

**BY ORDER OF THE  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
INSTRUCTION 60-106**



**6 MAY 2024**

**STANDARDIZATION**

**INTERNATIONAL MILITARY  
STANDARDIZATION PROGRAM**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

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This instruction implements Department of the Air Force Policy Directive (DAFPD) 60-1, Department of the *Air Force Standardization Program* and is consistent with the Five Eyes (FVEY) Air Force Interoperability Council Instructions and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Allied Administrative Publication (AAP)-03, *Directive for the Production, Maintenance and Management of NATO Standardization Documents*. It sets guidance and procedures for the development, ratification, and implementation of International Standardization Agreements by bodies for which the Department of the Air Force (DAF) is the Lead Agent and for service coordination on and implementation of International Standardization Agreements affecting the Department of Defense (DoD). This publication applies to all civilian employees and uniformed members of the Regular Air Force, the Air Force Reserve, the Air National Guard, the United States Space Force, the Civil Air Patrol when conducting missions as the official Air Force Auxiliary, and those with a contractual obligation to abide by the terms of DAF issuances. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the Office of Primary Responsibility using the DAF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route DAF Form 847 from the field through the appropriate functional chain of command. Ensure all records generated as a result of processes prescribed in this publication adhere to Air Force Instruction (AFI) 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, and are disposed in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule, which is located in the Air Force Records Information Management System. Field activities must send implementing publications to the higher headquarters functional Office of Primary Responsibility for review and coordination before publishing. The authorities to waive wing, unit, or delta level requirements in this publication are identified with a Tier (“T-0, T-1, T-2, T-3”) number following the compliance statement. Submit

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## **SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

This revision clarifies policy requirements, removes duplicated sections, deletes unnecessary acronyms, and removes non-directive information in order to meet Secretary of the Air Force guidance. Additional changes include the implementation of new DoD issuances, addressing organizational changes including the creation of the United States Space Force, and changes to roles and responsibilities, to include the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations (AF/A3) as the Lead Agent for NATO Aviation Committee (AVC).

### **1. OVERVIEW.**

1.1. **Purpose.** This chapter describes the distinction between standardization and international military standardization, their relationship to interoperability, the Department of Air Force's role, the Lead Agent concept, the different levels of standardization, and basic policy guidelines for international military standardization.

1.2. **Standardization.** Standardization is the process by which the DoD achieves cooperation among the Services and DoD agencies for the use of research, development, and production resources. The Services and DoD agencies agree to adopt the use of:

1.2.1. Common or compatible operational, administrative, and logistic procedures;

1.2.2. Common or compatible technical procedures and criteria;

1.2.3. Common, compatible, or interchangeable supplies, components, weapons, or equipment; and,

1.2.4. Common or compatible tactical doctrine with corresponding organizational compatibility.

1.3. **International Military Standardization.** International military standardization is the process by which DoD achieves the closest practicable standardization with the military forces of its allies and friendly nations. Standardization is pursued in both materiel and operational domains.

1.4. **Interoperability.** It is in the best interest of the United States (U.S.) that its Armed Forces be interoperable with our multinational partners. Interoperability is the ability to act together coherently, effectively, and efficiently to achieve tactical, operational, and strategic objectives. The DAF advances interoperability by promoting materiel and operational standardization between allies and possible coalition partners.

1.5. **Department of the Air Force and Space Force Roles.** The DAF and Space Force provides advice on international military standardization efforts with allies and coalition partners; establishes and maintains close parallel relationships with NATO organizations and allies, major non-NATO allies, and friendly foreign nations; provides representation at

appropriate NATO groups and other forums affecting standardization and interoperability; and provides coordination on standardization and interoperability matters with other DoD Components.

**1.6. Lead Agent.** The DAF is identified as the Lead Agent for a number of air domain related international military standardization bodies, including within NATO and with Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom in accordance with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction (CJCSI) 2700.01H, *Rationalization, Standardization, and Interoperability (RSI) Activities*.

**1.7. Levels of Standardization.** The DoD and NATO identify, in requirements documents, several different levels of standardization that are necessary for achieving interoperability with allies and coalition partners. They include:

1.7.1. Compatibility - the use of products, processes or services that are suitable together under specific conditions to fulfill relevant requirements without causing unsatisfactory issues.

1.7.2. Interchangeability - the ability to use one product, process, or service in place of another to fulfill the same requirements.

1.7.3. Commonality - the state achieved when the same doctrine, procedures, or equipment are used.

## **2. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF DAF PARTICIPANTS IN INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STANDARDIZATION.**

**2.1. Purpose.** This chapter outlines the DAF roles and responsibilities for international military standardization.

### **2.2. Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Acquisition, Technology & Logistics (SAF/AQ).**

2.2.1. Appoint the U.S. National Representative to the NATO Air Force Armaments Group nominated by SAF/AQI (see [paragraph 2.3.1](#) below).

2.2.2. **SAF/SQ** shall provide input to SAF/IA, in collaboration with the Space Systems Command International Affairs (SSC/IA) office, on Security Cooperation, foreign military sales, international armaments cooperation, and Security Assistance to applicable organizations and programs, as required, for space systems and programs.

### **2.3. Information Dominance (SAF/AQI).**

2.3.1. Be responsible for overall U.S. participation in NATO Air Force Armament Group and its substructure. Specific information on the NATO Air Force Armament Group, including nomination of U.S. representatives, is contained in AFMAN 16-114, *Participation in International Armaments Cooperation (IAC) Programs*.

2.3.2. Coordinate with International Affairs, (SAF/IA), and Engineering & Force Management Division (SAF/AQRE) on NATO Air Force Armament Group matters.

### **2.4. Engineering & Force Management Division, Air Force Departmental Standardization Office (SAF/AQRE).**

2.4.1. Serve as the Office of Primary Responsibility for implementing materiel international standardization agreements.

2.4.2. Be responsible for all DAF materiel standardization matters and the DAF portion of international military standardization for materiel standardization activities (see AFI 60-101, *Materiel Standardization*).

2.4.3. Coordinate on the development and ratification of international standardization agreements.

2.4.4. Support the Regional Plans and Posture Division (AF/A5SP), when requested, in identifying and appointing engineering-related Heads of Delegations and members of delegations for working groups that develop materiel international standardization agreements.

**2.5. International Affairs (SAF/IA).**

2.5.1. Serve as the Office of Primary Responsibility for developing, staffing, negotiating, and concluding international agreements for research, development, test, evaluation, acquisition, production, and sustainment of DAF systems.

2.5.2. Serve as the Office of Primary Responsibility for disclosure guidance, coordination, and authorization to DAF personnel and organizations involved in international military standardization.

2.5.3. Serve as the Office of Primary Responsibility for approval of the classification level of U.S. Information that may be viewed by foreign nationals in visit authorization documents upon receipt of visit request.

**2.6. Deputy General Counsel for International and Civil Aviation (SAF/GCI).**

2.6.1. Review international standardization agreements, including NATO standardization agreements and Air Force Interoperability Council Air Standards.

2.6.2. Review draft test and evaluation agreements and supporting documentation.

**2.7. Deputy Chief of Staff Strategy, Integration, and Requirements (AF/A5/7).**

2.7.1. Serve as the Lead Agent and maintain responsibility for operational standardization related to the NATO Military Committee Air Standardization Board and the FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council.

2.7.2. Maintain the management of operational capability requirements and development.

**2.8. Directorate of Strategy, Concepts and Assessments (AF/A5S).**

2.8.1. Direct the accomplishment of the NATO Military Committee Air Standardization Board activities and associated standardization agreements.

2.8.2. Serve as the U.S. National Director representing the DAF at the FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council.

2.8.3. Designate AF/A5SP as the U.S. National Representative to the NATO Military Committee Air Standardization Board.

2.8.4. Delegate appointment authority to AF/A5SP for Heads of Delegation positions in reference to FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council and the NATO Military Committee Air Standardization Board working groups.

2.8.5. Delegate signature and ratification authority to AF/A5SP for FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council and the NATO Military Committee Air Standardization Board standards and agreements.

**2.9. Regional Plans and Posture Division (AF/A5SP).**

2.9.1. Manage U.S. participation in the FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council and the NATO Military Committee Air Standardization Board as the Air Force Lead Agent office of primary responsibility.

2.9.2. Develop procedures and administer DAF participation in the NATO Military Committee Air Standardization Board; the FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council; the American, British, Canadian, Australian Armies Program, and Australia, Canada, New Zealand, United Kingdom, and U.S. Navies Programs.

2.9.3. Assist, as requested, with the coordination of Air Force international military standardization activities as it relates to FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council and NATO Military Committee Air Standardization Board, developed by the Major Commands, Numbered Air Forces, direct reporting units, or field operating agencies.

2.9.4. Coordinate with SAF/AQRE on materiel standardization issues, actions, and agreements.

2.9.5. Serve as the U.S. National Representative to the NATO Military Committee Air Standardization Board and single point of contact with the board staff officers on board activities.

2.9.6. Serve as the U.S. National Representatives on the FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council Management Committee and as the U.S. National Program Manager that maintains the single point of contact for all FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council activities.

2.9.6.1. Provide office space and local office logistics support for the FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council Management Committee members.

2.9.6.2. Obtain from SAF/IAPD extended visit authorizations for allied personnel assigned as foreign liaison officers to the FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council Management Committee.

2.9.7. Coordinate the assignment of U.S. Heads of Delegations and subject matter experts to NATO Military Committee Air Standardization Board and FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council working groups.

2.9.8. Coordinate DAF subscription through the standardization process with the six NATO Military Committee Standardization Boards, as required, in accordance with SD-3 and CJCSI 2700.01H.

2.9.9. Review working group or panel proposals, reports, agendas, directives, and other correspondence to ensure timely engagement and dissemination of information.

2.9.10. Monitor and evaluate service participation in international military standardization organizations to ensure U.S. and DAF meet their objectives.

2.9.11. Liaise with and coordinate actions, positions, and documentation with Air Force Action Offices, Major Commands, Field Commands, DoD Components, Joint Staff, and Office of the Secretary of Defense.

2.9.12. Coordinate test and evaluation proposals for Air Force Interoperability Council Test Project agreements and NATO Combined Test Project agreements with the involved Head of Delegation and SAF/IA, as required.

2.9.13. Identify Action Offices, with overall DAF responsibility for specific functional areas, to provide Heads of Delegations and subject matter experts for NATO Military Committee Air Standardization Board and FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council working groups.

**2.10. Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations (AF/A3).**

2.10.1. Serve as Lead Agent and maintain responsibility for operational standardization related to the NATO Aviation Committee (AVC).

2.10.2. Appoint a Head of Delegation to the NATO AVC.

**2.11. Directorate of Current Operations (AF/A3O).**

2.11.1. Direct the accomplishment of NATO standardization agreements and activities sponsored by the NATO AVC.

2.11.2. Designate HQ Air Force Flight Standards Agency (AFFSA) as the U.S. National Representative to the NATO AVC.

2.11.3. Delegate appointment authority to HQ AFFSA for Heads of Delegation positions in reference to all NATO AVC Working Groups and subordinate working groups.

2.11.4. Delegate signature and ratification authority to HQ AFFSA for NATO AVC standardization agreements.

**2.12. HQ Air Force Flight Standards Agency (AF/A3O-HQ AFFSA).**

2.12.1. Manage participation and coordinate assignment of U.S. Heads of Delegations and subject matter experts to the NATO AVC Working Groups and subordinate working groups.

2.12.2. Establish coordination procedures with direct liaison authority to Joint Staff, DoD Components, and MAJCOMs.

2.12.3. Submit U.S. national ratification for NATO AVC standardization agreements.

**2.13. Air Force Petroleum Office.**

2.13.1. Manage DAF participation in the NATO Aviation Fuels and Lubricants Working Group.

2.13.2. Serve as the Lead Agent for the Air Force Petroleum Office for the Fuels and Lubricants working group and the Air Force Civil Engineering Center for the Petroleum Handling Equipment working group.

**2.14. Air Force Civil Engineering Center (AFCEC)**

2.14.1. Manage DAF participation in the NATO Petroleum Handling Equipment Working Group.

**2.15. Major Commands and Field Commands.**

2.15.1. Evaluate and implement the international standardization agreements to which DAF subscribes.

2.15.2. Provide support and representation, as requested by DAF Lead Agent offices, for DAF participation in international military standardization activities.

2.15.3. Coordinate on international standardization agreements with the U.S. Head of Delegation or DAF Lead Agent office, as requested.

2.15.4. Implement all U.S. ratified standardization agreements and standards which affect their operations.

2.15.5. Refer requests for authorization to deviate from an operational international standardization agreement to the appropriate DAF Lead Agent office. Refer requests for authorization to deviate from materiel international standardization agreements to both SAF/AQRE and appropriate DAF Lead Agent office.

2.15.6. Promote DAF international military standardization objectives by recommending to the appropriate Head of Delegation or DAF Lead Agent office proposed standardization studies or projects.

**2.16. Head of Delegation.**

2.16.1. Lead U.S. delegations at working groups and report to the DAF Lead Agent office of primary responsibility for the international military standardization organization or activity.

2.16.2. Be nominated as Head of Delegation by their supervisory management from the appropriate action office for coordination with and approval by the DAF office of primary responsibility for the standardization organization or activity.

2.16.3. Supervise and coordinate all phases of U.S. working group efforts.

2.16.4. Identify subject matter experts to participate in their delegation, as needed.

2.16.5. Coordinate delegation pre-meetings and comments on working group agenda items.

2.16.6. Oversee U.S. involvement in developing international standardization agreements. U.S. Joint Publications related to working group documents must be the basis for U.S. international military standardization positions as required by CJCSI 2700.01H.

2.16.7. Coordinate all FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council and NATO Combined Test Project agreements with their DAF Lead Agent office and SAF/IA.

2.16.8. When hosting a meeting, coordinate all meeting activities with the hosting facility, the DAF Lead Agent office, each nation's delegation, and appropriate international standardization agency.

2.16.9. Ensure U.S. implementing document is obtained for each Service position as part of U.S. National ratification and/or implementation of international standardization agreements.

2.16.9.1. Inform the U.S. document's office of primary responsibility which international standardization agreement the document implements.

2.16.9.2. Ensure the document's office of primary responsibility, are coordinated with SAF/AQRE, and are in accordance with the international standardization agreement. Updates to the U.S. document shall include references to the international standardization agreement and its provisions, if necessary.

## **2.17. Action Offices.**

2.17.1. Provide the DAF subject matter representatives and experts for the standardization working groups and panels. They will be sourced from appropriate offices and agencies within the Secretary of the Air Force, Air Staff, Office of the Chief of Space Operations (informally referred to as "Space Staff"), Major Commands (MAJCOM), Field Commands (FLDCOM), field operating agencies, and direct reporting units.

2.17.2. Notify AF/A5SP of the names of other international military standardization representatives as required. **(T-3)**

2.17.3. Nominate qualified individuals as Heads of Delegations (HoD) or Subject Matter Experts for NATO AVC advisory/working groups, in writing to HQ AFFSA for coordination with U.S. HoD, when requested. **(T-3)**

2.17.4. Ensure delegates and representatives work international military standardization action items in a timely manner. **(T-3)**

2.17.5. Coordinate on international standardization agreements with the U.S. Head of Delegation or DAF Lead Agent office, as requested. **(T-3)**

2.17.6. Identify a U.S. implementing document and date for an international standardization agreement when tasked to formulate a U.S. national or DAF position. **(T-3)**

2.17.6.1. Inform the U.S. document's office of primary responsibility what international standardization agreement the document implements. **(T-3)**

2.17.6.2. Ensure, in coordination with the SAF/AQRE for materiel agreements, the document's office of primary responsibility completes any implementing document revisions in accordance with the international standardization agreement. Updates to the U.S. document shall include references to and provisions of the international standardization agreement, if necessary. **(T-3)**

## **2.18. Custodians for International Standardization Agreements.**

2.18.1. Be appointed by Action Offices.

2.18.2. Be responsible for developing NATO standardization tasks and agreements for NATO bodies, nations, or persons.

2.18.3. Execute a custodian's duties as provided in the NATO AAP-03. **(T-3)**



2.18.4. Ensure international standardization agreements are appropriately referenced and their provisions are incorporated as required in U.S. implementing documents. **(T-3)**

**2.19. The Air Force Judge Advocate General (AF/JA).**

2.19.1. Review international standardization agreements, including NATO standardization agreements and Air Force Interoperability Council Air Standards.

2.19.2. Review draft test and evaluation agreements and supporting documentation.”

2.19.3. Coordinate with A5/7 to ensure all agreements constituting “international agreements” for the purposes of DoD Instruction 5530.03, *International Agreements*, are reviewed for compliance, and all documents are appropriately recorded and reported, in accordance with AFI 51-403, *International Agreements*.

**3. INTERNATIONAL STANDARDIZATION AGREEMENTS.**

3.1. **Purpose.** The NATO and Air Force Interoperability Council have different procedures for developing and ratifying international standardization agreements. However, the overall processes are similar. This chapter describes in general terms the document creation processes, with a focus on NATO Standardization Agreements and Air Force Interoperability Council Air Standards.

**3.2. NATO Standardization Agreements.**

3.2.1. The NATO standardization forum use the proposal system to develop standards. Any HoD, DoD Component, or MAJCOM or FLDCOM, can submit a proposal for standardization to their Lead Agent or other appropriate standardization organization.

3.2.2. Once validated, the Standardization Board tasks a working group with developing the standardization document. The Standardization Board will also appoint a custodian to gather inputs from other national delegates and draft the standard.

**3.3. FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council Air Standards.**

3.3.1. The FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council uses a project system to develop Air Standards. A member nation (or National Director) can propose the creation of a project to evaluate the extent or need for further standardization in a particular area covered by a working group. Each nation validates the need for the project.

3.3.2. Once approved, each nation appoints a member of the national delegation as project officer to study the subject. One of the nation’s project officers will also serve as custodian for the project and any Air Standard developed under the project.

3.4. **U.S. Custodians and Project Officers.** A U.S. or DAF delegate assigned as the custodian or project officer is key to developing the standardization agreement or Air Standard and keeping it current through revisions or amendments.

**3.5. National Review.**

3.5.1. Once the custodian or project officer drafts the standardization document, they send it to each national Head of Delegation or Management Committee representative from the working group, requesting the other nations review and comment on the draft. This draft and review process may take several cycles before the proposed document is acceptable to all or most of the nations.

3.5.2. During the national review process, the U.S. or DAF Head of Delegation and Management Committee representatives, act for the entire DAF and other Military Departments. Consequently, thorough and proper coordination within the DAF and other Military Departments is essential.

3.5.3. Heads of Delegations coordinate to make sure the agreements are consistent with appropriate U.S. code, systems, doctrine, and policies when negotiating standardization agreements in either materiel or operational areas.

**3.6. Ratifying and Subscribing to Agreements.**

3.6.1. When the standardization document is acceptable to all or most of the nations, the working group turns the document over to the NATO standardization board, forum or FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council Management Committee. They in turn circulate the draft standardization agreement or Air Standard to the nations for ratification.

3.6.2. Ratification of a document is the declaration of a nation's formal acceptance, with or without reservation, of the content of a standardization agreement. Subscription is a Service or agency agreement to accept and abide by, with or without reservation, the content of a standardization agreement. Nations ratify while Services and defense agencies subscribe.

**3.7. Ratification Options.** The U.S. and the DAF have these options when ratifying an international standardization agreement:

3.7.1. Ratify or subscribe without reservations.

3.7.2. Ratify or subscribe with stated reservations. A reservation is a stated qualification by a nation describing the part of a standardization agreement it will not implement or will implement only with limitations. Reservations can be applicable to one Service or the entire U.S. military. Reservations must be clear, and concise.

3.7.3. Not ratify or subscribe. State the reasons for not ratifying or subscribing, to include due to no interest (while interposing no objection to other Services' subscription).

3.7.4. No intention to implement. If there is no requirement to implement a standard, DAF policy is to not ratify and defer to the U.S. Lead Agent.

**3.8. Implementing Standardization Agreements.** Each Service fulfills its obligations in an International Standardization Agreement through implementation. DoD implements NATO Standardization Agreements and FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council Air Standards through U.S. official publications and documents, such as DAF Instructions, Technical Orders, etc., and where applicable, adoption of accepted commercial standards.

ANDREW P. HUNTER  
Assistant Secretary of the Air Force  
(Acquisition, Technology & Logistics)

**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

DoDI 5530.03, International Agreements, 4 December 2019

DoDD 5030.19, *DOD Responsibilities on Federal Aviation*, 6 March 2023

CJCSI 2700.01H, Rationalization, Standardization, and Interoperability (RSI) Activities, 11 February 2019

DAFPD 60-1, Department of Air Force Standardization Program, 19 March 2019

AFI 33-322, Records Management and Information Governance Program, 28 July 2021

AFI 51-403, International Agreements, 8 February 2019

DAFI 60-101, Materiel Standardization, 29 March 2019

DAFI 90-160, Publications and Forms Management, 14 April 2022

AFMAN 16-114, Procedure for DAF Participation in International Armaments Cooperation (IAC) Programs, 23 October 2018

DAFMAN 90-161 Publishing Processes and Procedures, 15 April 2022

NATO Allied Administrative Publication (AAP-03), Directive for the Production, Maintenance and Management of NATO Standardization Documents, Edition K Version 1, February 2018

***Adopted Forms***

DAF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*, 15 April 2022

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**AAP**—Allied Administrative Publication (NATO)

**AFPD**—Air Force Policy Directive

**AFI**—Air Force Instruction

**AFSA**—Air Force Flight Standards Agency

**AVC**—Aviation Committee

**CJCSI**—Chairman, of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction

**DAF**—Department of the Air Force

**DAFI**—Department of the Air Force Instruction

**DAFMAN**—Department of Air Force Manual

**DAFPD**—Department of the Air Force Policy Directive

**DoD**—Department of Defense

**FLDCOM**—Field Command

**FVEY**—Five Eyes

**HoD**—Heads of Delegations

**MAJCOM**—Major Command

**NATO**—North Atlantic Treaty Organization

**U.S.**—United States

### *Office Symbols*

**AF/A3**—Deputy Chief of Staff Operations

**AF/A3O**—Directorate of Current Operations

**AF/A5/7**—Deputy Chief of Staff Strategy, Integration, and Requirements

**AF/A5SP**—Regional Plans and Posture Division

**AF/JA**—The Air Force Judge Advocate General

**SAF/AQ**—Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisition, Technology & Logistics)

**SAF/AQI**—Information Dominance

**SAF/AQR**—Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Science, Technology & Engineering)

**SAF/AQRE**—Engineering & Force Management Division

**SAF/IA**—Deputy Under Secretary of the Air Force, International Affairs

**SAF/SQ**—Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Space Acquisition and Integration

### *Terms*

**Action Office**—office with primary responsibility and subject matter expertise to conduct DAF participation in assigned international military standardization working groups, panels, and activities.

**Air Standard**—a document, produced by the Air Force Interoperability Council, used to record an agreement between member nations to standardize military doctrine, procedures, equipment, etc., in support of the Air Force Interoperability Council objective.

**Combined Test Project Agreement**—a formal agreement that specifies the terms of an individual exchange or loan of equipment between member nations of the NATO.

**Custodian**—the nation, Service, command or other agency responsible for maintaining an existing international standardization agreement or publication, for conducting studies, organizing projects, and developing proposals for standardization.

**Five Eyes Air Force Interoperability Council**—an international committee made up of general officers from the Air Forces of five English-speaking nations: Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the U.S. The purpose of this committee is to achieve standardization among member air forces.

**Head of Delegation**—the head of a national delegation who supervises and coordinates nationally all phases of the working group effort. The Head of Delegation is the national spokesperson to the

working group who presents coordinated national views. The Head of Delegation ensures all interested agencies are given the opportunity to participate in the NATO or DAF interoperability initiatives.

**International Military Standardization**—the process by which the Department of Defense achieves the closest practicable standardization with the military forces of its allies and friendly nations.

**International Standardization Agreement**—the record of an agreement among several or all of the member nations of a multi-national organization to standardize on materiel and operational areas.

**Interoperability**—the ability of systems, units, or forces to provide services to and accept services from other systems, units, or forces and to use the services so exchanged to enable them to operate effectively together.

**Lead Agent**—the Lead Agent represents and acts on behalf of the Secretary of Defense or the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for rationalization, standardization, and interoperability activities. Lead Agent responsibilities are generally fulfilled by the Department of Defense Component with the preponderance of responsibility and expertise to oversee the given rationalization, standardization, and interoperability activity. Lead Agent assumption is generally agreed upon based on common consent and support rather than formally appointed.

**Materiel Standardization**—that portion of the standardization program covering military equipment, supplies, design criteria, and practices.

**Operational Standardization**—that portion of the standardization program covering procedures, concepts, doctrine, and techniques.

**Panels**—a group created on the recommendation of a working group within the terms of reference of the parent working group.

**Ratification**—the declaration by which a nation formally accepts, with or without reservation, the content of a standardization agreement.

**Reservation**—a stated qualification by a nation describing the part of a standardization agreement it will not implement or will implement only with limitations.

**Standardization**—Standardization—The process by which the Department of Defense achieves the closest practicable cooperation among the services and Department of Defense agencies for the most efficient use of research, development, and production resources, and agrees to adopt on the broadest possible basis the use of: a. common or compatible operational, administrative, and logistic procedures; b. common or compatible technical procedures and criteria; c. common, compatible, or interchangeable supplies, components, weapons, or equipment; and d. common or compatible tactical doctrine with corresponding organizational compatibility.

**Standardization Agreement**—NATO standardization document that specifies the agreement of member Nations to implement a standard, in whole or in part, with or without reservation, in order to meet an interoperability requirement.

**Subscription**—an agreement by a nation's Military Services to accept and abide by, with or without reservation, the details of a ratified standardization agreement.

**Test Project Agreement**—a formal agreement that specifies the terms of an exchange or loan of equipment between member nations within the FVEY Air Force Interoperability Council.

**Working Group**—a group established by NATO standardization bodies, the Air Force Interoperability Council, and other forum to examine general subject areas for the purpose of developing international standardization agreements, other standardization documentation, and test and evaluation agreements.