MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS 
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF 
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE 
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS 
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE 
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY

SUBJECT: Lead Proponent for Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) and Related 
Automatic Identification Technology (AIT) Implementation for the DoD 
Supply Chain

Taking full advantage of the inherent life-cycle asset management efficiencies that 
can be realized through RFID and other related AIT is integral to the mission of 
USTRANSCOM as the Distribution Process Owner (DPO). This memorandum clarifies 
the role of the DPO in executing an AIT implementation strategy and developing a 
centralized approach for use of these asset visibility technologies.

As the DoD lead functional proponent for RFID and related AIT implementation 
in the DoD supply chain, specifically active and passive RFID, satellite tracking 
technology, and linear and two-dimensional bar codes used in the supply chain processes, 
USTRANSCOM, in collaboration with national partners, will:

(1) Develop a concept of operations for RFID and related AIT, recommend 
policy changes, as appropriate, through the Defense Logistics Executive (DLE), and 
assess ongoing actions in "next generation" active and passive RFID technology and 
recommend a way forward.

(2) In conjunction with the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary for Supply 
Chain Integration, promote funding for RFID and synchronize RFID implementation 
across the Department.

(3) Incorporate RFID and related AIT into the DPO architecture and 
oversee data quality and performance, using Portfolio Management methodology under 
Defense Business Systems Management Committee (DBSMC) oversight.

The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, as 
the DLE, will continue to provide policy and strategic guidance, oversee maintenance-
related AIT applications, and coordinate interagency and commercial RFID implementation actions and standards. To facilitate the transfer of responsibilities, USTRANSCOM will work with Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Logistics & Materiel Readiness) (DUSD(L&M)) to prepare an implementation plan, to include resource requirements, for review and approval by the DUSD(L&M) within 60 days of this memorandum. To ensure implementation progress and effective Department communication, the DLE and the DPO Executive Board will provide oversight.

cc:
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Director of Material Readiness and Logistics,
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Deputy Chief of Staff Installations
and Logistics, U.S. Air Force
Deputy Commandant, Installations
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