

Memorandum for Acquisition Executives of the Military Departments and USSOCOM

SUBJECT: Foreign Comparative Test Program

Department of Defense (DoD) acquisition practices should encourage competition from U.S. and foreign sources. Defense articles which have completed development require testing prior to acquisition. The Foreign Comparative Testing (FCT) Program provides a process for testing defense articles of foreign countries alongside those of U.S. companies.

When a reasonable expectation of funding for production exists, FCT projects should be undertaken in accordance with the following guidelines:

- The intention to initiate a FCT project followed by procurement should be publicized in the Commerce Business Daily, and full and open competition invited. In addition to outlining the FCT project, the announcement should state whether procurement of the successful candidate article is planned, and in what quantities, and in what time periods procurement is anticipated.
- Sources responding to the announcement should be provided a solicitation that calls for proposals to include the prices for the articles to be tested, and priced options for production quantities.
- Procuring activities may, without further competition and on the basis of the solicitation and the offeror's proposal, contract for production of the successful test article.



Paul G. Kaminski