Secretary Gates’ Recommendations for Improving Defense Acquisition
As Submitted Jan. 27, 2009

• Avoid across-the-board adjustments.

• Pursue a "75 percent solution" vs. "exquisite" systems.

• Invest more in future-oriented (joint) programs.

• Freeze requirements at contract award, write contracts that provide incentive for “proper behavior.”

• Seek increased competition and the use of prototypes.
Response of William Lynn to Senate Armed Services Committee Question on Acquisition Reform

• “Within the acquisition process, realism and stability can be fostered through greater emphasis on independent assessments of costs, technology readiness, and testing maturity, particularly during the early stages of programs. . . . .”

– Mr. William Lynn, nominee for Deputy Secretary of defense (Prepared response to question submitted in advance of 15 Jan confirmation hearing)
• “Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence.”

– John Adams
New Acquisition/T&E Policies in DoDI 5000.02

• The DUSD(A&T) shall conduct an independent Assessment of Operational Test Readiness (AOTR).

• The CAE shall consider the results of the AOTR.
New Acquisition/T&E Policies in DoDI 5000.02

• The Technology Development Strategy shall provide for two or more prototypes.
New Acquisition/T&E Policies in DoDI 5000.02

- DT and OT shall be integrated and seamless.

- Evaluations shall include a comparison with current mission capabilities . . . take into account all available and relevant data.

- T&E shall be conducted in a continuum of live, virtual, and constructive environments.

- T&E should assess improvements to mission capability.
New Acquisition/T&E Policies in DoDI 5000.02

- PMs for all programs shall formulate a viable RAM strategy.
“Integrated testing is the collaborative planning and collaborative execution of test phases and events to provide shared data in support of independent analysis, evaluation and reporting by all stakeholders, particularly the developmental (both contractor and government) and operational test and evaluation communities.”