



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, DC 20301



SEP 30 2003

Sir Peter Spencer KCB
Chief of Defence Procurement and National Armaments Director
Ministry of Defence
Abbey Wood
Bristol
BS34 8JH
United Kingdom

Dear Sir Spencer:

The United States (US) Department of Defense (DoD) has worked closely with the UK Ministry of Defense and the UK Council for eBusiness (UKCeB) on the requirements and framework for government and industry collaboration on Defense efforts. We need to maintain momentum with the UKCeB Task Force (UTF) to support the development of collaboration with industry and other nations.

The progress made so far is more advanced than we could have achieved individually. We each are spending our resources on collaboration, identity management, data sharing management and common business languages. The UTF has helped look beyond internal boundaries and realized the synergy of shared investments by industry and defense. Even in DoD and MOD, the issues and solutions do not fall within one organization. Instead, we are progressing on separate but completely inter-related areas of responsibility to include unique asset identification, export control compliance, information assurance, and activity based costing. It is to our mutual benefit to continue this progress across defense industries whereby we can benefit each other.

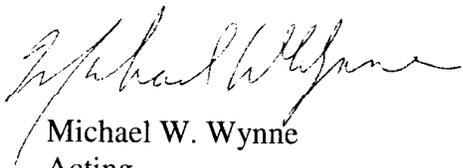
We are already exploiting this work in our efforts toward a Global Information Grid architecture, the Joint Strike Fighter, Unique Identification of Tangible Assets, Integrated Digital Environment, to name a few. The degree of success is derived from the ability of the non-aligned UTF to work across US/UK industry, and with other European companies, US government, and even into HQ NATO.

We would encourage the continuation and expansion of the Program For Secure Collaboration across the Transatlantic Defense Community. This approach will increase trust and confidence by providing a framework for collaboration. The intent is to expand this construct to give guidance on better and compliant use of data, which will aid the implementation of the US DoD's Policy on the Unique Identification of Tangible Assets and the achievement of Net Centricity.

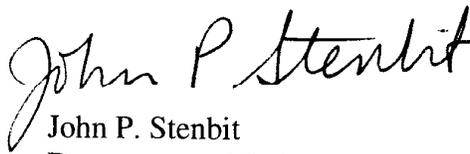


We appreciate the personal efforts and domain expertise of Mr. Robert Shields and Mr. Patrick Curry, and seek assurance from the UK MOD and their industry colleagues who control the UTF that it, as a capability for enabling collaboration, will continue to play a leading role for the foreseeable future. We also look forward to the possibility of enhancing this capability to cope with the challenges ahead. We share a vision for an end state where we can freely collaborate while fully protecting sensitive information and individual privacy.

Sincerely,



Michael W. Wynne
Acting
Under Secretary of Defense
(Acquisition, Technology and Logistics)



John P. Stenbit
Department of Defense
Chief Information Officer

cc:

Mr. John Taylor
Director General Information
Ministry of Defence
Room 822 St Giles Court
1-13 St Giles High Street
London WC2H 8LD
United Kingdom



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Mr. Colin Green
Chairman UKCeB and
President, Defence Aerospace
Rolls-Royce
65 Buckingham Gate
London SW1E 6AT
United Kingdom

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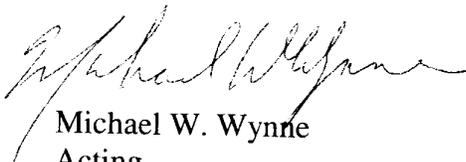
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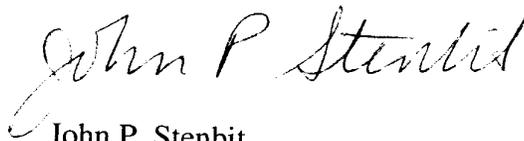


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