD(R&E), assess the technological maturity and integration risk of critical technologies of MDAP, MAIS, and USD(AT&L)-designated special interest programs at key stages in the acquisition process and report on the findings of such reviews and assessments to the USD(AT&L).
- f. Provide technical advice on the feasibility to evaluate, test, and measure requirements and to inform the Joint Requirements Oversight Council processes, as needed.
- g. Maintain communications and interaction with national and international organizations, as appropriate and in accordance with applicable authorities, to promote the application of DT&E, establish common DT&E standards, and share best practices.
- h. Coordinate with the Director, PARCA, to provide technical input to root cause analyses and provide subject matter expertise for the periodic conduct of performance assessments.
- i. Work with the appropriate overarching integrated product team to assist in the acquisition management, oversight, and adherence to regulatory and statutory requirements pertaining to DT&E of MDAPs and MAIS programs.
- j. Coordinate with DOT&E on T&E policy and guidance.

ENCLOSURE 3

AUTHORITIES

The DASD(DT&E) is hereby delegated authority to:

a. Comply with requests from Congress for information relating to DT&E in the DoD. Communications with representatives of the Legislative Branch will be conducted through the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs or the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense, as appropriate, and be consistent with the DoD Legislative Program.

b. Communicate directly with the USD(AT&L) on matters within the responsibility of the DASD(DT&E) without the approval or concurrence of any other official within the DoD.

c. Review and approve or disapprove the DT&E plans within the TEMP for each MDAP, MAIS, and USD(AT&L)-designated special interest program. Coordinate on the T&E portions of the acquisition program management documents.

d. Develop DoD policy within assigned areas of responsibility for the approval and signature of the USD(AT&L) in DoD Instructions.

e. Communicate directly with the Heads of the DoD Components, as necessary, to carry out assigned responsibilities and functions, including the transmission of requests for advice and assistance. Communications to the Military Departments shall be through the Secretaries of the Military Departments, their designees, or as otherwise provided in law or directed by the Secretary of Defense in other DoD issuances. Communications to the Commanders of the Combatant Commands normally shall be transmitted through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

f. In accordance with Reference (a), have access to all DoD records and data (including the records and data of each Military Department and including classified and propriety information, as appropriate, to include periodic and preliminary reports of test events) considered necessary to carry out the responsibilities and duties herein assigned.

GLOSSARY

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AoA	Analysis of Alternatives
ASD(R&E)	Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering
DAB	Defense Acquisition Board
DASD(DT&E)	Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Developmental Test and Evaluation
DASD(SE)	Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Systems Engineering
DCAPE	Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation
DOT&E	Director of Operational Test and Evaluation
DT&E	developmental test and evaluation
MAIS	Major Automated Information System
MDA	Milestone Decision Authority
MDAP	Major Defense Acquisition Program
PARCA	Performance Assessments and Root Cause Analyses
T&E	test and evaluation
TEMP	Test and Evaluation Master Plan
TRMC	Test Resource Management Center
USD(AT&L)	Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics