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HEADQUARTERS, U.S. ARMY FUTURES COMMAND  
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7 June 2019

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MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Army Futures Command Abbreviated Capability Development Document Definition

1. References:

- a. Section 804 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016, Public Law 114-92, as amended, 10 United States Code (U.S.C.) 2302, note.
- b. Section 806 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, Public Law 114--328 as amended, 10 United States Code (U.S.C.) 2256, note.
- c. Memorandum, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology), 25 SEP 18, Subject: Middle-Tier Acquisition Policy
- d. CJCSI 5123.01H, Charter of the Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC) and Implementation of the Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System (JCIDS), 31 Aug 18.
- e. JCIDS Manual, URL: [https://www.intelink.gov/wiki/JCIDS\\_Manual](https://www.intelink.gov/wiki/JCIDS_Manual), 31 Aug 18.

2. Purpose: Define the Abbreviated Capability Development Document (A-CDD) as a capability requirement document which supports Army Modernization efforts.

3. Background. The Joint Capabilities Integration Development System (JCIDS) manual and DoD Directive 5000.01, "The Defense Acquisition System," and DoD Instruction 5000.02, "Operation of the Defense Acquisition System," provide the requirement approval pathway that support the Joint Force Modernization efforts. There are two main categories of capability requirements: Deliberate and Urgent/Emergent.

- a. Deliberate process capability requirement documents are traditional JCIDS documents that support the Defense Acquisition System (DAS) milestones. The content, processes and procedures for JCIDS requirement documents that support the DAS can be found in the CJCSI 5123.01 and the JCIDS Manual (reference e).
- b. Urgent/Emergent capability requirement documents include Operational Needs Statements (ONS) and Directed Requirements (DRs). DRs were established to convey Army Senior Leader positions on rapidly needed capabilities to solve military objectives. Urgent/Emergent capability requirements traditionally were not intended to transition into an acquisition program, therefore they lacked the analytical and programmatic details required to support the DAS.

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- c. Over time, DRs have been the source documents used to execute experimentation and prototype efforts prior to program initiation as well as system procurement activities in support of material and non-material acquisitions. Generally, DRs lack the specificity and depth required to fully inform the solution for the established military objectives.
- d. A-CDDs were developed to provide the technical, operational, analytical and programmatic depth beyond what was needed to meet urgent/emergent requirements short of the full burden of information required in a JCIDS document in support of the DAS.

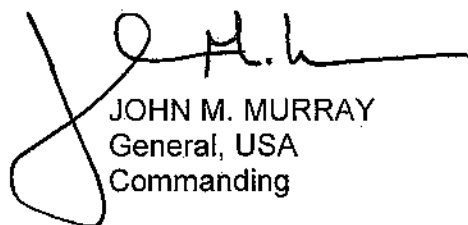
4. Abbreviated Capabilities Development Document (A-CDD): The A-CDD is a capability requirement document used to establish the Army's position on development of an Army material capability.

- a. A-CDDs are a more robust and refined capability requirement document that conveys the Army's position which establishes a need to accomplish probable military objectives prior to an acquisition material development decision (MDD).
- b. Approval of the A-CDD will not support an acquisition milestone decision (MS A, MS B, or MS C). A-CDDs can be used as the source requirement to execute rapid experimentation and prototyping efforts prior to program initiation IAW references a and b; approval of an A-CDD equates to an approved requirement.

5. Format. The A-CDD format will follow the JCIDS Manual Appendix C to Enclosure B (CDD), paragraph 2 (reference e). All of the CDD paragraphs must be accounted for, however, the content of each section/paragraph does not have to be at the maturity required for a final CDD. To transition the capability into the Defense Acquisition System, the A-CDD must be converted into a formal JCIDS requirement document IAW reference e.

6. Authority: Pursuant to my authority and responsibility to lead and integrate the future force modernization enterprise, and as delegated by the Chief of Staff, Army, my approval of A-CDDs convey the Army's Position which establishes a need to accomplish probable military objectives.

7. Point of contact is COL Brian S. Halloran, [brian.s.halloran.mil@mail.mil](mailto:brian.s.halloran.mil@mail.mil), (512) 726-4175.



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