AGILE ACQUISITION
Concept of Operations
Between SAF/AQ and HQ AFMC

December 2003

Overarching Tenets:

This Concept of Operations implements Agile Acquisition Policy (03A-002). That policy defines Agile Acquisition as simply: Speed and Credibility. The success of Agile Acquisition hinges on leveraging the capabilities of both SAF/AQ and AFMC. To be successful we can no longer operate with a "us/them" mentality but rather "we"; more collaboration and less coordination.

The SAE by law is accountable for AF program execution. AFMC is accountable for the processes that execute AF acquisition and in broad terms trains, organizes, and equips the acquisition workforce. The capabilities of both organizations will operate in concert to achieve the key tenets of Agile Acquisition. SAF/AQ is the supported command with AFMC the supporting command.

In its supporting role, AFMC will function as the extended staff of SAF/AQ. As such, the expectation is that the AFMC extended staff will operate with appropriate speed necessary to support SAF/AQ requirements. In turn, SAF/AQ will keep AFMC informed so they are responsive to SAF/AQ requirements.

Our goal is to ensure we do not put any unnecessary reporting requirements on our programs.

Roles/Relationships:

Innovation: SAF/AQ will identify and implement innovative initiatives. AFMC will support and implement innovative process changes at the command and center level.

Transformation: SAF/AQ will champion business transformation. SAF/AQ will lead and integrate AF efforts to continually improve the DoD acquisition process through innovative acquisition and sustainment initiatives. AFMC supports and implements these transformation efforts at the headquarters and center level and provides quarterly status to SAF/AQ.

Policy: SAF/AQ establishes policy. AFMC implements the policy and provides the necessary training and process reengineering at the headquarters and center level.

Program Assessment: SAF/AQ establishes methods to assess program risk. AFMC leverages expertise in risk assessment to support SAF/AQ.

Horizontal Integration: AFMC will conduct horizontal assessments across programs to analyze and provide integrated solution sets that:

- assess gaps in warfighter capability
- provide utility of options

AFMC in its horizontal integration role provides these assessments to the warfighter to aid them in making their investment decisions. AFMC, in this role, cannot direct any program change without approval of the Milestone Decision Authority

Program Reporting:

Philosophy:

- SAF/AQ establishes reporting requirements on programs
- AFMC/CC should have access to all available program execution data (MARs, SMART, etc.)
- AFMC/CC will be invited to attend PEO Portfolio Reviews
- AFMC has wealth of expertise that can support the SAE in his execution of programs

AQ Role: Use available program information to assess health of program execution. Leverage AFMC expertise in its execution

AFMC Role: Use available program information to support horizontal integration activities. In its supporting role, provide technical expertise to support SAE reviews

Operational Instructions:

This Concept of Operations requires annual review and approval.

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