

RSA-MIL-HDBK-197

PRODUCTS SYSTEM MANAGEMENT MANUAL

SCOPE

This handbook is for guidance only and cannot be cited as a contractual requirement.

The information contained herein is applicable, in part or in whole, to all types of products and automated information systems and all life cycle phases. It further does offer examples and points to consider helping you shape your life cycle management processes. The information supplied is meant to give you insights into innovative solutions to your particular Products System Management application.

The Department of Defence (DOD) requires military capabilities in order to achieve its objective of ensuring the defence of the Republic, its territorial integrity and its people; and the provision of other military services to the State. These military capabilities are created through the integration of military related systems. The systems management approach is utilised to integrate and manage these systems efficiently and cost-effectively to assure the DOD's accountability of military capabilities towards the state.

Systems management is executed generically throughout the DOD, irrespective of the position of the systems in the systems hierarchy and is therefore applied when managing operational systems (level 7-8), core systems (level 6) and products systems (level 5). The aim of products system management (level 5) is to provide materiel ready products systems in support of the operational readiness of core systems (level 6).

Although products system management is a complex and demanding discipline, this manual endeavours to translate this discipline into a functional description that can be easily understood and successfully practiced.

This manual also defines the associated functions and related activities/tasks of products system management, but does not intend to prescribe any organisational structures. However the respective DOD Services and Divisions should use this manual as a **guide** to suitably set up an organisation and infrastructure that will ensure the correct execution of products system management.

By promulgating this manual, the DOD demonstrates its sincerity to affect products system management as an inherent component of implementing systems management.