

**BY ORDER OF THE  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
POLICY DIRECTIVE 61-1**



**5 FEBRUARY 2021**

***Scientific Research and Development***

**MANAGEMENT OF THE SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY ENTERPRISE**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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This Department of the Air Force Policy Directive (DAFPD) implements Department of Defense Directive (DoDD) 5230.25, *Withholding of Unclassified Technical Data from Public Disclosure*; DoDD 5535.03, *DoD Domestic Technology Transfer (T2) Program*, Headquarters Air Force (HAF) Mission Directive (MD) 1-10, *Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisitions)*, and HAF MD 1-50, *The Air Force Chief Scientist*. This directive establishes policies for Department of the Air Force Science and Technology Management, Scientific and Technical Information Management, and Technology Transfer Programs. This directive applies to all Regular Department of the Air Force military and civilian personnel, members of the Air National Guard, members of the Air Force Reserve, and other individuals or organizations as required by binding agreement or obligation with the Department of the Air Force. This directive does not apply to handling and accessibility of Department of Defense (DoD) scientific and technical information the intelligence community produces, or information for signals intelligence and communications security. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication adhere to Air Force Instruction 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, and are disposed of in accordance with the Records Disposition Schedule, which is located in the Air Force Records Information Management System. Send all recommendations for changes or comments to Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Science, Technology, and Engineering (SAF/AQR), through appropriate channels using AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*. This DAFPD cannot be supplemented.

## ***SUMMARY OF CHANGES***

This publication has been substantially revised and should be completely reviewed. This publication combines AFD 61-1, *Management of Science and Technology*, AFD 61-2, *Management of Scientific and Technical Information*, and AFD 61-3, *Domestic Technology Transfer*.

**1. Overview.** The Department of the Air Force strives to build a more lethal, resilient, and rapidly innovating force by providing the scientific and technological advances needed to deter war and protect vital national interests. This directive establishes policy for effectively managing science and technology efforts, implementing the Scientific and Technical Information Program, managing all other types of Department of the Air Force technical information, and having a robust program for transferring technology to the warfighter. Effective management of Department of the Air Force technology and resultant technical information will enable the Department to dominate time, space, and complexity in future conflicts across all operating domains.

### **2. Policy.**

2.1. The Department of the Air Force will conduct research and development and manage the science and technology enterprise to meet the 2018 National Defense Strategy requirement to provide transformational strategic capabilities driven by scientific and technological advances. The Secretary of the Air Force will set the overall strategic direction for the Department of the Air Force Science and Technology Program through the Chief of Staff of the Air Force and the Chief of Space Operations and approve the Department's science and technology strategy.

2.1.1. All Department of the Air Force laboratories and technical activities will aim to advance science and technology and engage in technology transfer with DoD and other federal laboratories and research centers, state and local governments, colleges and universities, private persons, and private industry.

2.1.2. The Department of the Air Force laboratories and technical activities will secure intellectual property rights arising from their research and development investments to the maximum extent practicable, promoting transfer of technology through the protection of intellectual property.

2.2. The Department of the Air Force will ensure essential scientific, technical, and engineering information is appropriately handled and made accessible to the research and acquisition community, policy makers, industry, and the general public consistent with federal law, policy, and regulation.

2.2.1. When appropriate, export-controlled scientific, technical, and engineering information that discloses critical technology with military or space application will be withheld from public release or disclosure in accordance with DoDD 5230.25.

2.2.2. Scientific, technical, and engineering information may be categorized as classified, controlled unclassified information, or unclassified publicly releasable.

### 3. Roles and Responsibilities.

3.1. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics (SAF/AQ) will develop Air Force science and technology policy for approval, further delineate the strategy, and provide implementation guidance, planning and programming guidance, and oversight of the Air Force science and technology enterprise. Responsibilities include:

3.1.1. Identifying funding requirements for the Department of the Air Force Science and Technology Program; representing and supporting the program in all Department of the Air Force corporate processes; and advocating and defending the program to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the other services, and Congress.

3.1.2. Ensuring technology is reviewed for informing prototyping and experimentation activities, development of new capabilities, or transition to new or existing programs consistent with Department of the Air Force requirements and priorities.

3.1.3. Facilitating technology transfer and implementing all federal policies and directives for domestic technology transfer.

3.1.4. Designating a Department of the Air Force scientific and technical information (STINFO) manager to serve as the single, authoritative point of contact for all scientific and technical information matters including the Scientific and Technical Information Program.

3.2. Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration: to enable further discussion this publication will be updated at a later date to capture this position's responsibilities.

3.3. The Chief Scientist of the Department of the Air Force (AF/ST) will provide independent evaluations and objective science and technology advice to Department of the Air Force senior leaders.

3.4. The Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategy, Integration and Requirements (AF/A5) will provide guidance, implemented with the requirements, acquisition, and technology processes, to drive the development of capabilities and systems that the future force needs to fight.

3.5. The Director of Test and Evaluation (AF/TE) will advocate for test resources that support capability development, prototyping, and experimentation activities.

3.6. Chief of Space Operations: to enable further discussion this publication will be updated at a later date to capture this position's responsibilities.

3.7. The Chief Technology Officer position proposal is currently under review: to enable further discussion this publication will be updated at a later date to capture this position's responsibilities if the position is ultimately established.

JOHN P. Roth  
Acting Secretary of the Air Force

## Attachment 1

### GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

#### *References*

DoDD 5230.25, *Withholding of Unclassified Technical Data from Public Disclosure*, 6 November 1984

DoDD 5535.03, *DoD Domestic Technology Transfer (T2) Program*, 21 May 1999

AFI 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, 23 March 2020

The National Defense Strategy of the United States of America, 2018: *Sharpening the American Military's Competitive Edge*

HAF MD 1-10, *Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisition)*, 2 September 2016

HAF MD 1-50, *The Air Force Chief Scientist*, 23 April 2015

#### *Adopted Forms*

AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

#### *Abbreviations and Acronyms*

**DAFPD**—Department of the Air Force Policy Directive

**DoD**—Department of Defense

**DoDD**—Department of Defense Directive

**HAF**—Headquarters Air Force

**MD**—Mission Directive

**STINFO**—Scientific and Technical Information

**T2**—Technology Transfer

#### *Terms*

**Department of the Air Force Science and Technology Program**—Encompasses basic research, applied research, and advanced technology development efforts accomplished by Department of the Air Force personnel, with Department of the Air Force funding (Budget Activity Codes 1, 2, and 3) on Department of the Air Force contracts, or by others in conjunction with the Department of the Air Force.

**Scientific and Technical Information**—Findings and technological innovations resulting from basic research, applied research, and advanced technology development efforts and science and technology work of scientists, researchers, and engineers, whether contractor, grantee, or federal staff. Scientific and technical information also conveys the results of demonstration and commercial application activities as well as experiments, observations, simulations, wargames, studies, and analyses. Scientific and technical information is found in many forms and formats including textual, graphical, numeric, multimedia, digital data, technical reports, scientific and technical conference papers and presentations, theses and dissertations, scientific and technical

computer software, journal articles, workshop reports, program documents, system concepts, patents, and other forms or formats of technical data. Scientific and technical information may be classified information, controlled unclassified information (including export controlled information), or unclassified publicly releasable information. DoD-funded scientific and technical information originates primarily from research and other activities performed through DoD-executed prime procurements, DoD-operated research activities, and financial assistance recipients and by DoD employees.

**Science**—The investigation of material phenomena, pursuit of knowledge, and understanding of phenomenology.

**Technical Information**—Technical data or computer software of any kind that can be used, or adapted for use, in the design, production, manufacture, assembly, repair, overhaul, processing, engineering, development, operation, maintenance, adaptation, testing, or reconstruction of goods or materiel, or any technology that advances the state of the art or establishes a new art in an area of significant military applicability in the United States. The data may be in tangible form, such as a blueprint, photograph, plan, instruction, or operating manual, or may be intangible, such as a technical service or oral, auditory, or visual description. Examples of technical data include research and engineering data, journal articles, workshop reports, program documents, wargame system concepts, patents, data sets, engineering drawings and associated lists, catalog-item identifications, specifications, standards, process sheets, technical manuals, technical reports, technical orders, and studies and analyses. This term is broader in scope than the Scientific and Technical Information definition and is applicable when determining distribution statements for technical documents.

**Technology**—The application of science to industrial or military objectives.