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BULLETIN

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Foreign Weapons Evaluation (FWE) and NATO Comparative Test Programs (NATO CTP)

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Background. The increasing emphasis on implementing a "two-way street" approach in international R&D cooperation results from increasing competition for scarce US R&D resources, the maturation of the Free World's technology base, and the need to enhance interoperability and standardization within the NATO alliance. This Bulletin is intended to acquaint and update the readership with two DoD initiatives, the Foreign Weapons Evaluation (FWE) and the NATO Comparative Test Programs (NATO CTP), each of which is a means to enhance R&D cooperation as well as helping satisfy Navy and Marine Corps requirements. For detailed program information and project submission refer to FWE and NATO/CTP Program Procedures Manual (DOD Manual 5000.3-M-2). The relevant SECNAV and OPNAV instructions (SECNAVINST 3960.5 and OPNAVINST 3960.14 both dated 8 January 1987) are presently being staffed for update.

Description.

FWE. The FWE program is a DoD directed and funded program that supports the evaluation of foreign weapons systems, equipments, and technologies with a view to meeting valid US operational requirements. In the context of FWE, weapons systems are defined in the broad sense to be any foreign system, subsystem, or component which is (or will be in the near term) available for US Government procurement.

Each system or equipment proposed for evaluation must address an existing or projected operational or training requirement or deficiency, and there must be a strong possibility of future procurement. Technology candidates must have the potential to make a significant contribution to the US technology base, and there has to be an opportunity to apply the technology to a US system in development.

NATO CTP. In the NATO CTP, the system or equipment must either offer an alternative to a US system in development or offer a cost, schedule, or performance advantage over a current US system or equipment. The major difference between the two programs is that the NATO CTP is limited to our NATO allies and includes no provision for evaluation or acquisition of technology as does the FWE program.

Nomination Process. A formal Candidate Nomination Program (CNP) is needed to initiate the selection approval cycle. For FY-90 emphasis will be placed on Operational Requirements (OR) (tentative OR's will no longer be accepted), acquisition potential, and market surveys for alternative solutions. Nominations for the FY-90 programs must be submitted to the SYSCOM Commanders or Marine Corps Research and Development Command (MCRDAC) by 14 April 1989. CNO (OP-098) will review, prioritize and forward program nominations to SECNAV (ASNRE&S) in mid-May.

ONR Field Offices. New military technology and systems engineering developments that may be of interest to US Navy or DoD RDT&E organizations and acquisition program managers are reported by ONR's foreign field offices for Europe and the Middle East. The reports are made in a concise summary format through the ONREUR Military Applications Summary (MAS) Bulletin. It is recognized that many of these new technology developments or new system/component design concepts may be potential candidates for the FWE or NATO CTP programs.

Action. Personnel who are aware of a possible FWE or NATO CTP project should obtain a copy of DOD Manual 5000.3-M-2. If a copy of this instruction is not available, any of the following personnel can be contacted for information on the nomination process.

OPNAV PROGRAM MANAGER	CAPT Jake Axtman, OP-098F	(202) 697-8368
	Mr. John Joyce, OP-098F6	(202) 695-7633
NAVAIRSYSCOM	Steve Bullock, AIR-9303B	(202) 692-7393
NAVSEASYSYSCOM	Dr. Martin Kamhi, SEA-06AB	(202) 692-4122
SPAWARSYSYSCOM	Mr. Tony Slaga, SPAWAR-10F	(202) 692-3525
USMC	Capt N. Jackson, MCRDAC-AWD	(703) 640-2761

In addition, ONREUR Liaison Officers are available to assist with preparation and coordination of necessary paperwork as well as technical assessment of any European technology or weapons system which may qualify as a candidate for the FWE or NATO CTP programs.

ONREUR points of contact:

- CDR John Simpson, Oceanography011-44-1-409-4131
- CDR Dennis Sadowski, Naval Aviation . .011-44-1-409-4413
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