



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

NETC-EST-SI

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY NETWORK ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY COMMAND/
9th ARMY SIGNAL COMMAND
2133 CUSHING STREET
FORT HUACHUCA, ARIZONA 85613-7070

NOV 16 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: ARMY GOLDEN MASTER WAIVER PROCESS

1. REFERENCES.

a. CIO-G6 Memo, Army Establishes Source for Common Operating System Baseline Configurations, August 15th 2006

b. AGM XP SP2 Security Baseline Spreadsheet, AGM XP SP2 (w/CAT).xls,
<https://www.us.army.mil/suite/folder/1137580>

c. NSA Guide to Securing Windows XP, Version 1.1, 1 December 2003
<http://iase.disa.mil/stigs/stig/index.html>

d. Security Technical Implementation Guide (STIG), 29 August 2005, Defense Information Systems Agency Windows 2003/XP/2000 Addendum Version 5, Release 1
<http://iase.disa.mil/stigs/stig/index.html>

e. TECHCON, Implementation Number 2003-005c, 13 September 2006, Army Enterprise Desktop Software Standardization.

2. PURPOSE. The purpose of this memorandum is to define the requirements for modifying the Army Golden Master (AGM) baseline configuration and describing the waiver/compliance reporting process for organizational modifications.

3. SCOPE. The common operating system baseline applies to all Microsoft Windows-based desktops and laptops within the Army Enterprise Infostructure (AEI). This includes program-based systems and stand-alone platforms not directly connected to the AEI. The waiver/compliance reporting process is specifically focused on the security configuration settings defined by the AGM program and is not applicable to the applications or the security patches supported by AGM releases.

4. IMPLEMENTATION.

a. All organizations will analyze the AGM XP Pro configuration against their current deployed organizational baseline. The AGM XP Pro configuration is directly associated with the DISA Gold configuration and is intended to leverage the organizational findings from the AR25-2 process directing that all information systems be compliant with DISA, Army, and NETCOM guidelines. All modifications must be documented and accepted by the appropriate

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DAA. The intent of the organizational analysis is to identify any required modifications to the AGM configuration to support organizational functional requirements. The AGM configuration that is deployed on an organizational production network must be approved by the organizational DAA even if no modifications have been introduced.

b. All Army organizations will develop a deployment plan to update existing Windows-based platforms into compliance with the baseline within 6 months days from the date defined in the CIO G-6 memo (reference a). Deviations from the standard configurations identified in this memorandum will occur in instances where unique mission requirements cannot be met using the standard configuration settings (Category 1). Category 2 and category 3 AGM configuration settings can be modified by Directorates of Information Management (DOIM), Major Commands (MACOMs), Department of the Army (DA) agencies, Program Managers (PMs), or Program Executive Offices (PEOs) to support required processes and/or requirements. Organizations should carefully consider the need for non-standard configurations against mission requirements; and conduct a vulnerability assessment. The deviation approval process varies depending upon the category of the change, ***but in all cases requires approval by the organizational DAA.***

c. AGM Configuration Categories:

1). Category 1 (Cat 1): Cat 1 settings are critical and reducing this level of security may introduce a high level of risk or may not integrate with the established standards of the AEI. Many of Cat 1 settings are defined in domain level AD Group Policy or are required for connectivity into the Army Active Directory. A waiver for modifications to Cat 1 settings should be submitted per PARA 5 and approved by NETCOM/9TH ASC before implementation.

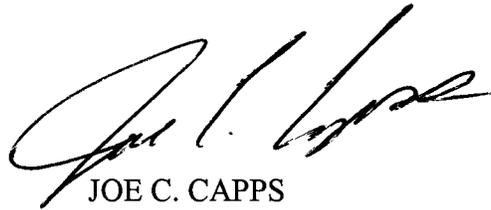
2). Category 2 (Cat 2): Cat 2 settings form a second layer of configuration that contains critical and important settings that can be modified to support functional requirements. Cat 2 settings are highly recommended security settings and are usually defined by DISA as critical or important. No waiver is required to modify Cat 2 configuration settings but the approving organization must justify and provide a DAA signed report to AGM_Support@netcom.army.mil documenting the Cat 2 modifications.

3). Category 3 (Cat 3): Cat 3 settings are the final layer of configuration that contains settings that are intended to be modified to support local functional requirements. Cat 3 settings are recommended security settings and are usually defined by DISA as Important or Moderate. The approving organization does not need to report Cat 3 modifications to NETCOM/9TH ASC but it should document the modifications and keep a signed DAA statement on file.

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5. WAIVER REPORTING FORMAT. All waiver requests for Cat 1 modifications should be documented on a copy of the current AGM XP Professional spreadsheet (reference b) and highlighted in RED. Every modification must include the justification and/or mitigation for the change. The submission should be signed by the organization's DAA stating that all requested modifications are approved at that level. Waiver requests should be submitted to the AGM support email address (AGM_Support@netcom.army.mil). The AGM Program Office will provide a response within 10 business days of the submission on the waiver request. Approvals/disapprovals will be returned within 30 days.

6. POINTS OF CONTACT: AGM Policy POC: Amy Harding, amy.harding@hqda.army.mil or Shirley Dixon, shirley.dixon@us.army.mil; AGM Technical POC: Cade King; cade.king@us.army.mil; 520 538 6671; Waiver and Report Submission: AGM_Support@netcom.army.mil.



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