

## **Verification of Standards in MOD Contracts - A Mandatory Requirement**

A recent study carried out into the use of Defence Standards in MOD contracts found that around 60% of contracts were calling up cancelled, obsolescent or incorrectly identified Defence Standards. This is a major concern as it risks serious contractual, financial and legal implications for the MOD.

To alleviate the problem, UK Defence Standardization (DStan), have established a “Standards Verification Service” for MOD Contracts. Through the Helpdesk DStan are now able to confirm the validity and currency of Standards contained within MOD contracts. The service stops short of commenting on the technical appropriateness of Standards for their intended purpose, but DStan can however provide assistance with this as a separate issue through the various layers of support available through their Helpdesk.

Recognising the importance of this, the Director Technical, requested that it be made a **mandatory** requirement to seek DStan verification for Standards included in MOD contracts in excess of **£5M** (ex-VAT). This includes Enabling Contracts whose value is estimated to likely exceed £5M. The requirement has been added to the Commercial Managers Toolkit on the AOF, with the list of Standards that can be verified provided below. This list is likely to increase as further referencing facilities come on line.

AECMA	Association Europeene des Constructeurs de Materiel Aerospatial
AP	Allied Publication
BS, BS EN, BS ISO	British Standards
BR	Book of Reference
COSHH	Control of Substances Hazardous to Health
Def Stan	Defence Standard
DGS	Director General Ship
EASA	European Aviation Safety Agency
ETSI	European Telecommunications Standards Institute
EUROCAE	European Organisation for Civil Aviation Equipment
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organisation
IEC/PAS	International Electrotechnical Commission – Publicity Available Specification
IEC TS	International Electrotechnical Commission – Technical Specification
ISO	International Organisation for Standardization
JAR	Joint Aviation Requirement

JSP                    Joint Service Publication  
MIL Specifications/Standards

NES                  Naval Engineering Standard  
OSGB                Ordnance Survey of Great Britain  
Other Health and Safety Standards

SSP                  Sea Systems Publication  
STANAG            NATO Standardization Agreement

The DStan Helpdesk can be contacted at Kentigern House, Glasgow: Tel 0141 224 2531/2532 (MIL 94561 2531/2532), Fax: 0141 224 2503 (MIL 94561 2503)