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Exhibit R-2, RDT&E Budget Item Justification: PB 2025 Office of the Secretary Of Defense **Date:** March 2024

Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400: <i>Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Defense-Wide</i> / BA 6: <i>RDT&E Management Support</i>	R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 0605804D8Z / <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>
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COST (\$ in Millions)	Prior Years	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025 Base	FY 2025 OCO	FY 2025 Total	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	Cost To Complete	Total Cost
Total Program Element	192.311	25.286	37.353	37.233	-	37.233	37.620	38.492	39.329	40.115	Continuing	Continuing
804: <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>	178.908	18.435	19.683	19.944	-	19.944	20.376	20.800	21.252	21.677	Continuing	Continuing
048: <i>Cybersecurity DT&E for Weapon Systems</i>	13.403	6.851	7.111	7.052	-	7.052	7.204	7.355	7.516	7.666	Continuing	Continuing
149: <i>Independent Engineering Assessments</i>	0.000	0.000	10.559	10.237	-	10.237	10.040	10.337	10.561	10.772	Continuing	Continuing

Note

New Start (Y/N): No

A. Mission Description and Budget Item Justification

This program carries out the duties in accordance with Title 10 U.S.C. Section 133a, FY 2018 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) (Public Law 115-91) section 838, and the Department of Defense (DoD) Directive 5137.02 dated July 15, 2020. In FY 2020, the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (USD(R&E)) established the Developmental Test, Evaluation, and Assessments (DTE&A) organization to provide consolidated Developmental Test and Evaluation (DT&E) and Independent Engineering Assessment functions in a single office. The Executive Director, DTE&A, is the principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense; USD(R&E); and the Under Secretary of Defense, Acquisition and Sustainment (USD(A&S)) on DT&E, Independent Engineering Assessments, and Technical Risk Assessments in the Department of Defense (DoD). This program supports the Department's initiatives to Build a Sustainable and Long-Term Advantage and Build a Resilient Joint Force and Defense Ecosystem.

The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (OUSD(R&E)) engages with acquisition and rapid prototype programs, providing engineering and DT&E/Cybersecurity DT&E planning expertise to ensure decision-quality data is available at major engineering program reviews and program milestones. This engagement directly helps Program Managers succeed in modernizing key capabilities to Build a More Lethal Force. OUSD(R&E) engages with programs to help meet interoperability requirements to deepen interoperability and Strengthen Alliances. Finally, OUSD(R&E) works with Director, Operational Test and Evaluation to streamline T&E policy and guidance to improve test efficiency and reduce acquisition cost and schedule to Reform the Department for Greater Performance and Affordability.

This program supports and improves the engineering and DT&E efforts of Major Defense Acquisition Program (MDAP), Rapid Prototyping/Fielding efforts, and other Special Interest (SI) acquisition programs designated by USD(R&E) or USD(A&S) as they progress through the acquisition/development lifecycle; supports development of the defense acquisition workforce Test and Evaluation (T&E) career field; and supports development of policy and guidance for the conduct of DT&E and Cyber DT&E within the DoD. This program also provides dedicated resources to support MDAP and Rapid Prototyping/Fielding Program Managers, Chief Developmental Testers,

UNCLASSIFIED

Exhibit R-2, RDT&E Budget Item Justification: PB 2025 Office of the Secretary Of Defense	Date: March 2024
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Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400: <i>Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Defense-Wide I BA 6: RDT&E Management Support</i>	R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 0605804D8Z I <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>
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and Lead Development Test & Evaluation organizations in the development of comprehensive, efficient, and innovative Cybersecurity DT&E strategies/plans to support key acquisition milestones and engineering/programmatic decisions.

B. Program Change Summary (\$ in Millions)	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025 Base	FY 2025 OCO	FY 2025 Total
Previous President's Budget	26.049	37.353	37.533	-	37.533
Current President's Budget	25.286	37.353	37.233	-	37.233
Total Adjustments	-0.763	0.000	-0.300	-	-0.300
• Congressional General Reductions	-	-			
• Congressional Directed Reductions	-	-			
• Congressional Rescissions	-	-			
• Congressional Adds	-	-			
• Congressional Directed Transfers	-	-			
• Reprogrammings	-	-			
• SBIR/STTR Transfer	-0.760	-			
• Other Reprogrammings	-0.003	-	-	-	-
• Program Adjustment	-	-	-0.300	0.000	-0.300

Change Summary Explanation

A reduction of \$0.375 million was applied to DoD overall funding reductions, which were spread to mitigate impact. A funding increase of \$0.075 million for Economic Assumptions. Overall net reduction of \$0.300 million applied.

UNCLASSIFIED

Exhibit R-2A, RDT&E Project Justification: PB 2025 Office of the Secretary Of Defense										Date: March 2024		
Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 6					R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 0605804D8Z / <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>				Project (Number/Name) 804 / <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>			
COST (\$ in Millions)	Prior Years	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025 Base	FY 2025 OCO	FY 2025 Total	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	Cost To Complete	Total Cost
804: <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>	178.908	18.435	19.683	19.944	-	19.944	20.376	20.800	21.252	21.677	Continuing	Continuing
Quantity of RDT&E Articles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

A. Mission Description and Budget Item Justification

The Development Test & Evaluation (DT&E) project 804 provides resources to support Major Defense Acquisition Program (MDAP) and Rapid Prototyping/Fielding Program Managers, Chief Developmental Testers, and Lead DT&E Organizations in the development of comprehensive, efficient, and innovative DT&E strategies/plans to support key acquisition milestones and engineering decisions. This project also supports the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (OUSDR&E) to manage the Test & Evaluation (T&E) career field and curriculum for the Department of Defense (DoD) acquisition workforce and develop policy and guidance for the conduct of DT&E within DoD. On behalf of the USD(R&E) this project executes the following activities:

- Support acquisition programs in the development of comprehensive, efficient, and innovative test strategies. Ensure that developmental test strategies are documented in Test and Evaluation Master Plans (TEMPs). For Acquisition Category (ACAT) ID programs, review and approve/disapprove the DT&E strategy/plans within the TEMP. For ACAT IB and IC programs, review the DT&E strategy/plans within the TEMP and provide a recommendation to the Service Milestone Decision Authority as to whether or not the strategy is adequate.
- Support rapid prototyping, rapid fielding, and technology demonstrations efforts in the development of tailored comprehensive, efficient, and innovative DT&E strategies/plans.
- For ACAT ID programs, provide independent DT&E Sufficiency Assessments to the Defense Acquisition Executive at the Milestone B and C decisions with the goal of reducing discovery of performance issues later in the acquisition cycle.
- For ACAT IB and IC programs, provide an independent DT&E program assessment to the Service Milestone Decision Authority prior to the development Request for Proposal (RFP) release decision point and at the Milestone B and C decisions with the goal of reducing discovery of performance issues later in the acquisition cycle.
- When requested by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary of Defense, provide independent developmental test assessments in support of Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (USD(A&S)) and Service Major Defense Acquisition Programs.
- Support the development of independent technical risk assessments and advise the Secretary on the progress toward meeting Key Performance Parameters, technology maturation, reliability growth projections, interoperability, and cybersecurity posture before any decision to grant Milestone A or B approval, or enter into low-rate initial production or full-rate production for ACAT ID programs or when requested by the Secretary.
- Support the Scientific Test and Analysis Techniques Center of Excellence (STAT COE) that provides scientific analytical expertise to service MDAPs.
- Identify the DoD test infrastructure gaps and support development of the OUSDR&E test resources strategic plan.
- Evolve the DT&E 'state of practice' to keep pace with emerging technologies and improve test efficiency to field systems faster.
- Coordinate with Director, Operational Test and Evaluation to improve T&E efficiency and make best use of integrated testing.

B. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Title: Development Test and Evaluation	18.435	19.683	19.944

UNCLASSIFIED

Exhibit R-2A, RDT&E Project Justification: PB 2025 Office of the Secretary Of Defense		Date: March 2024
Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 6	R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 0605804D8Z / <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>	Project (Number/Name) 804 / <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>

B. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)

Description: The Development Test & Evaluation (DT&E) project 804 supports and improves the DT&E efforts of Major Defense Acquisition Program (MDAP), Rapid Prototyping/Fielding efforts, and other Special Interest (SI) acquisition programs as they progress through the acquisition/development lifecycle; lead the defense acquisition workforce T&E career field; and support development of policy and guidance for the conduct of DT&E within the DoD.

FY 2024 Plans:

- Continue to work with Acquisition Program Managers, Chief Developmental Testers, and Lead DT&E organizations to improve DT&E planning and develop comprehensive and efficient DT&E strategies/plans through the use of disciplined Developmental Evaluation Framework matrices and Scientific Test and Analysis Techniques (STAT).
- Continue to support rapid prototyping, rapid fielding, and technology demonstrations efforts in the development of tailored comprehensive, efficient, and innovative DT&E strategies/plans.
- Continue to implement the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (OUSDR&E) 'Shift Left' initiative that focuses on ensuring DT&E strategies are developed in advance of releasing Technology Maturation and Risk Reduction (TMRR) and Engineering and Manufacturing Development (EMD) Request for Proposals (RFPs), and increasing the amount and quality of data available to support production decisions with specific focus on cybersecurity, interoperability, and reliability.
- For Acquisition Category (ACAT) ID programs, review/approve all Test and Evaluation Master Plans (TEMPs) submitted to support milestone reviews. For ACAT IB and IC programs, review the DT&E strategy/plans within the TEMP and provide a recommendation to the Service Milestone Decision Authority as to whether or not the strategy is adequate.
- For ACAT ID programs, publish independent DT&E Sufficiency Assessments prior to Milestone B and C decisions with the goal of reducing discovery of performance issues later in the acquisition cycle.
- For ACAT IB and IC programs, publish independent DT&E program assessments at the development Request for Proposal (RFP) release decision point and Milestone B and C decisions with the goal of reducing discovery of performance issues later in the acquisition cycle.
- When requested by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary of Defense, provide independent developmental test assessments in support of Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (USD(A&S)) and Service Milestone Decision Authorities.
- Refine DT&E policies and methodologies addressing DT&E across all Acquisition programs.
- Promote the application of sound Development Test and Evaluation (DT&E) and related technical disciplines across the Department's acquisition community and programs.
- Implement initiatives that evolve the DT&E 'state of practice' to keep pace with emerging technologies and improve test efficiency to field systems faster.

FY 2025 Plans:

FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025

UNCLASSIFIED

Exhibit R-2A, RDT&E Project Justification: PB 2025 Office of the Secretary Of Defense	Date: March 2024
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Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 6	R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 0605804D8Z / <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>	Project (Number/Name) 804 / <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>
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B. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to work with Acquisition Program Managers, Chief Developmental Testers, and Lead Development Test and Evaluation (DT&E) organizations to improve DT&E planning and develop comprehensive and efficient DT&E strategies/plans through the use of disciplined Developmental Evaluation Framework matrices and Scientific Test and Analysis Techniques (STAT). - Continue to support rapid prototyping, rapid fielding, and technology demonstrations efforts in the development of tailored comprehensive, efficient, and innovative DT&E strategies/plans. - Continue to implement the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (OUSD(R&E)) 'Shift Left' initiative that focuses on ensuring DT&E strategies are developed in advance of releasing Technology Maturation and Risk Reduction (TMRR) and Engineering and Manufacturing Development (EMD) Request for Proposals (RFPs), and increasing the amount and quality of data available to support production decisions with specific focus on cybersecurity, interoperability, and reliability. - For Acquisition Category (ACAT) ID programs, review/approve all Test and Evaluation Master Plans (TEMPs) submitted to support milestone reviews. For ACAT IB and IC programs, review the DT&E strategy/plans within the TEMP and provide a recommendation to the Service Milestone Decision Authority as to whether or not the strategy is adequate. - For ACAT ID programs, publish independent DT&E Sufficiency Assessments prior to Milestone B and C decisions with the goal of reducing discovery of performance issues later in the acquisition cycle. - For ACAT IB and IC programs, publish independent DT&E program assessments at the development RFP release decision point and Milestone B and C decisions with the goal of reducing discovery of performance issues later in the acquisition cycle. - When requested by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary of Defense, provide independent developmental test assessments in support of the Under Secretary of Defense Acquisition and Sustainment (USD(A&S))0 and Service Milestone Decision Authorities. - Refine DT&E policies and methodologies addressing DT&E across all Acquisition programs. - Promote the application of sound DT&E and related technical disciplines across the Department's acquisition community and programs. - Implement initiatives that evolve the DT&E 'state of practice' to keep pace with emerging technologies and improve test efficiency to field systems faster. <p><i>FY 2024 to FY 2025 Increase/Decrease Statement:</i> There is no significant change between FY 2024 and FY 2025.</p>			
Accomplishments/Planned Programs Subtotals	18.435	19.683	19.944

C. Other Program Funding Summary (\$ in Millions)
N/A

Remarks
N/A

UNCLASSIFIED

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Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 6	R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 0605804D8Z / <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>	Project (Number/Name) 804 / <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>

D. Acquisition Strategy
N/A

UNCLASSIFIED

Exhibit R-2A, RDT&E Project Justification: PB 2025 Office of the Secretary Of Defense										Date: March 2024		
Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 6					R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 0605804D8Z / Development Test & Evaluation				Project (Number/Name) 048 / Cybersecurity DT&E for Weapon Systems			
COST (\$ in Millions)	Prior Years	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025 Base	FY 2025 OCO	FY 2025 Total	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	Cost To Complete	Total Cost
048: Cybersecurity DT&E for Weapon Systems	13.403	6.851	7.111	7.052	-	7.052	7.204	7.355	7.516	7.666	Continuing	Continuing
Quantity of RDT&E Articles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

A. Mission Description and Budget Item Justification

The Cybersecurity Development Test and Evaluation (DT&E) for Weapon Systems project provides dedicated resources to support Major Defense Acquisition Program (MDAP) and Rapid Prototyping/Fielding Program Managers, Chief Developmental Testers, and Lead DT&E Organizations in the development of comprehensive, efficient, and innovative Cybersecurity DT&E strategies to support key acquisition milestones and engineering/programmatic decisions. On behalf of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (USD(R&E)) this project executes the following activities:

- Support acquisition programs in the development of comprehensive, efficient, and innovative Cybersecurity DT&E strategies. Ensure that Cybersecurity DT&E strategies are documented in Test and Evaluation Master Plans (TEMPs). For Acquisition Category (ACAT) ID programs, review and approve/disapprove the Cybersecurity DT&E strategy/plans within the TEMP.
- Support rapid prototyping, rapid fielding, and technology demonstrations efforts in the development of tailored comprehensive, efficient, and innovative Cybersecurity DT&E strategies/plans.
- Support the development of independent technical risk assessments and advise the Secretary on the Cybersecurity, cyber survivability, and resilience posture before any decision to grant Milestone A or B approval, or enter into low-rate initial production or full-rate production for ACAT ID programs or when requested by the Secretary.
- Identify DoD Cybersecurity test infrastructure gaps and support development of the OUSD(R&E) test resources strategic plan.
- Evolve the Cybersecurity DT&E 'state of practice' to keep pace with emerging technologies and improve test efficiency to field systems faster.
- Coordinate with Director, Operational Test and Evaluation to improve Cybersecurity T&E efficiency and make best use of integrated testing.

B. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Title: Cybersecurity DT&E for Weapon Systems	6.851	7.111	7.052
Description: The Cybersecurity DT&E for Weapon Systems project 048 supports and improves the Cybersecurity DT&E efforts of MDAP, Rapid Prototyping/Fielding efforts, and other Special Interest (SI) acquisition programs as they progress through the acquisition/development lifecycle; and support development of policy and guidance for the conduct of Cybersecurity DT&E within the DoD.			
FY 2024 Plans:			
- Continue work with Acquisition Program Managers, Chief Developmental Testers, and Lead Development Test & Evaluation (DT&E) organizations to improve Cybersecurity DT&E planning and develop comprehensive and efficient DT&E strategies/plans through the use of disciplined Developmental Evaluation Framework matrices and Scientific Test and Analysis Techniques			

UNCLASSIFIED

Exhibit R-2A, RDT&E Project Justification: PB 2025 Office of the Secretary Of Defense		Date: March 2024
Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 6	R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 0605804D8Z / <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>	Project (Number/Name) 048 / <i>Cybersecurity DT&E for Weapon Systems</i>

B. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
<p>(STAT). Help programs develop Cybersecurity T&E objectives that align cybersecurity requirements for security standards, cyber survivability, and operational resilience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to support rapid prototyping, rapid fielding, and technology demonstrations efforts in the development of tailored comprehensive, efficient, and innovative Cybersecurity DT&E strategies/plans. - Continue to implement the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (OUSD(R&E)) 'Shift Left' initiative that focuses on ensuring Cybersecurity Development Test and Evaluation (DT&E) strategies are developed in advance of releasing Technology Maturation and Risk Reduction (TMRR) and Engineering and Manufacturing Development (EMD) Request for Proposals (RFPs) and increasing the amount and quality of data available to support production decisions. - Continue to refine Cybersecurity DT&E policies and methodologies addressing Cybersecurity DT&E across all Acquisition programs. - Assess Cybersecurity performance/resiliency to support development of DT&E Sufficiency Assessments Acquisition Category (ACAT) IDv programs or DT&E program assessments Acquisition Category (ACAT) 1B/1C programs. - When requested by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary of Defense, provide independent Cybersecurity developmental test assessments in support of Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (USD(A&S)) and Service Milestone Decision Authorities. - Continue to provide Cybersecurity DT&E subject matter experts to assist programs in building Developmental Evaluation Frameworks (DEFs), conducting Cybersecurity Table Top Exercises to identify potential threat vectors, and assist programs with exercising Phases 1 and 2 of the Department of Defense (DoD) Cybersecurity T&E Process. - Continue to promote the application of sound Cybersecurity DT&E and related technical disciplines across the Department's acquisition community and programs. - Implement initiatives that evolve the Cybersecurity DT&E 'state of practice' to keep pace with emerging technologies and improve test efficiency to field systems faster. - Implement initiatives to guide acquisition programs for how to use Cybersecurity T&E planning and analysis and Cybersecurity tests to identify and mitigate cyber risk in supply chains, development environments, tools and processes. - Continue to collaborate with the Intelligence communities to improve cyber intelligence support to Cybersecurity DT&E. - Continue to work with Lead Development Test and Evaluation (DT&E) organizations to improve Cybersecurity DT&E workforce capability and retention as well as capacity to support earlier integrated contractor and government Cybersecurity DT&E. <p>FY 2025 Plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue work with Acquisition Program Managers, Chief Developmental Testers, and Lead Development Test and Evaluation (DT&E) organizations to improve Cybersecurity DT&E planning and develop comprehensive and efficient DT&E strategies/plans through the use of disciplined Developmental Evaluation Framework matrices and Scientific Test and Analysis Techniques 			

UNCLASSIFIED

Exhibit R-2A, RDT&E Project Justification: PB 2025 Office of the Secretary Of Defense		Date: March 2024
Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 6	R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 0605804D8Z / <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>	Project (Number/Name) 048 / <i>Cybersecurity DT&E for Weapon Systems</i>

B. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
<p>(STAT). Help programs develop Cybersecurity T&E objectives that align cybersecurity requirements for security standards, cyber survivability, and operational resilience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to support rapid prototyping, rapid fielding, and technology demonstrations efforts in the development of tailored comprehensive, efficient, and innovative Cybersecurity DT&E strategies/plans. - Continue to implement the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (OUSD(R&E)) 'Shift Left' initiative that focuses on ensuring Cybersecurity DT&E strategies are developed in advance of releasing Technology Maturation and Risk Reduction (TMRR) and Engineering and Manufacturing Development (EMD) Request for Proposals (RFPs) and increasing the amount and quality of data available to support production decisions. - Continue to refine Cybersecurity DT&E policies and methodologies addressing Cybersecurity DT&E across all Acquisition programs. - Assess Cybersecurity performance/resiliency to support development of DT&E Sufficiency Assessments Acquisition Category (ACAT) ID programs or DT&E program assessments Acquisition Category (ACAT) 1B/1C programs. - When requested by the Secretary or Deputy Secretary of Defense, provide independent Cybersecurity developmental test assessments in support of Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (USD(A&S)) and Service Milestone Decision Authorities. - Continue to provide Cybersecurity DT&E subject matter experts to assist programs in building Developmental Evaluation Frameworks (DEFs), conducting Cybersecurity Table Top Exercises to identify potential threat vectors, and assist programs with exercising Phases 1 and 2 of the Department of Defense (DoD) Cybersecurity T&E Process. - Continue to promote the application of sound Cybersecurity DT&E and related technical disciplines across the Department's acquisition community and programs. - Implement initiatives that evolve the Cybersecurity DT&E 'state of practice' to keep pace with emerging technologies and improve test efficiency to field systems faster. - Implement initiatives to guide acquisition programs for how to use Cybersecurity T&E planning and analysis and Cybersecurity tests to identify and mitigate cyber risk in supply chains, development environments, tools and processes. - Continue to collaborate with the Intelligence communities to improve cyber intelligence support to Cybersecurity DT&E. - Continue to work with Lead DT&E organizations to improve Cybersecurity Development Test and Evaluation (DT&E) workforce capability and retention as well as capacity to support earlier integrated contractor and government Cybersecurity DT&E. <p><i>FY 2024 to FY 2025 Increase/Decrease Statement:</i> There is no significant change between FY 2024 and FY 2025.</p>			
Accomplishments/Planned Programs Subtotals	6.851	7.111	7.052

UNCLASSIFIED

Exhibit R-2A, RDT&E Project Justification: PB 2025 Office of the Secretary Of Defense		Date: March 2024
Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 6	R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 0605804D8Z / <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>	Project (Number/Name) 048 / <i>Cybersecurity DT&E for Weapon Systems</i>

C. Other Program Funding Summary (\$ in Millions)

N/A

Remarks

D. Acquisition Strategy

N/A.

UNCLASSIFIED

Exhibit R-2A, RDT&E Project Justification: PB 2025 Office of the Secretary Of Defense										Date: March 2024		
Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 6					R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 0605804D8Z / <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>				Project (Number/Name) 149 / <i>Independent Engineering Assessments</i>			
COST (\$ in Millions)	Prior Years	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025 Base	FY 2025 OCO	FY 2025 Total	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	Cost To Complete	Total Cost
149: <i>Independent Engineering Assessments</i>	0.000	0.000	10.559	10.237	-	10.237	10.040	10.337	10.561	10.772	Continuing	Continuing
Quantity of RDT&E Articles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

Note

Project 149 is not a new start project. In FY 2024, USD(R&E) realigned funding from Program Element 0605142D8Z/Project 144, Program Engagement and Independent Assessments, to Project 149, Independent Engineering Assessments. This realignment consolidates DT&E, Cybersecurity DT&E, and Independent Engineering Assessments within this Program Element. In FY 2023 funding for Project 149 can be identified in PE0605142D8Z/Project 144.

A. Mission Description and Budget Item Justification

Independent Engineering Assessments project provides resources to support Major Defense Acquisition Program (MDAP) Program Managers and Chief Engineers/ Systems Engineers in the development of comprehensive, efficient, and innovative engineering strategies/plans to support key acquisition milestones and engineering decisions. For Acquisition Category (ACAT) ID programs, this project also conducts independent engineering assessments, including Independent Technical Risk Assessments (ITRAs), and assessments at the Preliminary and Critical Design Reviews. On behalf of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (USD(R&E)) this project executes the following activities:

- Support acquisition programs in the development of comprehensive, efficient, and innovative systems engineering strategies. Provide Systems Engineering support to ACAT ID programs. For ACAT ID programs, review and approve/disapprove the System Engineering Plans (SEPs) to ensure engineering activities, strategies, and plans are comprehensive and consistent with best practices.
- Monitor and advise USD(R&E) and Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (USD(A&S)) on technical and engineering aspects of MDAPs and select alternate acquisition pathway programs to ensure they are adequate to support fielding and the achievement of cost, schedule and performance goals to include readiness, i.e., producibility, reliability, maintainability, sustainment, and other considerations.
- For ACAT ID programs, provide ITRAs to the Defense Acquisition Executive (DAE) at the Milestone (MS) A, B, and C decisions with the goal of identifying technical risk and outlining potential mitigation measures that should be considered during program execution. For select high priority ACAT IB and IC programs, review and approve service conducted ITRAs prior to the applicable milestone decision point.
- For ACAT ID programs, conduct Preliminary and Critical Design Review assessments to inform the Defense Acquisition Executive of technical risks, maturity of the technical baseline, and the program’s readiness to proceed in accordance with statute.
- For ACAT ID programs, the ITRA and Preliminary Design Review (PDR) assessments support the DAE decision to approve MS B in accordance with statute. They also establish the basis for the DAE to provide a brief summary report at MS A and B that summarizes ITRA results including identification of any critical technologies or manufacturing processes that have not been successfully demonstrated in a relevant environment in accordance with statute.
- Support acceleration of USD(R&E) modernization initiatives in accordance with the National Defense Strategy (NDS).
- Conduct other technical reviews as requested, such as Nunn-McCurdy certification reviews, Non-Advocate Reviews, focused technical assessments, and software readiness reviews to identify and mitigate program risk.

UNCLASSIFIED

Exhibit R-2A, RDT&E Project Justification: PB 2025 Office of the Secretary Of Defense	Date: March 2024
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Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 6	R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 0605804D8Z / <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>	Project (Number/Name) 149 / <i>Independent Engineering Assessments</i>
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- Coordinate with the Services to improve engineering practices for Major Defense Acquisition Programs (MDAPs) and rapid prototyping/fielding programs. Identify, document, and share lessons learned to improve Systems Engineering across the DoD.
- Guide Service and other component organizations in the development planning process to ensure proposed MDAP programs are executable within acceptable levels of risk.

B. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)

	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
<p>Title: Independent Engineering Assessments</p> <p>FY 2024 Plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to work with Acquisition Category (ACAT) ID Program Managers, Chief Engineers/Systems Engineers to improve / develop comprehensive and efficient engineering strategies/plans. - Monitor and advise Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering (USD(R&E)) and Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (USD(A&S)) on technical and engineering aspects of MDAPs and select alternate acquisition pathway programs. - For ACAT ID programs, review/approve all System Engineering Plans (SEPs) submitted to support milestone reviews. - For ACAT ID programs, conduct Independent Risk Assessment (ITRA) to support the Defense Acquisition Executive (DAE) with the goal of identifying technical risk and outlining potential mitigation measures that should be considered during program execution. Provide ITRA results to the DAE to support preparation of Milestone (MS) A and B Brief Summary reports. - For ACAT ID programs, conduct Preliminary and Critical Design Review assessments to inform the DAE of technical risks, maturity of the technical baseline, and the program’s readiness to proceed. - Provide support to engineers and technical leaders to develop and integrate technologies and modernization priorities. - Conduct technical reviews of acquisition programs to confirm program execution in accordance with systems engineering plans. - Provides Specialty Engineering support in the critical disciplines of reliability, software, and manufacturing to ITRAs teams and other assessments. <p>FY 2025 Plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to work with ACAT ID Program Managers, Chief Engineers/Systems Engineers to improve / develop comprehensive and efficient engineering strategies/plans. - Monitor and advise USD(R&E) and USD(A&S) on technical and engineering aspects of Major Defense Acquisition Programs (MDAPS) and select alternate acquisition pathway programs. - For ACAT ID programs, review/approve all SEPs submitted to support milestone reviews. - For Acquisition Category (ACAT) ID programs, conduct Independent Risk Assessment to support the Defense Acquisition Executive (DAE) with the goal of identifying technical risk and outlining potential mitigation measures that should be considered during program execution. Provide Independent Risk Assessment (ITRA) results to the DAE to support preparation of Milestone (MS) A and B Brief Summary reports. 	-	10.559	10.237

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Exhibit R-2A, RDT&E Project Justification: PB 2025 Office of the Secretary Of Defense		Date: March 2024		
Appropriation/Budget Activity 0400 / 6	R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 0605804D8Z / <i>Development Test & Evaluation</i>	Project (Number/Name) 149 / <i>Independent Engineering Assessments</i>		
B. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)		FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For Acquisition Category (ACAT) ID programs, conduct Preliminary and Critical Design Review assessments to inform the Defense Acquisition Executive (DAE) of technical risks, maturity of the technical baseline, and the program’s readiness to proceed. - Provide support to engineers and technical leaders to develop and integrate technologies and modernization priorities. - Conduct technical reviews of acquisition programs to confirm program execution in accordance with systems engineering plans. - Provides Specialty Engineering support in the critical disciplines of reliability, software, and manufacturing to Independent Technical Risk Assessments (ITRAs) teams and other assessments. <p><i>FY 2024 to FY 2025 Increase/Decrease Statement:</i> There is no significant change between FY 2024 and FY 2025.</p>				
Accomplishments/Planned Programs Subtotals		-	10.559	10.237
C. Other Program Funding Summary (\$ in Millions)				
N/A				
Remarks				
D. Acquisition Strategy				
N/A				