This Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) provides an Air Force acquisition and sustainment Integrated Life Cycle Management framework for Air Force systems, subsystems, end items, services, and activities (for the purpose of this publication referred to as programs throughout this document). It applies to all Air Force military and civilian personnel; members of the Air Force Reserve; members of the Air National Guard; and other individuals or organizations as required by binding agreement or obligation with the Department of the Air Force.

Joint Chiefs of Staff issuances or Department of Defense issuances, the latter shall take precedence.

AFPD 63-1/20-1 provides the flexibility required for today’s Air Force and must be used in conjunction with AFPD 10-6, Capability Requirements Development, and AFPD 99-1, Test and Evaluation. This AFPD cannot be supplemented. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the Office of Primary Responsibility using the AF Form 847, Recommendation for Change of Publication; route AF Form 847 from the field to the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Acquisition Management Policy (SAF/AQXS) workflow (usaf.pentagon.saf-aq.mbx.saf-aqxs-policy-workflow@mail.mil) through appropriate channels. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with Air Force Manual 33-363, Management of Records, and disposed of in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule in the Air Force Records Information Management System. For nuclear systems or related components, ensure the appropriate nuclear related regulations are applied.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

The majority of this AFPD’s content remains unchanged. The revision updates format to comply with AFI 33-360, Publications and Forms Management, implements guidance to streamline and clarify publications, implements new DoD Directives, and reflects updated roles and responsibilities.

1. Overview. Integrated Life Cycle Management is the process that encompasses all phases and functions (requirements identification, development, testing, fielding, product support, and disposal) necessary for effective acquisition and sustainment of systems, subsystems, end items, and services to satisfy valid warfighter capability needs.

   1.1. By executing the Integrated Life Cycle Management approach, the Air Force promotes the development, protection, and integration of maintainable and reliable technology throughout the life cycle that advances state of the art warfighter capabilities critical to continued superiority in air, space, and cyberspace.

   1.2. An Integrated Life Cycle Management approach improves Air Force capabilities by ensuring acquisition efficiency, robust technical planning and risk management as well as adequate developmental and operational testing; optimizing operations and sustainment of fielded capabilities; minimizing the logistics footprint; and reducing life cycle costs.

2. Policy. It is Air Force policy that:

   2.1. Air Force programs will apply a balanced approach that manages cost, schedule, and performance risks and requirements throughout the life cycle in support of warfighter capability planning and validated operational requirements.

   2.2. All programs will have a clear acquisition chain of command with authorities delegated to the lowest appropriate level.

   2.3. Programs will be executed in response to a valid capability need vetted through an approved requirements process.
2.4. A Milestone Decision Authority will be established for each program to be executed. The Milestone Decision Authority has the authority to approve entry of a program into the next phase of the life cycle process and tailor the program to maximize efficient use of limited resources. The Milestone Decision Authority will be accountable for program cost, schedule, and performance reporting to the higher authority, including Congressional reporting, and have authority over all matters impacting programmatic execution except when statutory or regulatory authority resides elsewhere for a specific requirement.

2.5. A Program Manager will be established and identified throughout the life cycle of the system. The Program Manager will have the authority to accomplish program objectives for development, test, production, fielding, sustainment, and will be accountable to the Milestone Decision Authority or equivalent authority for program cost, schedule, and performance for the life cycle of the program.

2.6. The Air Force will participate in joint and international cooperative research, development, and programs that support the best interest of the United States and fulfill valid Air Force requirements.

2.7. The Air Force will emphasize conformance to national and international standards for safe access to global airspace, space, and cyberspace.

2.8. Programs will apply systems engineering standard processes and practices throughout the life cycle of systems. Programs will utilize Digital Engineering and the Modular Open Systems Approach to the maximum extent practicable.

2.9. Programs will develop and document test planning, execution, and level of support required for the system’s life cycle. Acquisition programs will document requirements, plans, and strategies to apply comprehensive acquisition security throughout the life cycle of the system to include cybersecurity, program protection, anti-tamper, and supply chain risk management.

2.10. Programs will ensure product support is a continuous and collaborative set of activities that establish and maintain readiness and the operational capability and availability of a system, subsystem, or end item throughout its life cycle. Product support implementation will validate and refine the system sustainment objectives and outcomes in preparation for the Operations and Sustainment phase.

2.11. The Air Force will ensure government-owned segments of the industrial base do not exceed the minimal assets necessary to satisfy validated warfighter capability needs.

2.12. The Air Force will meet all statutory requirements to ensure the nation’s industrial resources are available to support national security needs with respect to Air Force programs.

2.13. Programs will comply with statutes, executive orders, DoD issuance, Air Force publications, Federal Acquisition Regulation, Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplements, and Air Force Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplements.

3. Roles and Responsibilities.

3.1. Air Force Chief of Staff concurs with the cost, schedule, technical feasibility, and performance trade-off that have been made with respect to a major defense program prior to specific decision points.

3.3. Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition (SAF/AQ). Executes all Service Acquisition Executive (referred to in DoD policy as Component Acquisition Executive) and Senior Procurement Executive responsibilities and authorities outlined in statute and regulation. Responsible for all science and technology acquisition, contracting, systems engineering, supply chain management, maintenance of military materiel, and product support policy, guidance, and oversight. Serves as the Air Force’s acceptance authority for High system environment, safety, and occupational health risks. Ensures development and maintenance of skills required for the acquisition workforce.

3.4. Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller (SAF/FM). Responsible for directing and managing all comptroller and financial management functions, activities, and operations of the Air Force. Provides direction and guidance for all matters pertaining to the programming, formulation, review, and execution of plans, allocation of expenditures, and collection of all funds administered by the Air Force. Responsible for policies and programs relative to: preparing program and budget estimates; managing and overseeing the programming and financial aspects of the Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution process; managing economic and business case analyses; and managing and overseeing cost estimating, cost analysis, and cost reporting.

3.5. Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force, International Affairs (SAF/IA). Responsible for supporting Program Managers in the preparation and execution of Foreign Military Sales cases as part of security cooperation programs.

3.6. Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment and Energy (SAF/IE). Develops strategic level guidance and policy for matters pertaining to installations environment, safety, occupational health, infrastructure, and energy.

3.7. Deputy Under Secretary of The Air Force, Management and Deputy Chief Management Officer (SAF/MG). Ensures that defense business systems accountability and modernization is in compliance with 10 United States Code §2222. Responsible for ensuring requirements for business systems and processes are as streamlined and efficient as practicable.

3.8. Director, Office of Small Business Programs, (SAF/SB). Responsible for developing, implementing, overseeing, and executing small business policy and enterprise management of the Air Forces’ Small Business Programs. Ensures future competition, develops the industrial base, and pursues maximum practicable opportunities for small business prime contract and subcontracting opportunities. Advises leadership on industrial capability and conducts education and outreach.

3.9. Chief of Safety (AF/SE). Responsible for the formation of mishap prevention policy, nuclear surety policy, munitions safety policy, flight safety policy, space safety policy, and occupational safety; the execution of plans; and the establishment of programs to implement
Air Force safety policies and plans. Provides safety recommendations and feedback to SAF/AQ acquisition and sustainment program offices through trends/issues identified during mishap prevention policy, nuclear surety policy, munitions safety policy, flight safety policy, space safety and occupational safety; the execution of plans; and the establishment of programs to implement Air Force safety policies and plans. Provides safety recommendations and feedback to SAF/AQ acquisition and sustainment program offices through trends/issues identified during mishap investigations.

3.10. Director of Test and Evaluation. Provides guidance, direction and oversight for all matters pertaining to the formulation, review, and execution of Test and Evaluation plans, policies, programs, and budgets. Manages the Air Force test infrastructure by ensuring adequate facilities, resources, and expertise are available to support system life cycle Test and Evaluation activities.

3.11. Deputy Chief of Staff of the Air Force for Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (AF/A2). Serves as the lead for Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance to include planning, programming, policy, guidance, intelligence force development, and oversight for all Air Force components of the intelligence functional community. Provides policy, guidance and oversight for acquisition intelligence to include but not limited to, threat and supportability (such as intelligence mission data, doctrine, organization, training, materiel, leadership and education, personnel, and facilities) inputs to requirements, capabilities planning, and life cycle acquisition processes.

3.12. Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations (AF/A3). Responsible for providing policy, guidance, and oversight for air, space, and cyberspace operations training, and sourcing of Air Force capabilities and personnel to support joint operations, and represent Air Force operations to DoD and other governmental agencies.

3.13. Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Engineering and Force Protection (AF/A4). Issues policy implementation guidance to Air Force logistics, civil engineering, force protection, and Agile Combat Support activities. Responsible for materiel necessary to equip, operate, maintain, and support military activities. Organizes, trains, and equips personnel for all facets of logistics, civil engineering, and force protection programs for the Air Force.

3.14. Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Plans and Requirements (AF/A5/8). Responsible for developing and managing the process for strategy development long-range strategic planning, and resource allocation. Serves as the Headquarters Air Force (HAF) lead for developing, validating, approving, and prioritizing operational capability requirements. Accomplishes capability and modification prioritization and initial planning through all acquisition milestones. Develops and submits Air Force Plan for Program Guidance to provide direction on Air Force Program Objective Memorandum development. Responsible for the development of an enterprise affordability assessment (for Acquisition Category I and IA programs) determined by comparing life cycle cost estimates against future Air Force resource allocations.

3.15. Chief, Information Dominance and Chief Information Officer (SAF/CIO A6). Responsible for cyberspace/Information Technology policies and concepts, the development and reporting of the Air Force Information Technology Budget, and the development of enterprise-level architecture for the Air Force. Monitors compliance with Air Force policy on Clinger-Cohen Act, investment certification, and the Capital Planning and Investment
Control process. Responsible for policies and procedures of National Security Systems interoperability and supportability risk assessments, and interoperability certification testing for Air Force programs. Ensures that accountability and modernization is in compliance with 10 United States Code §2222.

3.16. Deputy Chief of Staff of the Air Force for Strategic Deterrence and Nuclear Integration (AF/A10). Responsible for advocating for requirements, acquisition, programming, and budgeting processes for nuclear and global strike capabilities.

3.17. Implementing Commands. Support the Milestone Decision Authorities and Program Managers by providing technical assistance, infrastructure, manpower, test capabilities, laboratory support, professional education, training and development, and management tools. Implementing Commands include Air Force Materiel Command, Air Force Space Command, and Air Force Global Strike Command.

HEATHER WILSON
Secretary of the Air Force
Attachment 1

GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

References
DODD 2040.3, End Use Certificates (EUCs), 14 November 1991
DODD 3000.09, Autonomy in Weapon Systems, 8 May 2017
DODD 3020.49, Orchestrating, Synchronizing, and Integrating Program Management of Contingency Acquisition Planning and Its Operational Execution, 28 July 2017
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DODD 4120.11, Standardization of Mobile Electric Power (MEP) Generating Sources, 13 April 2004
DODD 4151.18, Maintenance of Military Materiel, 31 March 2004
DODD 4275.5, Acquisition and Management of Industrial Resources, 15 March 2005
DODD 4400.01, Defense Production Act Programs, 14 September 2007
DODD 5000.01, The Defense Acquisition System, 20 November 2007
DODD 5000.71, Rapid Fulfillment of Combatant Commander Urgent Operational Needs, 24 August 2012
DODI 5000.66, Training, and Career Development Program, 7 July 2017
DODD 5134.09, Missile Defense Agency (MDA), 17 September 2009
DODD 5200.47E, Anti-Tamper (AT), 28 August 2017
DODI 5000.02, Operation of the Defense Acquisition System, 7 January 2015
AFI 33-360, Publications and Forms Management, 1 December 2015
AFMAN 33-363, Management of Records, 1 March 2008
AFPD 10-9, Lead Command Designation and Responsibilities for Weapon Systems, 8 March 2007
AFPD 13-5, Air Force Nuclear Mission, 17 July 2018
AFPD 10-6, Capability Requirements Development, 6 November 2013
AFPD 99-1, Test and Evaluation, 20 June 2018

Prescribed Forms
None

Adopted Forms
AF Form 847, Recommendation for Change of Publication
Terms

Acquisition—The conceptualization, initiation, design, development, test, contracting, production, fielding, deployment, sustainment, and disposal of a directed and funded effort that provides a new, improved, or continued materiel, weapon, information system, logistics support, or service capability in response to an approved need.

Agile Combat Support—The ability to support the objectives of a Joint Force Commander through improved responsiveness, deployability, and sustainability of the air and space forces.

Enterprise—The related activities performed for a common purpose including all activities, whether performed in one or more functional or organizational units.

Integrated Life Cycle Management—The seamless governance, transparency, and integration of all aspects of infrastructure, resource management, and business systems necessary for successful development, test, production, fielding, sustainment, and disposal of systems, subsystems, end items, and services to satisfy validated warfighter capability needs.

Life Cycle—The span of time associated with a system, subsystem, or end item that begins with the conception and initial development of the requirement, continues through development, fielding, sustainment, until the time it is either consumed in use or disposed of as being excess to all known materiel requirements.

Milestone Decision Authority—The designated individual (per DODD 5000.01) with overall responsibility for a program. The MDA has the authority to approve entry of an acquisition program into the next phase of the acquisition process and is accountable for cost, schedule, and performance reporting to higher authority, including Congressional reporting.

Program—Includes systems, subsystems, end items, services, or activities in development or sustainment that identifies as Acquisition or pre-Acquisition Category programs, weapon systems, business systems, or services. NOTE: Acquisition Category criteria are listed in DODI 5000.02.

Program Executive Officer—The individual dedicated to executive management and supervision of a portfolio of mission-related Acquisition Category and selected programs. The Program Executive Officer is accountable to the Service Acquisition Executive.

Program Manager—The designated individual (per DODD 5000.01) with responsibility for and authority to accomplish program objectives for development, production, and sustainment to meet the user’s operational needs. The Program Manager is accountable for credible cost, schedule, performance, and materiel readiness.

Sustainment—The continuing materiel support which consists of the planning, programming, and execution of a logistics support strategy for a system, subsystem, or major end item to maintain operational capabilities from system fielding through disposal.

System Engineering—An interdisciplinary approach encompassing the entire technical effort to evolve and verify an integrated and total life cycle balanced set of system, people, and process solutions that satisfy customer needs. Systems engineering is the integrating mechanism across the technical and analytical efforts related to the development, manufacturing, verification, user training, deployment, operations, sustainment, modernization, and disposal of systems. Systems engineering develops technical information to support the program management decision-making process.