Introduction

This is a time to be bold. Department of Defense (DoD) stands at a decision cross-road facing an IT future that is fast moving, connected, and highly contested. Innovation continues to accelerate at a rate never-before seen, offering previously unimagined opportunities for the warfighter coupled with a threat environment that also evolves at speeds previously unconceived. This is the challenge we face.

The Department’s choice of cyber and IT capabilities lay the foundation for success – from the battlefield, to business, and beyond. Optimizing the DoD IT infrastructure by focusing on foundational IT changes that will advance capabilities, enhance the cybersecurity posture, and improve information sharing with mission partners is essential. In short, the Department’s IT environment must be innovative, collaborative, effective, efficient, and capable to support defensive and offensive operations.

Today the number of organization-specific networks and computing systems used to execute missions, and the incremental manner in which IT is acquired, has resulted in a sub-optimal situation. The unnecessary complexity of this network and computing environment limits visibility and impedes the capability to securely share information and globally execute Joint operations. As the Department looks to the future, several key strategic areas of focus will ensure the DoD IT environment will be built to meet the missions of today and support the strategic direction of tomorrow. Outlined in this document, they include:

- Executing capability initiatives toward the Joint Information Environment vision
- Improving partnerships with mission partners and industry
- Ensuring successful mission execution in the face of a persistent cyber threat
- Providing a cloud computing environment
- Optimizing DoD’s data center infrastructure
- Exploiting the power of trusted information sharing
- Providing a resilient communications and network infrastructure
- Improving transparency of DoD IT investments

These changes require a new way of thinking – one that embraces the benefits that come with game-changing, yet proven, technologies and capabilities that will position the Department’s IT infrastructure and processes for broad impact, greater security, in a mission- and cost-effective way. Agility, resilience, effectiveness – these have long-been the characteristics of Warfighters on the battlefront. As DoD faces a future where the battlespace increasingly includes IT/cyber, its IT/cyber infrastructure, investments, and capabilities should have the same characteristics.
The DoD IT and cyber team includes the key IT and cyber leaders from all of the Military Services, United States Strategic Command (STRATCOM), United States Cyber Command (CYBERCOM), the National Security Agency (NSA), and the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA). Together, these organizations are securing the Department’s networks and systems, and managing the cyber threat from the sustaining base infrastructure to the deployed user. DISA serves as the operational arm for the Department’s centralized IT environment with DoD CIO oversight. DISA is a DoD combatant support agency that provides IT and communications support to national leaders, the military services, the Combatant Commands, and more. It is comprised of more than 6,000 civilians and about 1,500 military officers and enlisted personnel, and approximately 7,500 defense contractors. DISA has a total budget of $9.4 billion out of a total DoD IT budget in fiscal year 2015 of approximately $36 billion.

If the DoD was a corporation, it would be at the top of the Fortune 100 – no organization has a broader mission or scope. Comprised of 1.3 million military personnel on active duty, and 742,000 civilian personnel – plus 826,000 who serve in the National Guard and Reserve forces – DoD is one of the nation’s largest employers. DoD also manages an inventory of installations and facilities, and its physical plant is vast by any standard, comprising more than several hundred thousand individual buildings and structures located at more than 5,000 different locations or sites. When all sites are added together, the Department utilizes over 30 million acres of land. The Department also facilitates work streams in almost every business area. They vary from acquisitions, to command and control, to global logistics, to health and medical care, to intelligence, to facilities management – and cybersecurity is vital to all of these mission sets.

The Department is similarly enormous on the enterprise network scale – arguably it is the world’s biggest enterprise network. As a snapshot, some of DoD’s IT statistics include a DoD IT budget of more than $36 billion in fiscal year 2015, about ten-thousand operational systems, hundreds of data centers, tens of thousands of servers, millions of computers and IT devices, and hundreds of thousands of commercial mobile devices.
This document outlines this way forward to this secure, effective, efficient DoD IT environment. This is the IT backbone and cyber defense posture that are integral to tomorrow’s DoD IT environment. Implementing capabilities for the JIE vision, including cloud computing, data center consolidation, and improving trusted information sharing, are vital. Improving transparency of the DoD IT budget improves centralized oversight of de-centralized DoD IT execution. Success in tomorrow’s DoD IT environment will only happen standing next to our partners, so improving communication with mission partners and industry is vital. Finally, ensuring secure-enough, mission-appropriate cybersecurity will be a priority in this environment.

Vision for Tomorrow’s DoD IT Environment

DoD IT of Tomorrow – Integrated, Resilient, Dynamic, Secure, Responsive

In today’s strategic environment, warfare extends into space and cyberspace. Adversary capabilities in these areas can be expected to expand in tomorrow’s strategic environment. A seamless, transparent infrastructure that transforms data into actionable information and ensures dependable mission execution in the face of the persistent cyber threat is vital in this new IT-driven operational environment. To accomplish this vision in the Department, where IT spending is set by law and executed under US Code Title X, which means it is decentralized by law, more effective oversight of IT investments are essential. Effective oversight will empower decision makers to understand where IT spending is going, and make the best decisions for the security, efficiency, and effectiveness of DoD IT investments. DoD will not succeed without close collaboration with its industry, mission, and other critical partners.

The “DoD IT Environment – Way Forward to Tomorrow’s Strategic Landscape” is this long-term path. DoD is moving toward a consolidated office automation and collaboration environment that delivers unified capabilities across DoD. This will provide a set of tools and services that can be accessed and used by any Department entity or individual to share and communicate information. DoD is working to ensure mission success in the face of cyber warfare by the most capable adversaries. This envisions an environment in which any mission can be successfully executed in a threat-ridden cyber environment. DoD is helping to ensure that national assets are available, ready, and assured when needed. DoD is moving from a culture of compliance to a culture of risk assessment, transitioning to thinking about IT as a capability rather than as a program.
Way Forward to Tomorrow’s DoD IT Environment

Goal 1: Execute Joint Information Environment (JIE) Capability Initiatives

Mission Impact: A modernized IT enterprise with enhanced network performance that is more secure and visible throughout.

Near-Term Focus: The Joint Regional Security Stacks (JRSS) are a regionally based, centrally managed suite of network security appliances that will help simplify and secure the current DoD IT environment. JRSS is the near-term focus of the JIE capability initiatives.

. Objective 1: Implement JRSS and Associated Network Enhancements
. Objective 2: Shift from Component-Centric to Enterprise-Wide Operations and Defense Model
. Objective 3: Modernize Defense Information Systems Network (DISN) Transport Infrastructure

Goal 2: Improve Partnerships with Mission Partners and Industry

Mission Impact: Positive synergies in processes, technologies, and intellectual capital are mutually beneficial to DoD and its partners. This will better support Joint/Coalition operations with mission partners, including the Five Eyes, NATO, Germany, Japan, and others.

Near-Term Focus: The Information Technology Exchange Program (ITEP) will expand to fifty Government civilians serving in private-sector firms— as well as fifty industry participants assigned to DoD billets by the end of fiscal year 2017. DoD is also developing its policies, procedures, and other documents in collaboration with all of its partners, including industry.

. Objective 1: Partner Better with Industry
. Objective 2: Enable Information Sharing and Enhance Collaboration with Key Allies and Partners to Simplify Capabilities and Readiness
. Objective 3: Provide Mission Partner Environment – Information System (MPE-IS)

Goal 3: Ensure Successful Mission Execution in the Face of the Cyber Threat

Mission Impact: Provide mission dependability in the face of a capable cyber adversary.

Near-Term Focus: DoD CIO will revamp the Certification and Accreditation Process while working closely with its partners. All of the major DoD networks will migrate to Windows 10 by the second quarter of fiscal 2017.

. Objective 1: Establish a Resilient Cyber Defense Posture
. Objective 2: Enhance Cyber Situational Awareness
 Objective 3: Assure Survivability Against Highly Sophisticated Cyber Attacks
 Objective 4: Evolve the Cybersecurity Workforce
 Objective 5: Ensure that Warfighting, Government Operations, and Intelligence Missions are Conducted in a Secure Communications Environment

**Goal 4: Provide a DoD Cloud Computing Environment**

**Mission Impact:** DoD operations are supported with a new less complex, more agile and defensible IT environment that is more mission capable and less costly to operate. This increases mobility, virtualization, and integration of virtual services into DoD strategic environments.

**Near-Term Focus:** Establish an on premise managed cloud service capability by the fourth quarter fiscal year 2017.

 Objective 1: Provide a Hybrid Cloud Environment
 Objective 2: Deploy Shared and DoD Enterprise IT Services via the DoD Cloud Environment
 Objective 3: Accelerate Delivery of New Applications and Digital Services
 Objective 4: Secure the DoD Cloud Environment

**Goal 5: Optimize the Department’s Data Center Infrastructure**

**Mission Impact:** Optimized DoD computing infrastructure provides greater operational and technical resilience, improves interoperability and effectiveness, increases capability delivery, prioritizes secure capabilities, and reduces costs.

**Near-Term Focus:** Establish a data center closure team to assess and recommend closures of the costliest and least efficient facilities beginning in the first quarter of fiscal year 2017.

 Objective 1: Consolidate DoD Data Centers and Local Computing Infrastructure
 Objective 2: Rationalize DoD Applications and Systems for Migration into Core Data Centers (CDCs) and Core Enterprise Data Centers (CEDCs)

**Goal 6: Exploit the Power of Trusted Information Sharing**

**Mission Impact:** Enhanced support to decision making processes — through secure access to DoD information and application of common data standards — improves collaboration both across the DoD enterprise and with external mission partners.

**Near-Term Focus:** DoD is working on a two-year plan to eliminate Common Access Cards (CACs) from the Department’s information systems. This effort includes working closely with NATO and FVEY partners on a consistent approach to credentialing.

 Objective 1: Deploy An Authentication Infrastructure To Dynamically Control Authorized User Access To Information
 Objective 2: Improve Information Sharing Across DoD and with External Mission Partners
 Objective 3: Integrate Commercial Mobile IT Capabilities

**Goal 7: Provide a Resilient Communications and Network Infrastructure**

**Mission Impact:** Modernized DoD communications infrastructure and increased maneuverability within the electromagnetic spectrum provide greater operational and technical resilience, improved plug-and-play and effectiveness, faster capability delivery, prioritized secure capabilities, and reduced costs.

**Near-Term Focus:** Continue modernization efforts to increase communications bandwidth in the DoD Information Network (DoDIN), like Nuclear Command, Control, and Communications (NC3) and Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Intelligence (C4I) systems.

 Objective 1: Improve Strategic and Tactical Communications Networks
 Objective 2: Modernize Command, Control and Communications Systems
 Objective 3: Consolidate and Optimize Strategic Gateways
 Objective 4: Establish End-to-End Satellite Communications (SATCOM) Capabilities
 Objective 5: Evolve the DoD to Agile Electromagnetic Spectrum Operations (EMSO)

**Goal 8: Improve Oversight and Execution of DoD IT Investments**

**Mission Impact:** Empower leaders to make more informed decisions about the DoD IT budget by improving the transparency, visibility, and spending for better execution

**Near-Term Focus:** Ensure that funding for cybersecurity is prioritized appropriately in relation to other DoD mission areas, and confirm that cybersecurity spending is properly executed

 Objective 1: Increase Transparency into the DoD IT Spend (Improve and Change the Department’s IT Financial Systems)
 Objective 2: Strengthen DoD IT Financial Management Decision Making by Sharing Critical, Relevant Financial Data Earlier in the Decision Making Process