



SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

JUL 18 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP
COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS
DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

SUBJ: Enhancing Security Protocols for the Department of Defense

I direct the Department of Defense (DoD) Chief Information Officer (CIO), in coordination with the Under Secretaries of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, Intelligence and Security, and Research and Engineering, to take immediate actions to ensure to the maximum extent possible that all information technology capabilities, including cloud services, developed and procured for DoD are reviewed and validated as secure against supply chain attacks by adversaries such as China and Russia.

The DoD will not procure any hardware or software susceptible to adversarial foreign influence that presents risk to mission accomplishment and must prevent such adversaries from introducing malicious capabilities into the products and services that are utilized by the Department. To that end, the Department will fortify existing programs and processes utilized within the Defense Industrial Base (DIB) to ensure that adversarial foreign influence is appropriately eliminated or mitigated and determine what, if any, additional actions may be required to address these risks. Specifically, the DoD CIO will leverage efforts such as the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification, the Software Fast Track Program, the Authority to Operate process, the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program, and initiatives such as the Secure Software Development Framework. Moreover, the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security will review and validate personnel security practices and insider threat programs of the DIB and cloud service providers to the maximum extent possible.

I direct the DoD CIO to issue additional implementing guidance within 15 days of the date of this memorandum to achieve and maintain a secure environment for our warfighters. My point of contact in this matter is David McKeown, [REDACTED]
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