



UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

7701 TAMPA POINT BOULEVARD
MACDILL AFB, FL 33621-5323

J8

9 August 2018

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: United States Special Operations Command Procedure for Validation of Directed Requirements in Support of Middle-Tier Acquisitions

1. REFERENCES:

- a. Under Secretary of Defense Memorandum on Middle-Tier Acquisition (Rapid Prototyping/Rapid Fielding) Interim Authority and Guidance , dated 16 April 2018.
- b. United States Special Operations Command Acquisition Executive Memorandum on Middle-Tier Acquisition Authorities and Guidance, dated 1 August 2018.

2. BACKGROUND: Under Secretary of Defense (USD) Memorandum on Middle-Tier of Acquisition (MTA) (Rapid Prototyping/Rapid Fielding) Interim Authority and Guidance (Enclosure 1) directs Department of Defense (DoD) Components to determine what constitutes an approved requirement for MTA authorities. This Memorandum defines Headquarters, United States Special Operations Command's (USSOCOM) process for the submission and validation of requirements in support of MTA authorities.

3. PROCESS: USSOCOM Capability Sponsors, who believe they have a capability gap which might be eligible for rapid fielding under MTA authority, will submit a Commander-directed requirement to the Director, Force Structure, Requirements, Resources, and Strategic Assessments (J8). If required, SOF AT&L and J8 will designate appropriate personnel to participate in a Rapid-Response Team (RRT). The RRT shall, within 96 hours, determine if the nomination meets MTA authority criteria or can be better fulfilled by a more appropriate process and draft a recommendation to SOF AT&L and J8. If accepted as an MTA candidate, J8R will execute one round of abbreviated GO/FO/SES staffing in the In-Transit Visibility staffing process and generate an approval memorandum for Vice Commander (VCDR) signature. If the requirement is validated, but does not meet MTA criteria, as determined by SOF AT&L and/or J8, SOF AT&L will provide an alternate strategy to fulfill the requirement.

4. MTA Nominations: Nominations shall include the following minimum information:
- 1) Name of Program
 - 2) Capability Gap or Problem
 - 3) Definitive Source for Capability Gap or Problem (Concept of Operations (CONOPS)/Lesson Learned/existing requirement documents)

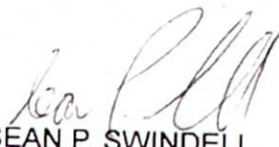
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- 4) Capability Characteristic or Solution
 - 5) Key Attributes including: Interoperability, Security, Cyber Security, Resiliency, and User-Equipment Integration
 - 6) Projected Fiscal Year Initiation
 - 7) Planned Required Lifecycle Budget and Funding Source
5. USSOCOM points of contact are: Mr. Mike Clendening, J8, Requirement Division, Rapid-Response Branch (J8-R), DSN 299-9540, commercial (813) 826-9540, unclassified e-mail: michael.clendening@socom.mil, classified e-mail: Michael.clendening@hq.socom.smil.mil and Maj Jonathan Marang, J8 Requirements Division, Rapid-Response Branch, DSN 299-2502, commercial (813) 826-2502, unclassified e-mail: jonathan.marang@socom.mil or classified e-mail: jonathan.marang@socom.smil.mil.

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