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MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP
                            COMMANDERS OF COMBATANT COMMANDS
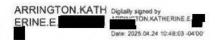   DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Accelerating Secure Software

      Department of Defense (DoD) Cybersecurity and Supply Chain Risk Management (SCRM) practices within the Department must adapt and keep pace with software development and the increasing complexity and evolution of supply chain risk.

      Lengthy, outdated cybersecurity authorization processes frustrate agile, continuous delivery. Additionally, widespread use of open-source software, with contributions from developers worldwide, presents a significant and ongoing challenge. The fact that the Department currently lacks visibility into the origins and security of software code hampers software security assurance.

      To overcome today's secure software adoption challenges, I am directing the development of a Software Fast-Track (SWFT) Initiative. This initiative will lead the Department's adoption in best practices to obtain, develop, and field secure software. The SWFT Initiative will define clear, specific: (1) cybersecurity and SCRM requirements; (2) rigorous software security verification processes; (3) secure information sharing mechanisms; and (4) Federal Government-led risk determinations to expedite the cybersecurity authorizations for rapid software adoption.

      The DoD Chief Information Officer (CIO), in coordination with the Under Secretaries of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, Intelligence and Security, and Research and Engineering will develop and submit the SWFT Framework and Implementation Plan within 90 days.

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Performing the Duties of the
  Chief Information Officer of the
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