

SUMMARY FACT SHEET
March 1992

SUBJECT
Defense Information Systems Agency
Center for Information Management
Background Sheet

The Deputy Secretary of Defense established the DoD Corporate Information Management (CIM) initiative in October 1989 to identify and implement efficiencies in DoD information management and information systems management. The Department's goals of streamlining business functions and meeting budget reduction targets while maintaining the same quality of service were the driving forces behind the CIM effort.

Historically, industry and government agencies saw information management as the automation of existing methods in order to increase productivity and reduce costs. Because little attention was given to improving the methods themselves, the automation of existing business methods did not always provide the expected productivity and effectiveness gains.

CIM addresses the process of analyzing, improving, documenting, and standardizing business methods and then automating these new improved business methods with modern information technology and systems. It is anticipated that this TQM-like approach to information management will achieve significant cost savings and improve effectiveness.

This effort is aimed at eliminating duplication in the development and maintenance of multiple information systems designed to meet a single functional requirement. To this end, the Department encourages standardization, quality, and consistency of data from DoD's multiple management information systems and will seek methods of meeting DoD's management information needs.

In the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence (OASD(C3I)), Mr. Paul Strassmann, Director of Defense Information (DDI), is charged with the policy, oversight and executive-level guidance of this effort. The technical support arm for Mr. Strassmann is the Center for Information Management, Defense Information Systems Agency.

Strategies and Programs

The Center for Information Management was established in early 1991, and has grown steadily in personnel and capabilities since then. It now provides technical and program execution assistance to the DDI and technical products and services to the Department and Military Components. The Center is directing its energies toward high priority, high payoff initiatives, emphasizing early successes in the key areas of data management, data and process modeling, evaluation and validation, software systems engineering, reusable software and data products, open systems architecture, and information systems integration.

The Center performs the following functions:

- develops, coordinates and executes the DoD Data Administration Program;
- maintains the DoD enterprise model;
- assists in assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of functional processes in DoD;
- helps produce process and data models, and identify approaches, methods and tools for developing process and data models;
- helps in designing computer and communications architectures;
- designs and maintains an open systems reference model;
- establishes and operates hardware and software reuse facilities;
- improves DoD software development and maintenance processes and supporting methods;

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- establishes a software tools repository;
- helps design a software architecture for information systems;
- helps with system development and configuration control; and
- integrates information systems within and across functional areas.

Using these information management and information systems products and services, DoD will be able to implement effective and efficient information system solutions to meet its mission.

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