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he Honorable Michael Duffey
Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment
1010 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1010

Subj: NDAA for FY 2027 Amendment Requiring Digital Artifacts, Threads, and Standards

Dear Hon. USD (A&S) Michael Duffey:

This letter augments the letter, Subj: Recommended Best Practices for the Use of Digital Engineering (DE) Tools, dated December 25, 2026. Those recommendations are pertinent to Rep. Nunn's amendment to the NDAA for FY 2027, SEC. 2II. PLAN TO SUPPORT ADVANCED MANUFACTURING AND MATERIALS FOR HYPERSONICS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

The amendment requires you to develop a plan to develop a comprehensive set of advanced manufacturing practices and advanced materials for hypersonics research and development. The plan shall define qualification artifacts including digital-thread data standards and pilot lines with Technology Readiness Level/Manufacturing Readiness Level (TRL/MRL), cost, and lead-time objectives.

My previous letter refers to best practices for the use of DE, digital artifacts, and standards relating to DE. Recommendations are provided including digital twins, digital threads, technical performance measures, and verification results.

Please consider these recommendations when developing your plan and the required report to the SASC and HASC.

Yours truly,



Paul Solomon

CC:

Hon. Dep. Sec. Stephen Feinberg	Hon. Acting Sec. of the Navy Hung Cao
Hon. Adam Smith, HASC	Shelby Oakley, GAO
Hon. Mike Rogers, HASC	Hon. David Norquist NDIA
Hon. Roger Wicker, SASC	Hon. Troy Meink, Sec. of the AF
Hon. Russell Vought, Director, OMB	Hon. Asst. Sec. of War for Industrial Base Policy, Michael Cadenazzi
Hon. Gen. Saltzman, U.S. Space Force	Hon. Pete Hegseth, Sec. of War
Hon. Dan Driscoll, Sec. of the Army	Hon. DoW CIO Kirsten Davies
Anthony Capaccio, Bloomberg News	Hon. USW(R&E) Emil Michael
Hon. Rep. Zach Nunn	