OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1200

HEALTH AFFAIRS

JUN - 4 2001

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY SURGEON GENERAL OF THE ARMY
DEPUTY SURGEON GENERAL OF THE NAVY
DEPUTY SURGEON GENERAL OF THE AIR FORCE

SUBJECT: Policy for Military Health System Operating Systems

This memorandum supercedes Health Affairs Policy Memorandum 96-058 of August 26, 1996 and establishes Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) (OASD (HA)) policy for Military Health System (MHS) client and server operating systems. By limiting the number and diversity of operating systems, the MHS will achieve economies of scale, increase interoperability, and reduce complexity in network configuration. Moreover, decreasing diversity in operating systems within the MHS furthers business process reengineering by simplifying the integration of common functions and by allowing a single, integrated information management approach.

This policy establishes Windows 2000 Server and Windows 2000 Professional Desktop as the standard MHS operating systems for new acquisitions. These operating systems provide for a secure, high performance environment that has broad industry application support, and supports portability to diverse hardware platforms. All MHS programs are directed to test centrally managed applications prior to implementation in a Windows 2000 environment.

Windows 2000 Professional Desktop and Server are currently delivered with new system purchases and may be implemented on existing systems as long as it does not cause conflict with MHS mission critical functionality. Current MHS policy on minimum hardware requirements for servers and PCs meet or exceed the minimum requirements for a Windows 2000 installation.

All activities within the MHS shall defer implementation of Active Directory until an approved directory schema is finalized. Implementation of a consistent Active Directory naming structure within the MHS will provide the highest level of interoperability. This will allow the Medical Services to exchange Active Directory architectural information. The Technical Integration Working Group, in coordination with the Services, is charged with the oversight of the development of an MHS Active Directory structure.

Waivers to any part of this policy will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis and shall be forwarded in accordance with the attachment.

Should you require additional information, my point of contact for this policy directive is Mr. William Jarvis, Technical Management, Integration and Standards. Mr. Jarvis may be reached at (703) 681-8701 or by electronic mail at William.Jarvis@tma.osd.mil.

James C. Reardon
Military Health System
Chief Information Officer

Attachment:
Request for Waiver

Request for Waiver to Military Health System Windows (MHS) 2000 Guidance

Organization: _____ Date of request: _____
Address: _____
_____
POC: _____
Telephone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Nature of Waiver Requested

Include the specific DoD or MHS Operating System standard(s) to which you are requesting a waiver.

Justification

Include the justification for the waiver and consequences if denied. Also include statement of planned migration toward the DoD or MHS Windows 2000 standard and approximate time line for achieving compliance to the standard. Include the scope of the waiver in terms of approximate number of units affected. Please limit this section to one page or less.

_____
Signature of Requestor

Waiver Request Endorsement

I endorse the above request based on justification provided.

_____
Signature and Date of Service Chief Information Officer (CIO), or
Technical Program Office Manager

Technology Management, Integration and Standards (TMI&S) Response:

This section is to be completed by TMI&S and will provide a recommendation to the CIO for approval/disapproval of the waiver with the associated justification. It may also include conditions and terms to be agreed to by the requestor (i.e., next major version release of this system must be ported to compliant architecture).

Approved / Disapproved Expires on: _____

_____ Date: _____
Ms. Clarrisa Reberkenny
Director, Technology Management, Integration and Standards