



ACQUISITION
AND SUSTAINMENT

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3000

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, UNITED STATES CYBER
COMMAND (ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE)
COMMANDER, UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS
COMMAND (ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE)
COMMANDER, UNITED STATES TRANSPORTATION
COMMAND (ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
(PROCUREMENT)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
(PROCUREMENT)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
(CONTRACTING)
DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Notice of Intent to Publish a Data Standard for Other Transaction Agreements

First established in 2008, the Department created the Procurement Data Standard (PDS) to represent procurement solicitations, contract awards, and modifications as electronic data in a modern, extensible markup language (XML) format. Each year, millions of PDS transactions are created for Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) based contracts, independently validated using system-agnostic business rules, and traded across the Department's business systems. This approach fulfills requirement of Section 862(a)(1) of the FY 2013 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The Components continue to improve compliance with the PDS to increase contract quality, transparency, and administration efficiency. Furthermore, the Department created the Purchase Request Data Standard (PRDS) in 2010 to model and transact purchase requests, enabling further capability and business system interoperability. In FY 2024, the Department will extend its capabilities with a new data standard for Other Transaction (OT) agreements for Prototypes and Production.

We partnered with the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (OUSD(R&E)) to design the first version of the Assistance Data Standard (ADS). The ADS is currently in draft form, but this memorandum serves as a notice to the acquisition workforce of our intent to publish ADS Version 1.0 in early FY 2024. The ADS will include OTs for Prototypes and Production, as governed by A&S, as well as R&E-governed Grants, Cooperative Agreements, Technology Investment Agreements, and OTs for Research. A&S and R&E will continue to promulgate policy and oversee aspects of the ADS within their respective areas of responsibility.

We expect ADS to enable agreements officers to write OT agreements for Prototypes and Production using the flexibilities and best practices discussed throughout the OUSD(A&S) OT Guide. The ADS is expected to mirror conventions of the PDS and PRDS where possible to facilitate rapid implementation in business systems. However, given the inherent differences

among instrument types, the ADS will have some notable distinctions. While the ADS contains mandatory fields for OT agreements, especially for elements that must be reported, many are optional by design and provide structure when agreements officers find it practicable to use them.

All business systems generating or receiving awards for ADS-covered instruments will be required to implement the ADS. The PRDS is expected to serve as a companion to the ADS, just as it is with the PDS. Data validations in Version 1.0 will be minimal, but as the standard matures, data validations will be added to embody the spirit of Section 862(a)(1) of the NDAA for FY 2013.

Questions and comments may be directed to my point of contact for this memorandum, Mr. Jay Olson, at osd.pentagon.ousd-a-s.mbx.dpc-cb@mail.mil.

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Defense Pricing and Contracting