1. **Purpose.** This instruction:

   a. Issues the Department of the Navy (DON) implementation of references (a) and (b) regarding the standardization of materiel, information technology (IT), facilities, and engineering practices, consistent with references (c) through (e).

   b. Reinforces reference (e) direction on standardization and commonality to apply performance-based strategies that reduce logistics costs and footprint, and facilitate interoperability. DON seeks and employs enterprise-wide commonality throughout the lifecycle to reduce the proliferation of non-standard parts, materiel, and equipment within and across systems and programs.

2. **Cancellation.** SECNAVINST 4120.24.

3. **Scope.** This instruction applies to all DON organizations and Standardization Management Activities (SMAs), with one
exception: the Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion has authority over all aspects of specifications and standards under the cognizance of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program per 50 U.S.C. §§ 2406, 2511 (codifying Executive Order 12344, February 1, 1982).

4. Background. Consistent with references (c) through (e), the following DON roles have been established:

   a. DON Acquisition Executive. The Assistant Secretary of the Navy (ASN) Research, Development, and Acquisition (RD&A) is the DON Component Acquisition Executive. The Deputy ASN (DASN) Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) assists ASN (RD&A) with systems engineering and standards.

   b. Program Managers (PMs). Per reference (c), the primary objective of defense acquisition is to acquire quality products that satisfy user needs with measurable improvements to mission capability and operational support in a timely manner and at a fair and reasonable price. PMs exercise flexibility, responsiveness, innovation, discipline, and streamlined and effective management for development, production, and sustainment of war-fighting systems. This includes the authority to choose and tailor the standards they impose on defense contractors to fit the particular conditions of that program, consistent with applicable laws and regulations.

   c. Naval Systems Command (SYSCOM) Commanders. Per reference (d), the Naval SYSCOM Commanders are the technical authorities and operational safety and assurance certification authorities for their assigned areas of cognizance. This includes the authority, responsibility, and accountability to establish, monitor, and approve technical standards, tools, and processes in conformance with applicable Department of Defense (DoD) and DON policy and requirements. The Naval SYSCOMs and PMs collaborate on the selection and tailoring of standards.

5. Policy

   a. Naval SYSCOMs and other SMAs provide common standards that PMs can use to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of delivering sustainable products to the war fighter.
b. Non-governmental and commercial standards are used and tailored in preference to using, developing and maintaining government standards. Defense Standards (e.g., MIL-SPECs and MIL-STDs) may be used where no practical alternative exists to meet user needs.

c. DON supports the development and use of interoperability standards for national and international use.

d. The goals of standardization efforts are to respond to Program Office and end user demand signals and to improve:

   (1) The relevance of standards to current and future DON missions.

   (2) The safety of systems and individuals.

   (3) The currency of standards in addressing technology and lessons learned.

   (4) The total ownership cost of products delivered and sustained.

   (5) The application of commonality and openness principles within and across systems and programs.

6. Responsibilities

   a. DON Standardization Executive. DASN (RDT&E) is designated the DON Standardization Executive with responsibilities defined in references (a) and (b), including representing DON on the Defense Standardization Council (DSC). DASN (RDT&E) appoints the DON Standardization Officer.

   b. DON Standardization Officer. The DON Standardization Officer responsibilities are defined in reference (b). The DON Standardization Officer also:

      (1) Develops and issues procedures for implementing the Defense Standardization Program (DSP) throughout DON.

      (2) Approves DON changes to the DoD Standardization Directory (SD-1), which includes designating SMAs and Departmental Standardization Activities.
(3) Acts as the DON delegated approval authority for new and reinstated defense standards, with the exception of those standards cancelled by the DSC.

(4) Acts as the approval authority for establishing new qualification requirements in defense specifications issued by DON SMAs.

(5) Leads a DON Standardization Working Group with the SYSCOM Standardization Officers, representatives of DON SMAs, the DON Data Item Description (DID) Approval Authority, DON Allied Standardization representatives, and DON Defense Information Systems Registry (DISR) representatives.

(6) Assists the DSC with cross-service standardization projects.

c. DON DID Approval Authority. The DON DID Approval Authority is the Naval Supply Systems Command with responsibilities defined in references (b), (f), and (g).

d. Allied Military Standards Coordinators. U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps allied military standards coordination is performed per references (h) and (i).

e. DON DISR Representatives. Consistent with reference (j), DON coordination of IT standards contained in the DISR is managed by Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR), and Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) Systems Engineering, Interoperability, Architectures, & Technology, to coordinate listing and publication with the Defense Information Systems Agency.

f. Naval SYSCOM Commanders. Consistent with the responsibilities assigned in reference (d), the Naval SYSCOM Commanders ensure:

(1) Ownership of standards by a technical authority assigned by their Naval SYSCOM Chief Engineer (CHENG).

(2) Their Naval SYSCOM CHENG appoints a SYSCOM Standardization Officer to oversee proper coordination of standardization documents and ensure compliance with references
(a) and (b). The appointment letter must be provided to the DON Standardization Officer.

(3) In collaboration with Program Offices and end users, the necessary resources are provided to SYSCOM technical authorities and standardization offices to develop and maintain standards, using the policy herein for prioritization of standardization efforts.

(4) A technical authority approves waivers and deviations to standards.

(5) A technical authority approves waivers allowing the use of cancelled DSP documents in solicitations or contracts.

7. Records Management

a. Records created as a result of this instruction, regardless of format or media, must be maintained and dispositioned according to the records disposition schedules found on the Directives and Records Management Division (DRMD) portal page: https://portal.secnav.navy.mil/orgs/DUSNM/DONAA/DRM/SitePages/Home.aspx

b. For questions concerning the management of records related to this instruction or the records disposition schedules, please contact your local Records Manager or the DRMD program office.

Distribution:
Electronic only, via Department of the Navy Issuances Web site https://www.secnav.navy.mil/doni