

Paul Solomon
3307 Meadow Oak Drive
Westlake Village, CA 91361
Paul.solomon@pb-ev.com

January 3, 2024

The Honorable Heidi Shyu
Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, Research and Engineering (USD(R&E))
The Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301

Subject: Improve Software Acquisition by Revising IMP and IMS Preparation and Use Guide

Dear USD Shyu:

It is recommended that you improve policy and guidance for acquisition of software that is embedded in weapon systems. That can be done by revising the *Integrated Master Plan (IMP) and Integration Master Schedule (IMS) Preparation and Use Guide* (IMP/IMS). Make it consistent with DoDI 5000.87, *Operation of the Software Acquisition Pathway*.

Per DoDI 5000.87,

(f) Programs using the embedded software path will align test and integration with the testing and delivery schedules of the overarching system in which the software is embedded, including aligning resources and criteria for transitioning from development to test and operational environments.

To be consistent with DoDI 5000.87, IMP/IMS should be revised to specify that the minimum viable product (MVP) and minimum viable capability release (MVCR) sprints in the embedded software path be included as **events** in the IMP and IMS. Also, the false inference that MVP activities are Level of Effort should be removed.

It is also recommended that project schedules be described as digital models that are Authoritative Sources of Truth to be integrated with other digital models of the project to support the project's DE effort.

An objective of the revision would be new policy to tie successful completion of MVPs and MVCRs to award or incentive fee criteria.



Paul Solomon

CC:

The Hon. William La Plante USD(A&S)
The Hon. Andrew Hunter, AF Asst. Sec. for AT&L
Hon. Donald Norcross, HASC
Hon. Adam Smith, HASC
Hon. Robert J. Wittman, HASC