MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

Subj: DESIGNATION OF MISSION CRITICAL AND MISSION ESSENTIAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Encl: (1) Definitions of Mission Critical and Mission Essential Information Systems

Department of Defense (DoD) implementation of section 811 of the FY 2001 National Defense Authorization Act has resulted in revisions to Department of Defense Instruction 5000.2, including new definitions of the terms "mission critical" and "mission essential" information systems. The DoD definitions of these terms are contained in enclosure (1).

I designate System Owners, Program Managers (PMs), and major claimants to make mission critical and mission essential information system designations. Such designations shall be consistent with any guidance issued by the Department of the Navy Chief Information Officer (DON CIO).

Robert B. Pirie, Jr.
Secretary of the Navy
Acting

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Definitions of "Mission Critical Information System" and "Mission Essential Information System" from Enclosure 2 of DoD Instruction 5000.2, Change 1

E2.1.12. Mission Critical Information System. A system that meets the definitions of "information system" and "national security system" in the Clinger-Cohen Act, the loss of which would cause the stoppage of warfighter operations or direct mission support of warfighter operations. (Note: The designation of mission critical should be made by a Component Head, a Commander in Chief (CINC) or their designee.) A Mission Critical Information Technology System has the same meaning as a Mission Critical Information System.

E2.1.13. Mission Essential Information System. A system that meets the definition of "information system" in the Clinger-Cohen Act, that the acquiring Component Head or designee determines is basic and necessary for the accomplishment of the organizational mission. (Note: The designation of mission essential should be made by a Component Head, a CINC or their designee.) A Mission Essential Information Technology System has the same meaning as a Mission Essential Information System.