



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
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WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000

OPNAVINST 5000.53
N9
15 Mar 2017

OPNAV INSTRUCTION 5000.53

From: Chief of Naval Operations

Subj: NAVY ACCELERATED ACQUISITION FOR THE RAPID DEVELOPMENT,
DEMONSTRATION, AND FIELDING OF CAPABILITIES

Ref: (a) SECNAVINST 5000.42
(b) CJCSI 3170.01I
(c) JCIDS Manual, Manual for the Operation of the Joint Capabilities Integration and
Development System (JCIDS), 12 February 2015
(d) DoD Directive 5000.71 of 24 August 2012
(e) DoD Instruction 5000.02 of 7 January 2015
(f) SECNAVINST 5000.2E

Encl: (1) Accelerated Acquisition (AA) Process

1. Purpose. To implement the accelerated acquisition (AA) policies contained in reference (a) in order to deliver mission critical warfighting capabilities more rapidly than traditional acquisition processes.

2. Discussion

a. The provisions of this instruction are consistent with existing directives that address rapid requirements, resourcing, and acquisition policies, as outlined in references (b) through (f). AA processes, as outlined in enclosure (1), provide the Navy the agility to more rapidly respond to validated urgent operational needs (UON), joint urgent operational needs (JUON), or joint emergent operational needs (JEON). In addition, these processes will be used for other needs assessed by the Navy that require immediate initiation and accelerated fielding to mitigate current threats, to offset future threats, or to leverage advances in technology.

b. AA processes leverage two different paths: Rapid Prototyping Experimentation and Demonstration (RPED) projects and Maritime Accelerated Capability Office (MACO) programs to address high priority needs. RPED projects are preferred when a suitable material solution cannot be readily identified, and where experimentation, prototyping and demonstration efforts can inform the development of potential solutions and any subsequent acquisition strategy. MACO is the preferred path when a known solution or program of record is available to deliver an appropriate material solution to the validated need, and that program can be accelerated by receiving funding priority and incentivizing schedule as part of the acquisition strategy.

3. Scope and Applicability. This instruction applies to all U.S. Navy organizations performing or engaging in any activity related to the AA paths. This instruction does not supersede or modify the assignment of responsibilities in SECNAVINST 5430.7R.

4. Responsibilities

a. Per reference (a), the executive oversight body for making AA decisions is the AA Board of Directors (AA BoD), which is comprised of the Chief of Naval Operations, the Commandant of the Marine Corps (as required), the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development, and Acquisition, and, as applicable, the Defense Acquisition Executive. The AA BoD will review and oversee AA policies, processes, programs, and projects.

b. Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Warfare Systems (CNO N9) will:

(1) in consultation with Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (DASN) for Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E), recommend the appropriate AA path to the AA BoD;

(2) track implementation of reference (a) and this instruction;

(3) maintain a record of all approved AA decisions and track execution through final disposition;

(4) record and disseminate the minutes and decisions of AA BoD meetings;

(5) coordinate updates to the process and any other items or issues requiring AA BoD approval; and

(6) serve as the RPED execution lead and manage the RPED process.

5. Records Management. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of media and format, must be managed per Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Manual 5210.1 of January 2012.

6. Review and Effective Date. Per OPNAVINST 5215.17A, CNO N9 will review this instruction annually on the anniversary of its effective date to ensure applicability, currency, and consistency with Federal, Department of Defense (DoD), SECNAV, and Navy policy and

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statutory authority using OPNAV 5215/40 Review of Instruction. This instruction will automatically expire 5 years after its effective date unless reissued or canceled prior to the 5-year anniversary date, or an extension has been granted.



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Releasability and distribution:

This instruction is cleared for public release and is available electronically only via the Department of the Navy Issuances Web site, <http://doni.documentservices.dla.mil/>

ACCELERATED ACQUISITION (AA) PROCESS

1. General. The AA process enables rapid development, demonstration, and fielding of capability to the fleet. At all times, requirements officers, acquisition community members, and other key stakeholders should pursue opportunities that provide capability to the warfighter in the most effective and efficient manner possible.
2. AA Process. The process consists of four phases: (1) need request, validation, and candidate options; (2) assessment and funding decisions; (3) execution and evaluation; and (4) disposition.
 - a. The AA process begins with the arrival of an operational need to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (OPNAV) staff (e.g., UONs, JUONs, JEONs, other operational needs statements). In all cases, the requirement or capability is forwarded to CNO N9 for consideration.
 - b. In coordination with DASN (RDT&E), CNO N9 will rapidly assemble an assessment team that will report, within 30 calendar days, whether there are known candidate options to meet the need. Assessment team members may include fleet representatives, resource sponsors, acquisition community representatives, member(s) of the Naval Research and Development Establishment, Office of the Secretary of Defense representatives, federally funded research and development centers, and academic institutions.
 - c. This team's assessment will be presented by CNO N9 to the AA BoD and include an acquisition strategy recommendation, which could be designated as an RPED project or MACO program, a tailored program of record, or an alternative path.
 - d. For those urgent needs for which a suitable materiel solution cannot be readily identified, or to seize a technological opportunity, designation as an RPED is the preferred path. In this case, CNO N9, in conjunction with DASN (RDT&E), will engage with the Office of Naval Research, Department of the Navy and DoD laboratories, and industry, to inform research and form an evaluation team to assess potential solutions. CNO N9 and DASN (RDT&E) will report their recommendations within 90 days to the AA BoD.
 - e. For those urgent needs for which there are existing materiel solutions, designation as a MACO program is the preferred path. MACO program leadership will pursue options to accelerate acquisition timelines. CNO N9 and DASN (RDT&E) will report their recommendations within 60 days to the AA BoD.
 - f. The AA BoD will meet every quarter for a review of new AA proposals and to review the status of existing RPED and MACO programs.

g. When a new RPED project or MACO program is approved, a designation memorandum will be signed and forwarded to the resource sponsors and Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Integration of Capabilities and Resources (CNO N8) to identify funding to support development, demonstration, fielding and sustainment.

h. Program or project execution and reporting will be completed per reference (a), enclosure (2), paragraph 4. A requirements or user representative will be co-located with industry when and where appropriate. Approved programs and projects are expected to demonstrate agreed upon capability in the agreed upon time period determined by the AA BoD. The team will be empowered to make appropriate decisions to maintain acceleration of the program.

i. An RPED project or MACO program will operate under RPED or MACO designation until the need has been adequately met or an AA BoD disposition dictates otherwise. Disposition decisions will be documented by CNO N9 via decision memorandum.