



DoD INSTRUCTION 4151.24

DEPOT SOURCE OF REPAIR ASSIGNMENT DETERMINATION PROCESS

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| Originating Component: | Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment |
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| Reissues and Cancels: | DoD Instruction 4151.24, "Depot Source of Repair (DSOR) Determination Process," October 13, 2017, as amended |
| Approved by: | William A. LaPlante, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment |

Purpose: In accordance with the authority in DoD Directive 5135.02, this issuance:

- Establishes policy for determining depot source of repair (DSOR) assignments for weapon systems and other military equipment (including mission-essential weapon systems or materiel) that require depot maintenance and repair regardless of the source of funding or location (e.g., organic, commercial, or any combination of organic and commercial).
- Assigns responsibilities and provides procedures that interface with the acquisition cycle to establish management control of the DSOR assignment determination process; determines the optimum depot maintenance support considering organic, commercial, or a combination of organic and commercial sources of repair; and establishes organic depot maintenance capabilities as early as appropriate in the weapon system life cycle.
- Directs inter-DoD Component reviews of depot maintenance requirements against all DoD capabilities to maximize the use of existing capabilities, efficiently apply resources, prevent unnecessary duplication of capabilities, and consider DoD strategic interests.
- Employs an iterative framework that allows incremental planning for and investment in organic depot maintenance capabilities as a weapon system's configuration stabilizes and matures and sustainment demands evolve.

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SECTION 1: GENERAL ISSUANCE INFORMATION

1.1. APPLICABILITY.

This issuance applies to OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the DoD involved in the development, acquisition, resource programming, and implementation of product support strategies where depot maintenance is required or performed (referred to collectively in this issuance as the “DoD Components”).

1.2. POLICY.

a. DSOR assignments support readiness, sustainment, and affordability objectives (including mobilization and surge capabilities) of national defense strategic and contingency requirements, pursuant to Section 2464 of Title 10, United States Code (U.S.C.).

b. Workloads necessary to sustain core logistics capabilities, pursuant to Section 2464 of Title 10, U.S.C., are assigned to DoD depot maintenance activities that have the essential technical competencies to perform such workloads.

c. Consideration in assigning workloads to sustain core capabilities will be given to Centers of Industrial and Technical Excellence (CITEs) that have the necessary essential core technical competencies to perform such workloads. CITEs are established pursuant to Section 2474 of Title 10, U.S.C.

d. DSOR assignments are determined jointly between the Military Departments and the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (USD(A&S)) for Acquisition Category (ACAT) I programs as described in Section 3.

e. DoD Components will follow the process outlined in this issuance any time a DoD Component elects to review a DSOR assignment.

SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1. USD(A&S).

The USD(A&S):

- a. Delegates the authority to approve DSOR assignments for ACAT I programs to the Secretaries of the Military Departments, except when DSOR assignments are not supported by an agreement between all Military Departments and the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Materiel Readiness (DASD(MR)).
- b. May delegate the authority to approve DSOR assignments for ACAT I programs that are not supported by agreement between all Military Departments and the DASD(MR). This authority may not be delegated lower than the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment (ASD(S)).

2.2. ASD(S).

Under the authority, direction, and control of the USD(A&S), the ASD(S):

- a. Resolves issues that prevent timely agreement between all Military Departments regarding a DSOR assignment.
- b. Forwards DSOR assignment recommendations and supporting documentation to the USD(A&S) for review and approval when issues prevent agreement between all Military Departments and the DASD(MR) for ACAT I programs.
- c. Maintains a list of general officer/flag officer (GO/FO) or Senior Executive Service (SES) member positions designated to review and approve DSOR assignments for ACAT I programs.
- d. Ensures that DSOR assignment recommendations maximize materiel readiness for the DoD as a whole and consider effective and efficient utilization of the organic industrial base.
- e. Issues a DSOR assignment decision memorandum, as appropriate.

2.3. DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES.

Under the authority, direction, and control of their specified OSD Component heads, the Directors of the Defense Agencies:

- a. Identify a Military Department for their respective depot maintenance requirements. That designated Military Department follows the DSOR assignment determination process set forth in this issuance.

b. Incorporate DSOR assignments into an acquisition program's life cycle sustainment planning and reflect DSOR assignments in product support strategies and plans.

2.4. SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.

The Secretaries of the Military Departments:

a. Approve DSOR assignments that support programs they manage when such assignments are supported by an agreement between all Military Departments.

b. Approve DSOR assignments that support ACAT I programs they manage when such assignments are supported by an agreement between all Military Departments and the DASD(MR). This authority may be further delegated; however, the authority to approve DSOR assignments for ACAT I programs must not be delegated below a GO/FO or SES position. This delegation for ACAT I programs must be sent in writing to the USD(A&S) with an information copy sent to the ASD(S).

c. Incorporate DSOR assignments into acquisition programs' life cycle sustainment planning and document DSOR assignments in product support strategies and plans.

d. Maintain a record of DSOR assignments that support the weapon systems and military equipment in their force structures. The record includes the DSOR assignment decision memorandum signed by the appropriate authority and the supporting rationale and coordination thereof. The record of DSOR assignments must be available to the other DoD and OSD Components upon request.

e. Identify existing, appropriate, organic capabilities for workloads under consideration in inter-Service review. When more than one organic capability exists, the Military Department introducing the DSOR assignment recommendation performs an analysis to support the proposed DSOR assignment.

f. Forward ACAT I program DSOR assignment decision memoranda to the ASD(S).

g. Forward DSOR assignment recommendations and supporting documentation to the ASD(S) for review and approval when issues prevent agreement between all Military Departments and the DASD(MR).

SECTION 3: PROCEDURES

3.1. DSOR ASSIGNMENT DETERMINATION PROCESS.

The procedures in this section are mandatory for all materiel that requires depot maintenance.

a. General.

(1) These procedures provide a common process for use by all DoD Components. They support the assignment of depot maintenance to be provided by organic, commercial, or a combination of organic and commercial sources of repair.

(2) The DSOR assignment determination process identifies existing organic depot capabilities at depot locations across the DoD and is used to determine workload assignments. When an organic source of repair is chosen, this process assigns the depot maintenance responsibility to a specific facility or facilities.

b. DSOR Assignment Determination Process Overview.

(1) The DSOR Assignment Determination Process.

The DSOR assignment determination process:

(a) Is an iterative process aligned to the adaptive acquisition framework pathway life cycle phases, as prescribed in DoD Instruction (DoDI) 5000.02, and continues throughout the life cycle of a weapon system. Each iteration of the process is designed to efficiently manage depot maintenance capabilities and ensure that core logistics capabilities are in place within 4 years of initial operational capability (IOC).

1. If no official IOC was originally designated for a weapon system, capabilities will be established within 4 years of an approved Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System (JCIDS) capability or requirement document.

2. The program manager (PM) and supporting Military Department (referred to in this issuance as the “lead Military Department”) may complete the DSOR assignment determination process at any time, but no later than 90 calendar days after critical design review.

(b) Is an integral part of overall weapon system supportability analysis, acquisition, and life-cycle sustainment planning in accordance with DoDI 5000.91, including appropriate consideration for core logistics capabilities and sustaining workloads pursuant to Section 2464 of Title 10, U.S.C.

(c) Facilitates establishing new organic depot maintenance capabilities through procurement funding.

(d) Facilitates the primary purpose of depot maintenance inter-Service activities, which is to leverage the DoD's existing maintenance capabilities before funds are spent to establish new maintenance capabilities.

1. Funds will not be obligated to establish a depot maintenance capability or expand capacity of an existing capability at a specific site to repair a system, subsystem, or component without an approved DSOR assignment.

2. Funds may be obligated relative to a specific DSOR assignment under consideration for non-site-specific items that are necessary to perform maintenance, such as technical data, as outlined in this section.

(e) Applies to any weapon systems or items of military equipment (including mission-essential weapon systems or materiel) with depot maintenance requirements as specified in Paragraph 3.2.

(2) Milestone (MS) A or Equivalent.

The PM, with support from the lead Military Department, will:

(a) Determine whether there is a requirement for core logistics capabilities at MS A and document this determination in the core logistics analysis (CLA) annex of the program's life cycle sustainment plan (LCSP). This determination will be employed in the DSOR assignment determination process to identify organic activities with the essential technical competencies to perform necessary maintenance and repair.

(b) Evaluate all existing capabilities and capacities of depot maintenance activities that support the same or similar weapon systems or items of military equipment and document the results of the evaluation in the CLA annex of the program's LCSP.

(c) Initiate depot activation planning and budgeting during program inception, as described in DoD Directive 4151.18. Depot activation investments will be limited to non-site-specific items, such as technical data rights, support equipment, and other items the lead Military Department specifies.

(3) MS B or Equivalent.

The PM, with support from the lead Military Department, will:

(a) Estimate the requirements for core logistics capabilities and the associated sustaining workloads in accordance with DoDI 4151.20.

(b) Continue to assess the depot maintenance activities that could meet the core logistics capability requirements based on the available data about the weapon system or military equipment and core sustaining workload estimates.

(c) Document core logistics capability requirements and sustaining workload estimates in the CLA annex of the program's LCSP.

(d) Continue depot activation planning and budgeting. However, depot activation investments are limited to non-site-specific long lead-time items such as technical data rights, support equipment, and other items specified by the lead Military Department, unless a DSOR assignment has been approved following the DSOR assignment determination process outlined in this issuance.

(4) No Later Than 90 Calendar Days After Critical Design Review or Equivalent.

(a) The designated DSOR assignment authority will approve the DSOR assignment(s), as prescribed in Paragraph 2.4.b.

(b) The resulting DSOR assignments will be documented in the program's LCSP in the next update, but no later than MS C or the equivalent programmatic decision.

3.2. COVERED PROGRAMS.

a. Weapon Systems and Other Military Equipment.

The DSOR assignment determination process applies to weapon systems and other military equipment that require depot maintenance, as described in Section 2460 of Title 10, U.S.C. Hull, mechanical, and electrical related systems for ships and submarines are exempted from this process.

b. Depot Maintenance Programs.

Programs that transition from a commercial source of repair to an organic source of repair (insourcing) or from an organic source of repair to a commercial source of repair (outsourcing) or another organic source of repair, regardless of the investment needed or annual value of the program, are subject to the DSOR assignment determination process. The requirements of Section 2469 of Title 10, U.S.C. may also apply. The provisions of Section 2463 of Title 10, U.S.C. will apply in DSOR assignment determination.

3.3. POST DSOR ASSIGNMENT DETERMINATION REQUIREMENTS.

a. Depot Maintenance Capabilities Before IOC.

The PM must establish a method to provide depot maintenance to support the weapon system and/or other military equipment by no later than IOC or, if no IOC was originally designated, when the JCIDS capability or requirement document is approved. This method could include contracted logistics support, interim contractor support, organic support, or a partnership between organic and contracted providers.

b. Core Logistics Capabilities Within 4 Years of IOC.

This issuance implements core logistics capability requirements and assigns associated sustaining workloads to organic depots.

(1) In accordance with the provisions of Section 2464 of Title 10, U.S.C., core logistics capabilities, including facilities, equipment, technical data, and trained personnel, will be established no later than 4 years after a weapon system or other military equipment achieves IOC.

(2) If no official IOC was originally designated for a weapon system or other military equipment, core logistics capabilities will be established within 4 years of an approved JCIDS capability or requirement document.

3.4. PROCESS STEPS.

An overview of the DSOR assignment determination process is shown in Figures 1 and 2 and addresses:

a. Identification and Notification.

The PM will identify the requirement for a DSOR assignment and notify the lead Military Department of the requirement. The lead Military Department's designated cognizant office will inform the designated cognizant offices in the other Military Departments of the requirement for a DSOR assignment and assist the PM in developing workload estimates in direct labor hours. This initiates the DSOR assignment determination process.

b. Identification of Existing Capabilities.

After the PM notifies the Military Departments of the need for a DSOR assignment, the Military Departments will identify organic activities that could perform the depot maintenance. All existing organic capabilities must be evaluated as part of the DSOR assignment determination process.

c. Development of Decision Criteria.

The PM, along with the lead Military Department, will establish DSOR assignment decision criteria considering the following:

- (1) Core logistics capability requirements.
- (2) Capability and capacity computed in accordance with DoD 4151.18-H considerations to perform depot maintenance on the weapon system or other military equipment.
- (3) Business, operational, and sustainment considerations.
- (4) CITE designations.
- (5) Strategic DoD objectives.

d. Analysis.

The lead Military Department will coordinate and facilitate analysis using either the comparative analysis method or summary analysis method, as applicable, to develop a DSOR assignment recommendation.

(1) A comparative analysis will be used to develop a merit-based DSOR assignment recommendation when the workload must be assigned to an organic depot maintenance activity to sustain core logistics capabilities. For workloads not needed to sustain core logistics capabilities, an analysis will be conducted to identify the best-value source of repair considering both organic and commercial repair sources.

(2) The summary analysis may be used when the recommended DSOR assignment is obvious based on known capabilities or other compelling considerations.

(3) Insourcing pursuant to Paragraph (a) of Section 2463 of Title 10, U.S.C. requires a cost analysis.

e. Coordination of the DSOR Assignment Decision Package.

The DSOR assignment decision package documents an agreement on the source, or sources, that best satisfy the depot maintenance requirements. For all DSOR assignment recommendations, the lead Military Department initiates the creation of the DSOR assignment decision package by documenting the DSOR analysis and resulting DSOR assignment recommendation and providing the analysis and recommendation to the other Military Departments for coordination and comment.

(1) All DSOR assignment decision packages associated with an ACAT I program require coordination with the DASD(MR); this coordination includes the associated subsystems, software, and components as indicated, or should be indicated, on the depot level reparable list for an ACAT I program. Administrative changes to DSOR assignments do not require coordination with the DASD(MR). The lead Military Department will provide the final DSOR assignment recommendation, including all inputs from the other Military Departments and the DASD(MR) to the designated GO/FO or SES for review and approval.

(2) The Military Departments will assign and document a source of repair for all undocumented depot maintenance workloads associated with any ACAT I program that have been fully activated at established source(s) of repair for a minimum of 3 years and require no additional capability at the location(s). Coordination from the DASD(MR) is not required; however, the Military Departments will provide the DSOR assignment decision package to the DASD(MR).

(3) The reviewing Military Departments initially have 45 calendar days following receipt to respond to each DSOR assignment decision package. If a reviewing Military Department has not responded to a DSOR assignment decision package within 30 calendar days after receipt, the Military Department introducing the DSOR assignment decision package will follow up with the Military Department that has not responded to negotiate an appropriate suspense date for that Military Department's response. If the suspense date is not met, the Military Department that

introduced the DSOR assignment decision package may refer the matter to the DASD(MR) to facilitate a resolution.

(4) For non-ACAT I programs for which the Military Departments cannot reach an agreement for DSOR assignment, the lead Military Department will forward the DSOR assignment decision package to the DASD(MR) for review and staffing to the ASD(S) for resolution.

f. Documentation and Implementation.

Military Departments will maintain a record of DSOR assignments, along with the supporting documentation, including the DSOR assignment decision memorandum. After receiving a final DSOR assignment decision memorandum, the PM will:

(1) Document the final DSOR assignment decision and resulting DSOR assignment or assignments in the program's LCSP.

(2) Finalize applicable personnel, facility, equipment, and technical data requirements.

(3) Program and budget for these requirements in Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution submittals and incorporate these submittals in the program's LCSP.

(4) Initiate coordination of the final DSOR assignment decision with the appropriate Military Departments to establish depot maintenance capability.

3.5. CHANGING DSOR ASSIGNMENTS.

If the PM or lead Military Department determines that it is necessary to change an existing DSOR assignment location, the appropriate Military Departments will work together to recommend a workload shift in accordance with this issuance. The requirements of Section 2469 of Title 10, U.S.C. may apply.

Figure 1. ACAT I Program DSOR Assignment Determination Process Overview

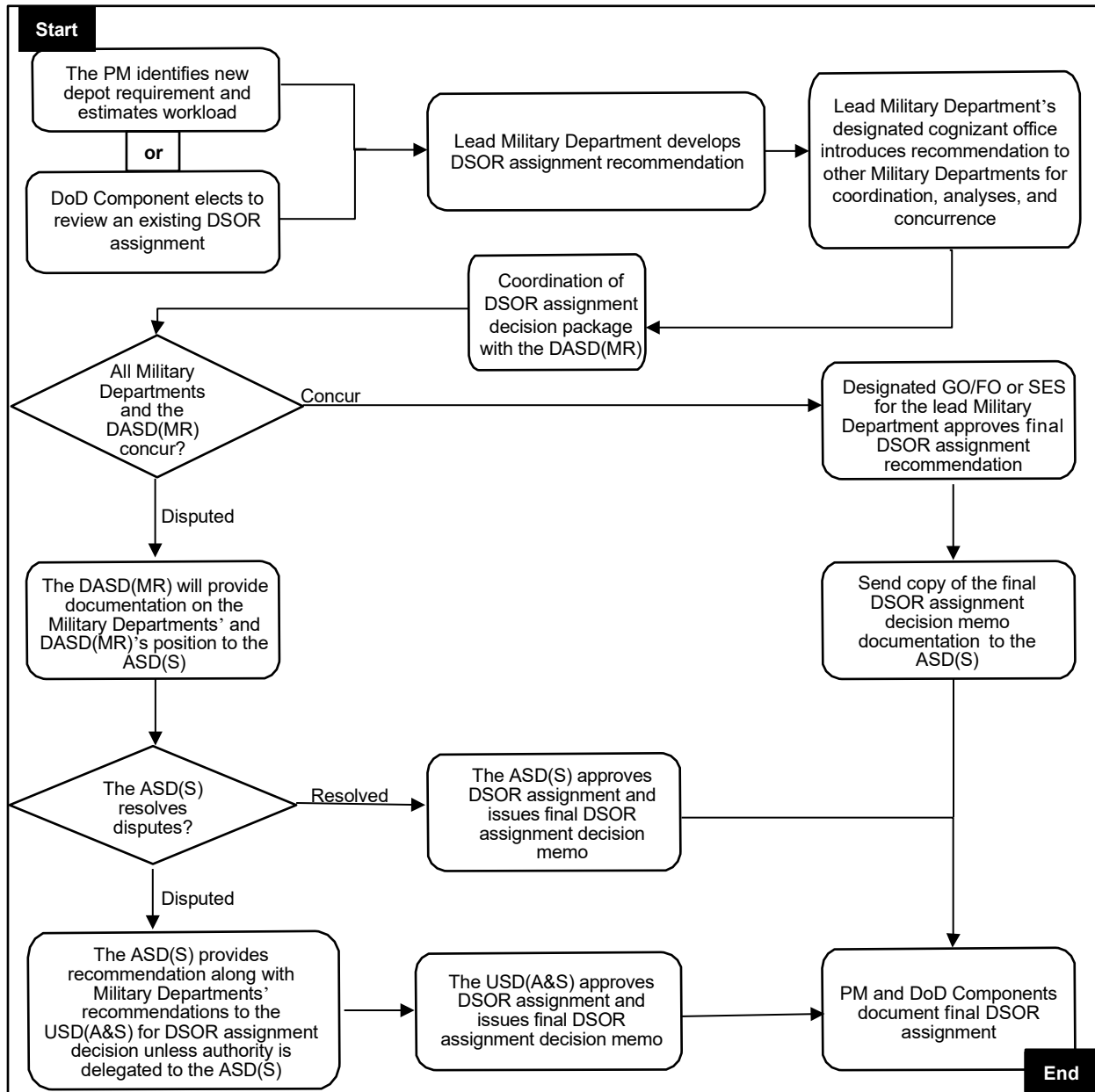
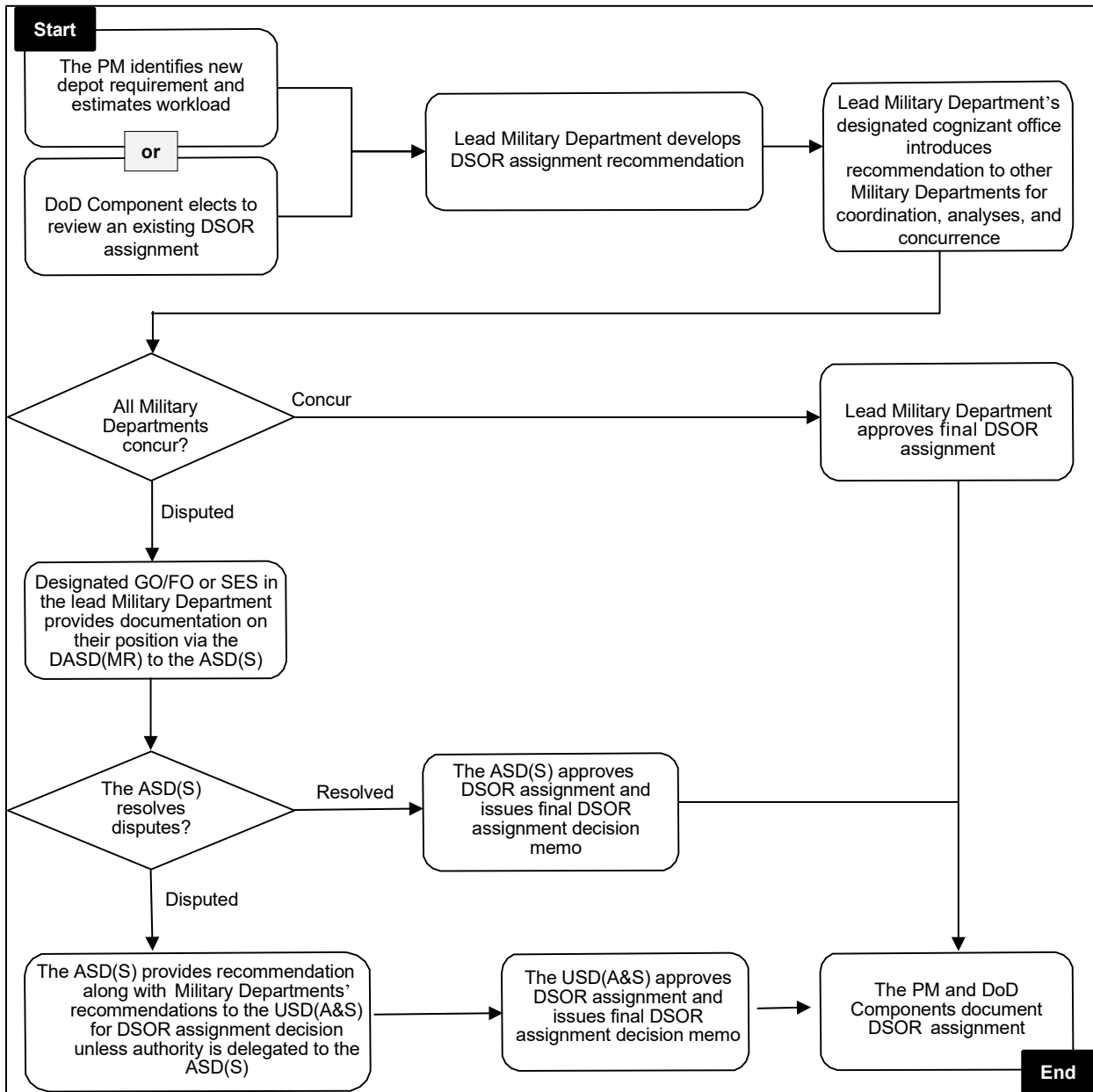


Figure 2. Non-ACAT I Program DSOR Assignment Determination Process Overview



GLOSSARY

G.1. ACRONYMS.

| ACRONYM | MEANING |
|----------------|--|
| ACAT | acquisition category |
| ASD(S) | Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment |
| CITE | Center of Industrial and Technical Excellence |
| CLA | core logistics analysis |
| DASD(MR) | Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Materiel Readiness |
| DoDI | DoD instruction |
| DSOR | depot source of repair |
| GO/FO | general officer/flag officer |
| IOC | initial operational capability |
| JCIDS | Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System |
| LCSP | life cycle sustainment plan |
| MS | milestone |
| PM | program manager |
| SES | Senior Executive Service |
| U.S.C. | United States Code |
| USD(A&S) | Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment |

G.2. DEFINITIONS.

Unless otherwise noted, these terms and their definitions are for the purpose of this issuance.

| TERM | DEFINITION |
|------------------------------|---|
| administrative change | Any correction or change to DSOR-relevant information that does not change the scope of the DSOR workload or the DSOR location. |

| TERM | DEFINITION |
|--|---|
| capability | Availability of resources, such as facilities, tools, test equipment, drawings, technical publication, trained maintenance personnel, engineering support, or spare parts required to carry out maintenance. |
| CLA | <p>An iterative process used to address core logistics requirements, as prescribed in Section 2464 of Title 10, U.S.C.</p> <p>The CLA starts at program initiation with a determination of the applicability of the requirement for core logistics capabilities, as required by Section 4251 of Title 10, U.S.C.</p> <p>At MS B, the CLA is used to develop estimates of the core logistics capability requirements and the associated sustaining workloads, as required by Section 4252 of Title 10, U.S.C.</p> <p>The results of the CLA are used to inform the DSOR assignment determination process to ensure that core logistics capability is established at organic depot maintenance activities and sufficient workloads are assigned to sustain such capabilities.</p> |
| comparative analysis | A comparison of two or more candidate depot maintenance activities with respect to core logistics capability requirements, depot capability, depot capacity, business considerations, operational considerations, sustainment considerations, CITE designations, and/or strategic DoD objectives. |
| component | An integral constituent of a complete end item. A component may consist of a part, assembly, or subassembly. |
| core logistics capability | Government personnel and government-owned and -operated equipment and facilities necessary to ensure a ready and controlled source of technical competence and resources to ensure an effective and timely response to a mobilization, national defense contingency situations, and other emergency requirements. |
| core logistics sustaining workloads | The workload necessary to ensure cost efficiency and technical competence in peacetime while preserving the ability to provide an effective and timely response to a mobilization, national defense contingency situations, and other emergency requirements. |
| critical design review | A multi-disciplined technical review to ensure that a system can proceed into fabrication, demonstration, and test and can meet stated performance requirements within cost, schedule, and risk. |

| TERM | DEFINITION |
|--|---|
| depot activation | Establishing the capability to support the statutory depot maintenance requirements upon receipt of an approved DSOR assignment decision. Depot activation establishes depot maintenance and repair capability in either public or private facilities to meet warfighter requirements. |
| depot activation investment | An obligation or expenditure of funds to establish a depot maintenance capability or expand the depot maintenance capacity of an existing capability at a specific site to repair a system, subsystem, or component. |
| depot maintenance | The processes of materiel maintenance or repair involving the overhaul, upgrading, rebuilding, testing, inspection, and reclamation (as necessary) of weapon systems, equipment end items, parts, components, assemblies, and subassemblies. Depot maintenance also includes all aspects of software maintenance; the installation of parts or components for modifications; and technical assistance to intermediate maintenance organizations, operational units, and other activities. |
| DSOR analysis | The approach and documentation associated with the comparative analysis or summary analysis used to develop a DSOR assignment recommendation. |
| DSOR assignment | The final determination authorizing an organic, contract, or combination of organic and contract activity(s) or facility(s) that performs or is planned to perform depot maintenance on weapon systems, equipment end items, parts, components, assemblies, subassemblies, etc. |
| DSOR assignment decision memorandum | A memorandum that documents the results of the DSOR assignment determination process in accordance with this instruction. It is used to document the result into the LCSP and guide depot activation planning. |
| DSOR assignment decision package | The package comprising all information for a DSOR assignment, including identification of the system or component, candidate locations, ACAT category, core assessment, CITE applicability, decision criteria, analysis, Military Departments coordination, and/or DASD(MR) coordination. |

| TERM | DEFINITION |
|--|---|
| DSOR assignment determination process | An iterative process that ensures management control over the identification, analysis, coordination, and decision of depot-level sources of repair and allows for incremental planning and investment in organic industrial capabilities as system configuration stabilizes and matures. |
| end item | A final combination of systems, subsystems, components, parts, and other materiel that are ready for their intended use. |
| military equipment | Includes all DoD weapon systems, weapon platforms, vehicles, munitions, and the components of such items. |
| organic | Depot maintenance and repair workloads performed by DoD employees. |
| summary analysis | Documentation of the relevant attributes when only one organic depot maintenance facility has the capability to perform a DSOR workload. |

REFERENCES

- DoD 4151.18-H, “Depot Maintenance Capacity and Utilization Measurement Handbook,” March 10, 2007, as amended
- DoD Directive 4151.18, “Maintenance of Military Materiel,” March 31, 2004, as amended
- DoD Directive 5135.02, “Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (USD(A&S)),” July 15, 2020
- DoD Instruction 4151.20, “Depot Maintenance Core Capabilities Determination Process,” May 4, 2018, as amended
- DoD Instruction 5000.02, “Operation of the Adaptive Acquisition Framework,” January 23, 2020, as amended
- DoD Instruction 5000.91, “Product Support Management for the Adaptive Acquisition Framework,” November 4, 2021
- United States Code, Title 10