



POLICY

## OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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## FOREWORD

Over the past few years, international cooperative efforts have moved from the "Good Idea" column to the one labeled "Mission Essential." Close cooperation with other nations may well be the only way we can continue to provide our military forces with the high-quality, state-of-the-art systems and equipment they deserve. Recent experiences such as conflicts in the Afghanistan and Iraq have clearly demonstrated both the necessity and the value of being able to act in consort with others to accomplish our foreign policy goals.

As international cooperation becomes more and more a fact of our everyday life, providing high-quality security for sensitive information and technologies will continue to be a real and growing challenge. Security management of international programs isn't easy. The issues involved are often difficult and subtle. International cooperation is necessary; however, the potential consequences for our national security are significant. The laws and policy documents, which set the requirements we must meet, are many. As stated by the Deputy Secretary of Defense in his October 22, 1999 memorandum, "It is therefore vital that every DoD employee involved in international programs understands these security arrangements, as well as the laws, policies, and procedures that govern foreign involvement in our programs."

This Handbook is intended to help security professionals and others involved in international programs balance the need for international cooperation and at the same time make quality security a reality in the international programs environment. The basic requirements and principles included in it apply to any program with foreign governments and international organizations involving the exchange or production of classified information and controlled unclassified information. We hope you will find it of real value as you work to accomplish this vital aspect of your mission.

Your comments for improving this Handbook are always appreciated. Comments may be provided to the Director, International Security Programs, Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Technology Security Policy & National Disclosure Policy, 1235 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1500, Arlington, VA; by phone at (703) 602-5435; or by e-mail at [Douglas.Fontenot@osd.mil](mailto:Douglas.Fontenot@osd.mil).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Fontenot".

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