Technical Data Package and Intellectual Property Rights

October 26, 2017

Bill Decker
Defense Acquisition University
7115 Old Madison Pike
Huntsville, AL 35806
724-612-0999
For further info: kurt.webb@dau.mil

Approved for Public Release
Ground rules

• This is a discussion, not a lecture
• Your opinions and viewpoints are welcomed
• There are no right/wrong answers
Agenda

• Introduction
• Technical Data Package (TDP)
  – Defined
  – What is not included
• What does this mean to the program?
• What does this mean to the Systems Engineer
• Discussion
  – How do we determine what data/software is required?
• Conclusion
Technical Data Package
( Relationship to other Technical Data )

Technical Data Package (TDP)
- Models
- Drawings
- Associated Lists
- Specifications
- Standards
- Quality Assurance Provisions
- Software Documentation
- Packaging Details
Technical Data Package

(Definition from MIL-STD-31000a)

• Technical Data Package (TDP): A technical description of an item adequate for supporting an acquisition, production, engineering and logistics support (e.g. Engineering Data for Provisioning, Training and Technical Manuals). The description defines the required design configuration or performance requirements and procedures required to ensure adequacy of item performance. It consists of applicable technical data such as models, drawings, associated lists, specifications, standards, performance requirements, QAP, software documentation and packaging details.
Impact to Acquisition Programs

- Often heard:
  - “Just order the Level 3 TDP”
    - Level 3 highest type of engineering drawing/model required for quantity production of the item or system by the original developer or any other capable producer.

- What limits does this place on the PM?
Is a TDP adequate?

• What’s not included:
  – Detailed manufacturing data
    • May be required for depot maintenance
    • Likely ordered in sole source environment
  – Software
    • Design algorithms and formulae
    • Flow charts
    • Source code
    • Design notes, flow charts
    • Analysis
    • Test routines
    • Development environment
Needed Technical Data and Software (PM)

• Starting with requirements:
  – Acquisition
    • Properly manage development
    • Support testing
    • Production monitoring/acceptance
  – Acquisition over the lifecycle
    • Technology refresh
    • Upgrades to add new capabilities, address new requirements
  – Life cycle support
    • Maintenance
    • Depot level refurbishment/remanufacturing
    • Software maintenance
Needed Technical Data and Software (SE)

• Access to/delivery of design documents during development
  – Electronic delivery is frequently used
    • Does the SE have access or does this qualify as delivery?
    • What can the SE view and do with data?
    • What rights to the data does the government have?
      – May it legally copy and store?
    • What SW licenses must be obtained to view data?
    • Are the files protected by password/token? Deliverable?
  – Is software accessible/reviewable during development?
Needed Technical Data and Software (SE)

• Delivery of test and production documents
  – Test results and analysis
  – Configuration control/management documents
  – Manufacturing information/Production control documents
  – ??
Software (not SW documentation)

• Specifically not included in TDP
• What insight does the DoD need?
  – Understanding design/algorithms
  – Participate in the SW development process (Agile, DevOps, etc.)
  – Metrics
  – Version Control
• Will DoD perform or contract for SW maintenance?
  – Any modification to the SW is “maintenance”
  – Considered depot level maintenance
Tech Data/SW Rights Required

• Short term plans historically drive deliverables
• Often, these change with time
  – Example: Contractor logistic support (CLS) is planned, then senior leadership directs organic support
    • Initially, no data was ordered (CLS planned)
    • Changes require additional tech data/SW
      – Contract(s) provide for deferred ordering
      – If not, negotiating a change in sole source environment

• What rights? If organic, who will actually do the work
  – Government employees or “covered” support contractors (limited/restricted will be sufficient)
  – Other support contractors (Government purpose)
Discussion

• Have you encountered this problem?
  – How was it resolved?
  – Did it cost the Government more than it should have?
  – How could it be prevented?
Conclusion/recommendations

• Red Flag: “Just order the Level 3 TDP”
• Use options/deferred ordering to avoid unneeded costs
• Ensure you can use the data delivered
  – Accurate
  – Complete
  – Current
  – All tools available to enable use