CHAPTER 6
MATERIEL STANDARDISATION

INTRODUCTION

6.1 Materiel standardisation encompasses the evaluation, adoption, management, use and, where appropriate, the modification or development of standards. By approving and stipulating the use of proven and effective standards, materiel standardisation aids in achieving required levels of materiel system interchangeability, compatibility, commonality and interoperability, and consistent good practice in materiel system acquisition and sustainment.

6.2 In Defence, a standard is a description of a process, material, data or product meant for repeated use in one or more different applications. Materiel standardisation must be considered throughout the life of a materiel system from the earliest stages of a project’s acquisition life cycle. From the outset, acquisition project plans should reflect a standardisation strategy, aligned with all stakeholders and enterprise-level direction that will continue into sustainment and disposal phases of the life cycle.

POLICY STATEMENT

6.3 Defence must apply the principles and practices of materiel standardisation throughout the lifecycle of materiel systems (mission systems plus support systems).

SCOPE

6.4 The intent of this policy is to maximise reuse and commonality of materiel, minimise obsolescence without compromising essential operational interoperability requirements, and maximise consistent good practice. This will be achieved by reducing the development and use of bespoke Defence standards when broader civil and commercial standards could apply. Materiel standardisation practices will also provide appropriate domain/technology advice on the use and context of the standards to ensure correct application.

6.5 The policy contained in Chapter 6 applies to the management of materiel standards in Defence and must conform to the higher operational and strategic level agreements completed in accordance with Defence Instruction (General) (Di(G)) ADMIN 48-1 International Government Agreements and Arrangements. This chapter applies to all Defence Personnel and External Service Providers (where compliance is a term of their engagement), as defined in the DEFLOGMAN Glossary, who are responsible for the management and conduct of materiel standardisation in Defence.

DEFINITIONS


POLICY APPLICATION

6.7 When considered by all stakeholders as part of the through-life of a capability from the earliest stages, materiel standardisation:

a. improves system interoperability and reduces risk associated with the interchange of materiel and information;

b. encourages a wider range of procurement options and reduces risk of dependence on specific vendors by using wider standards that can open up national and international markets;

c. improves the quality of product/service/life (safety, health, environment) through capture of good practice and identification of critical issues;
d. provides a recognized benchmark against which products/processes/services can be assessed;

e. avoids repetitive effort in producing new specifications, processes and products for each procurement; and

f. helps achieve a consistent level of equipment safety and conformity to regulations.

6.8 The Defence Materiel Standardisation Manual (STANMAN) supports the implementation of this policy and details the Defence standardisation system for materiel, its method of operation and the responsibilities of the various authorities involved.

Nominated Standards Authorities

6.9 Standardisation efforts must be encouraged at the Defence enterprise level by re-using and developing enterprise-wide solutions such as those promulgated in the Defence Enterprise Architecture and through other coordination efforts (eg assigned Capability Coordinator roles).

6.10 These efforts need support from domain- and technology-based subject matter experts (SME) who can manage the selection, development and application of materiel standards for their particular area of expertise. These domain/technology-based groups will be referred to as Nominated Standards Authorities (NSAs), each comprised of SME representatives across Defence and industry. These NSAs will be appointed by the Business Domain Policy Owner (BDPO), Service Chief or Group Head and detailed in the STANMAN1.

Use of Standards

6.11 As part of system requirements analysis for the procurement of a materiel system, a project must engage appropriate NSAs to assist in determining the appropriate standards to be used in a statement of work or specification. Consideration is to be given to the role of the process or product, the environment in which it will be used, and the required level of safety, interoperability, quality and performance. The NSAs will provide guidance for context of use and applicability of a standard or combinations of standards in their respective domains. In the absence of a preferred standard, the order for consideration is to be as follows:

a. Civil Standards which are mandated by Federal and/or State legislation;

b. Standards established under International Government Agreements and Arrangements registered with the Directorate of International Government Agreements and Arrangements (DIGAA) in accordance with DI(G) ADMIN 48-1;

c. Existing/current DEF(AUST) Standards; and

d. Non-military;

(1) International Standards, eg Internal Organisation for Standardisation and International Electrotechnical Commission;

(2) National Standards, eg Australian Standards; and

(3) Commercial Standards.

e. Foreign Military Standards

1 Capability Coordinators would be expected to have an associated NSA role.
Development of Standards

6.12 Development of DEF(AUST), single Service or Group standards. Consistent with the international military trend to reduce the number of military standards, Defence must maximise the use of civil and commercial standards where operationally and technically acceptable, practical and cost-effective. Whilst ensuring that genuine Defence-unique requirements are adequately met, the development of DEF(AUST), single Service, or Group standards must only occur if there are no existing Australian civil, Australian military or foreign military standards to satisfy that requirement, and interoperability requirements are not compromised. This will be the responsibility of the appropriate NSA but may be delegated to the relevant project staff for action if required. The process for developing a DEF(AUST) standard is detailed in the STANMAN.

6.13 When developing specific DEF(AUST) standards the cost of ownership needs to be assessed and consequently funded and resourced for the life of the specific standard.

6.14 Involvement in National and International Standards Groups. Defence participation in the development of Australian and international civilian standards is to be coordinated through the applicable NSA. Participation is to be restricted to those standards for which Defence is, or is expected to become, a significant user or contributor. Before becoming involved with the development of an Australian or International Standard, prospective Defence participants must obtain guidance from the NSA to ensure that they are able to satisfactorily represent the interests of Defence. The major Defence participant shall be appointed as the Defence SME for the relevant standard or the committee and is to ensure all necessary operational and technical approvals have been obtained before Defence is committed to any agreement and that no International Military Standardisation Agreements (IMSA) have been compromised.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Commander Joint Logistics

6.15 Commander Joint Logistics (CJLOG) has overall management responsibility as follows:

a. as the Business Domain Policy Owner (BDPO) for logistics management, for ensuring the regular comprehensive review of this chapter; and

b. as the Defence Strategic J4, for leading the coordination of all logistics activities across Defence to ensure Defence meets its goals.

Chief Executive Officer Defence Materiel Organisation (CEO DMO)

6.16 As stated in DEFLOGMAN Part 2 Volume 1 Chapter 1 para 1.4, DMO is the Business Process Owner (BPO) for Materiel Engineering and Materiel Logistics in Defence. CEO DMO delegates to General Manager Joint, Systems and Air (GMJSA) responsibility for:

a. the regular and comprehensive review of this chapter in conjunction with NSAs and other stakeholders;

b. defining and maintaining the system for materiel standardisation within Defence in STANMAN;

c. the appointment of relevant NSAs within STANMAN; and

d. the development and promulgation of Defence policy on materiel standardisation.

Service Chiefs and Group Heads

6.17 Responsibilities of Service Chiefs and Group Heads include:

a. adequately resourcing appointed NSAs within their Service or Group to support Defence; and
b. the correct selection and use of prescribed standards in specifications in accordance with this policy to ensure that the operations of their Group/Service standardisation activities are coordinated across Defence.

**NSA**

**6.18** Each NSA is responsible for:

a. maintaining the appropriate subject matter expertise in their business domain;

b. ensuring that standards in their respective business domain are relevant to Defence strategic and operational needs and expected solution technologies;

c. coordinating the timely development or selection of standards including formation and management of stakeholder working groups as required;

d. obtaining consensus from all relevant appointments and Technical Regulatory Authorities pursuant to DI(G) LOG 4-5-012, for any standards developed or adopted by Defence;

e. publishing sponsored DEF(AUST) standards;

f. nominating, consistent with the policy in this instruction, which standards are mandatory for use within their area of responsibility;

g. maintaining historical records of all DEF(AUST) standards sponsored;

h. coordinating Defence’s involvement with civilian national and international standardisation activities;

i. ensuring that the content and the intent of the relevant IMSA is understood and that these IMSA are referenced in appropriate implementation documents;

j. ensuring compliance with the ratified IMSA or that IMSA managers have undertaken the necessary action to update an IMSA when required;

k. ensuring that GMJSA is kept informed of any standardisation management activity or appointment changes; and

l. reviewing on a periodic basis any sponsored or otherwise applicable DEF(AUST) standards and other adopted standards, to ensure their continued currency and relevance, including checking that new or updated external standards have not rendered the DEF(AUST) standards redundant.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

**6.19** Chapter 6 is a complete revision of DI(G) LOG 08-12 *Defence Policy on Materiel Standardisation* published 8 November 2001. Groups and Services must ensure that all processes and procedures required for the effective implementation of this policy are clearly promulgated within six months of this policy being issued.

**MONITORING AND REPORTING**

**6.20** Monitoring systems in place to ensure compliance of the policy. GMJSA, assisted by the Directorate of Materiel Engineering (DME), is responsible for monitoring all materiel standardisation activity across Defence, in accordance with the CEO DMO’s responsibilities stated in paragraph 6.16.
6.21 **Reporting.** All Defence personnel must report to the BPO any deficiency or improvement identified during the conduct of surveillance, audit or monitoring activities undertaken to support the respective materiel.

**RELATED INSTRUCTIONS AND POLICY**

6.22 Chapter 6 must be read in conjunction with the related instructions and policy listed below:

a. Defence Materiel Standardisation Manual (STANMAN);

b. Australian Defence Doctrine Publication 3.0 – *Campaigns and Operations*;

c. Australian Defence Doctrine Publication 00.3 – *Multinational Operations*; and

d. DI(G) ADMIN 48-1 – *International Government Agreements and Arrangements.*