



THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-1000



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MEMORANDUM FOR UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
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INFO COPY: SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

SUBJECT: Management Reform Memorandum #16 – Identifying Requirements for the Design,
Development and Implementation of a DoD Public Key Infrastructure

The Department of Defense is taking major steps in reforming its paper-based processes. It is our plan to move from traditional paper based processes into an environment where data is moved electronically between users. As part of this effort, we have developed a position paper for the Department on digital signatures and commercial practices that I want to share with you. Jointly developed by my office and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Intelligence (ASD(C3I)), the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) and the National Security Agency (NSA), this document serves to identify the baseline for the Department's transition to a paperless environment. A copy of the approved position paper is attached for your information.

Also attached is a copy of a DoD news release, "Travel System Adopts Digital Signature," advising of our intention to use digital signatures in the Department's travel reengineering process. This effort will provide valuable feedback to us on PKI and digital signature technology for the DoD. As we continue to use and learn more about this technology, we will export this concept to other applications.

The ASD(C3I) has designated the DISA and NSA as the developers and implementers for the DoD Public Key Infrastructure (PKI). A DoD PKI will provide the data integrity, user identification and authentication, user on-repudiation, data confidentiality, encryption and digital signature services for our programs and applications, which use the DoD networks.