



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
107 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0107

Office, Chief Information Officer/G-6

SAIS-PRR

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Guidance on Life Cycle Replacement (LCR) of End-Point Devices to Ensure Compliance with Secure Host Baseline – Army (SHB-A)

1. References:

a. Memorandum, Chief Information Officer/G-6 and Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology), 4 May 2009, subject: Use of Computer Hardware, Enterprise Software and Solutions (CHESS) as the Primary Source for Procuring Commercial IT Hardware and Software.

b. Memorandum, Deputy Secretary of Defense, 26 February 2016, subject: Implementation of Microsoft Windows 10 Secure Host Baseline.

c. NETCOM Technical Authority (TA) Implementation Memorandum for Army End-User Computing Environment Version 4.0, 2 March 2017.

d. FRAGO 2 TO HQDA EXORD 139-16 INSTITUTIONAL NETWORK MODERNIZATION EXECUTION - December 16, 2016

e. Memorandum, Commanding General, US Army Contracting Command, 7 February 2013, subject: Command Policy Memorandum – Use of Reverse Auctioning.

f. Memorandum, DoD Senior Information Security Officer, Mar 06, 2017, subject: Updated Direction for the Implementation of Microsoft Windows 10 Secure Host Baseline-March 2017

2. Purpose. This memorandum provides guidance on life cycle replacement and accelerated life cycle replacement of end-point devices to achieve Army compliance, through a financially efficient process, with the Deputy Secretary of Defense's direction (reference 1b) to migrate to the Windows 10 Secure Host Baseline (SHB).

3. Guidance. Effective immediately, all Army organizations should adhere to the following guidance in accordance with the references in paragraph 1 to meet the Deputy Secretary of Defense directive.

SAIS-PRR

Subject: Guidance on Life Cycle Replacement (LCR) of End-Point Devices To Ensure Compliance with Secure Host Baseline – Army (SHB-A)

a. All end-point devices purchased must be fully SHB-A compliant (see Enclosure 1 for compliance determination and other benefits gained through this guidance).

b. To promote efficient spending, organizations are highly encouraged to avoid purchasing end-point devices with unnecessary features. For financial efficiency, organizations should buy end-point devices meeting the minimum specifications required for their end user's to successfully support the organization's mission (see Enclosure 1, paragraph 4. Technical Specifications).

c. Volume purchasing must be used to the greatest extent possible. End-point devices being replaced to ensure support of the Windows 10 Secure Host Baseline – Army (SHB-A) are to be procured using volume purchasing programs. All baseline configurations offered through the Computer Hardware, Enterprise Software and Solutions (CHESS) Consolidated Buy (CB) (see https://chess.army.mil/Content/Page/CB_OVR) are known to meet Army requirements for running SHB-A. Procurement should be made at the highest aggregated level possible, MACOM or DRU level, where applicable.

d. Organizations are highly encouraged to use CHESS's reverse auction option to maximize competition and achieve better cost savings. Reducing the unit price of compatible end-point devices will save the Army millions of dollars and will help Army organizations maximize available resources towards achievement of this goal.

4. Expiration. This guidance expires upon completion of migration to Windows 10 SHB-A.

5. The CIO/G-6 point of contact for this guidance is COL Paul A. Henry: (703) 614-0439, DSN 224-0439 or paul.a.henry12.mil@mail.mil.

Encls

GARY C. WANG
Acting Chief Information Officer/G-6

DISTRIBUTION:

Principal Officials of Headquarters, Department of the Army
Commander

U.S. Army Forces Command

U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command

U.S. Army Materiel Command

(CONT)

SAIS-PRR

Subject: Guidance on Life Cycle Replacement (LCR) of End-Point Devices To Ensure Compliance with Secure Host Baseline – Army (SHB-A)

DISTRIBUTION: (CONT)

U.S. Army Pacific
U.S. Army Europe
U.S. Army Central
U.S. Army North
U.S. Army South
U.S. Army Africa/Southern European Task Force
U.S. Army Special Operations Command
Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command
U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Strategic Command
U.S. Army Cyber Command
U.S. Army Medical Command
U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command
U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Army Military District of Washington
U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command
U.S. Army Installation Management Command
Second Army
Superintendent, United States Military Academy
Director, U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center
Executive Director, Arlington National Cemetery
Commandant, U.S. Army War College
Commander, U.S. Army Accessions Support Brigade

CF:

Director, Army National Guard
Director of Business Transformation
Commander, Eighth Army

Enclosure 1
Secure Host Baseline – Army
Compliance Definitions, Technical Specifications and Volume Purchasing

1. Compliance Definition.

a. All end-point devices purchased through CHES consolidated buys are fully compliant with SHB-A hardware and firmware requirements. Full compliance means the device meets the Windows 10 operating system requirements, all SHB-A security features are enabled, and the device complies with all Defense Information Systems Agency Security Technical Implementation Guide settings (i.e., a Command Cybersecurity Readiness Inspection would find no violations of any category).

2. Benefits of Volume Purchasing Cost Efficiencies.

a. To the greatest extent possible, organizations are strongly encouraged to use volume purchasing. In order to realize the greatest cost efficiencies, CIO/G-6 and CHES encourage combining the hardware needs of subordinate units/directorates and ordering at the highest level of an organization possible.

b. CHES customers may reap significant discounts by placing orders in the range of 10,000 units and competing the requirement either through a request for quotes or a reverse auction (see below for more details about reverse auctions). The key to this method is reducing the number of models and configurations. An order of 10,000 units of the same model and specifications will result in greater savings than buying 1,000 units each of 10 different models.

c. If mission requirements allow, a longer delivery window of 90 days or more may be specified. The default delivery timeframe is 30 days in CONUS and 35 days OCONUS. By allowing a longer delivery timeframe, original equipment manufacturers may be able to reduce manufacturing costs and pass the savings on to the customer.

3. Reverse Auctions.

a. Reverse auctions must be initiated by using the CHES IT e-mart at <https://chess.army.mil>.

b. Reverse auctions offer through the CHES IT e-mart offer the following benefits.

- 1) There are no CHES fees.
- 2) End-point devices compliant with the specifications in current CHES contracts fully support SHB-A at the time of the contract. Available devices under successor contracts will fully support evolution of SHB-A. To maximize buying power and accelerate Windows 10 implementation, customers should purchase devices

SAIS-PRR

Subject: Guidance on Life Cycle Replacement (LCR) of End-Point Devices To Ensure Compliance with Secure Host Baseline – Army (SHB-A)

meeting the minimum technical thresholds necessary for their organization's mission and their individual users' needs.

- 3) Reverse auctions maximize vendor competition without being too restrictive.
- 4) Real-time pricing competition drives down costs.
- 5) Reverse auctions can be structured with customizable price-inflection points and time-duration parameters. (The default reverse auction open period is one week; organizations may change this timeframe but CHES recommends no fewer than five business days.)
- 6) Vendors can provide multiple bids and buyers can opt out of the reverse auction process if not satisfied with the bids received.
- 7) While organizations are encouraged to maximize competition to achieve better cost savings, competition is not required for orders valued at \$150,000 or less.

4. Technical Specifications.

a. An end-point device is defined as a desktop, workstation or portable computing platform (laptops/tablets).

b. The Army's guidance for SHB-A baseline implementation constitutes the minimum technical specifications. Network Enterprise Technology Command's Technical Authority (TA) guidance (reference 1c) is the definitive source for these specifications. Systems complying with the NETCOM TA as currently in effect are available for purchase via the CHES website (<https://chess.army.mil/>).

c. Buyers are strongly encouraged to tailor purchase of systems to the minimum capability necessary for user missions. Tailoring allows commands to maximize their overall quantity purchased. Standard performance computers meet the needs of the majority of users for office productivity, email and routine web access. Higher performance computers (end point devices) should be reserved for users with requirements to perform complex activities, run processor heavy applications or other situations where a standard performance computer would negatively impact productivity.