What's Needed by Industry to Show OSD's Commitment to MOSA

Results of an Informal Survey of NDIA Architecture Committee Industry Members

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Background

- **Modular Open Systems Approach Working Group (MOSWG)**
  - Provides an integrated approach to answering MOSA inquiries, addressing MOSA challenges, and identifying MOSA opportunities
  - Sponsored by OSD; chaired by Ms. Philomena Zimmerman
  - Representation across DoD agencies and the three Services
  - Industry participation through the NDIA Architecture Committee

- **MOSWG Action Item to NDIA Architecture Committee (May 2019)**
  - Answer the question: "What does Industry need from OSD to show OSD's commitment to MOSA?"

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NDIA Architecture Committee Response

- **Informal Survey of NDIA Architecture Committee members**
  - Responses solicited May 13-20 2019
  - 61 members surveyed
  - Results compiled and edited for clarity
- **Architecture Committee Review/ Vetting**
  - Working meeting conducted 22 May 2019 to review and refine the survey responses
  - Committee review resulted in a list of ten items
  - List was reported to the MOSWG on 23 May 2019

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1) Release of a MOSA measurement and assessment model developed by independent standards body, and required on all future acquisitions.

2) Acquisition Reference Model and examples of a successful MOSA implementation on programs

- Contractors are now typically asked to show MOSA compliance in their offerings, but there are no objective standards for them to comply with
- Supplying exemplar MOSA program implementations will make it more likely that contractors can and will create and offer similar solutions

3) Satisfactory OSD policy and regulations for implementing Technical Data Rights and Intellectual Property (those impacted by MOSA); this is an important part of the MOSA legislation, yet guidance is lacking for Industry.

4) Premium incentive for successful implementation of MOSA on programs (potentially included in programs' award fee structures)

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5) Mandate to acquisition programs that MOSA implementation is not an option, but an absolute requirement in future acquisitions (an all or nothing MOSA implementation requirement for the defense industrial base);

- Currently MOSA applies only to ACAT-1 programs; a mandate that it applies to ALL programs would show demonstrated OSD commitment
- The current legislation allows for ACAT-1 acquisition PMs to obtain a waiver from MOSA requirements; contractors can't be sure what percentage of programs will be granted waivers. Waivers need to be eliminated or very tightly controlled.

6) Detailed implementation plans from each of the Services' acquisition offices in response to the Tri-Services Memo on MOSA.

7) Development and release of a detailed, common taxonomy of Open Systems and MOSA implementation terms to establish boundary conditions and partitions, revealing key interfaces.

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8) For each program, the procuring government agency provides their MOSA strategy to competing contractors early in the acquisition lifecycle; this will allow contractors to plan their technology investments and business plans accordingly.

9) Consistent DoD-wide definition of Government Ownership of the Technical Baseline (OTB), including boundary conditions, establishing acceptable configuration change management processes, and data model implications. Also address the concern of maintaining the integrity of Intellectual Property (IP) delivered to the Government after it is delivered.

10) Ensure there are adequate levels of DoD support to enable MOSA-related activities, such as standardization, open architecture reference models, metrics, and interoperability. DoD and the Services provide increased support and touch points to the defense industrial base via engagements in standards bodies, consortiums, working groups, and professional associations.

QUESTIONS?

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