

**BY ORDER OF THE  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE**

**AIR FORCE POLICY DIRECTIVE 10-9**

**8 MARCH 2007**



**Operations**

**LEAD COMMAND DESIGNATION AND  
RESPONSIBILITIES FOR WEAPON SYSTEMS**

**COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PUBLICATION IS MANDATORY**

---

**ACCESSIBILITY:** Publications and forms are available for downloading or ordering on the e-Publishing website at [www.e-publishing.af.mil](http://www.e-publishing.af.mil).

**RELEASABILITY:** There are no releasability restrictions on this publication.

---

OPR: HQ USAF/A8PE

Certified by: HQ USAF/A8  
(Lt Gen Raymond E. Johns, Jr.)

Supersedes AFPD10-9, 13 June 2000

Pages: 15

---

The Air Force (AF) employs many diverse weapon systems in executing its global mission. Operating, maintaining, and modifying these systems to upgrade or extend economical service life greatly consumes the AF's budget. Ultimately, the AF must develop, purchase, and field new systems to replace obsolete systems or systems beyond economical repair.

The Chief of Staff, United States Air Force (CSAF), or authorized representative, will designate systems as weapon systems and assign each to a lead command. This AF Policy Directive (AFPD) assigns weapon system management responsibilities to designated lead commands to ensure all requirements associated with weapon systems receive comprehensive and equitable consideration, and program-associated funding through the Future Years Defense Program as necessary.

Lead command designation establishes advocacy for weapon systems during their life cycle and clarifies responsibilities for all using and supporting organizations. The designated lead command provides a primary input into the process of developing and maintaining a force structure with a balance of complementary capabilities. Lead command designation is not exclusive to major commands (MAJCOMs); Field Operating Agencies (FOAs) and Direct Reporting Units (DRUs) may also be designated.

This AFPD establishes a basis for rational allocation of scarce resources among competing requirements. It designates a lead command when Regular AF (RegAF) MAJCOMs or agencies "share" a system among themselves, with units of the Air Reserve Component (ARC), or with other Services, and when only one AF MAJCOM or FOA/DRU possesses the weapon system. It also designates all other MAJCOMs or FOAs/DRUs possessing that weapon system as "using" commands.

All MAJCOMs, FOAs/DRUs, and the ARC must support the AF's effort to maintain configuration control, commonality, and capability synchronization for interoperability within total force operations. Lead commands for systems operated by RegAF MAJCOMs, FOAs/DRUs, and the ARC must prioritize validated requirements, resources, and schedules within a total force context. Proactive and thorough communication between lead commands and using commands is paramount in support of these valuable weapon systems.

This directive establishes AF policy and applies to all RegAF or ARC MAJCOMs, DRUs, and FOAs who exercise either lead command or using command responsibilities for AF weapon systems. Refer recommended changes and conflicts between this and other publications to HQ AF/A8PE, 1070 Air Force Pentagon, Washington DC 20330-1070, on AF Form 847, **Recommendation for Change of Publication**.

Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with AFMAN 37-123 (will convert to AFMAN 33-363), *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with the *Air Force Records Disposition Schedule* located at <https://afrims.amc.af.mil/>.

### **SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

This document has been substantially revised and must be completely reviewed. Major changes include: Changed AFPD name to reflect scope and purpose. Provided updated clarification of lead command and using command responsibilities. Deleted distinction between “lead command” and “lead agency,” unless otherwise noted, by allowing a lead command to be either a MAJCOM or FOA/DRU. Deleted **Attachment 1** from the previous AFPD version, as AFI 33-360, *Publications and Forms Management*, no longer requires measuring compliance with policy directives. Added a Glossary of References and Supporting Information at **Attachment 1**. Updated **Attachment 2**, Lead Command Assignments for Aircraft Mission Design Series (MDS) Weapon Systems. Deleted **Attachment 3** and 4, interim changes, from the previous AFPD version. Added a new **Attachment 3**, Lead Command Assignments for Non-aircraft Weapon Systems.

1. This AFPD establishes the following authorities and responsibilities for weapon system lead commands. Inherent in lead command responsibility is also the responsibility for support systems and equipment directly associated with a particular weapon system. The lead command will:

1.1. Advocate for the weapon system and respond to issues addressing its status and use. Advocacy includes capabilities-based planning, programming, and budgeting for designated system-wide unique equipment, upgrades/modifications, initial spares and other weapon system-unique logistics issues, and follow-on test and evaluation. In addition, for advocacy issues identified above, perform and manage modernization and sustainment planning across MAJCOMs and agencies, and in coordination with system program managers (SPMs) and Headquarters AF (HAF) functional offices.

1.2. AF Materiel Command (AFMC) is designated as the AF Centralized Asset Management (CAM) Executive Agent (EA). Lead commands will advocate for the sustainment of weapon systems and support AFMC to ensure all requirements associated with weapon system sustainment receive equitable consideration in AFMC's programming, budgeting and execution of resources to establish depot capabilities and sustain weapon systems under CAM.

1.2.1. Non-AFMC managed programs (i.e. space systems sustained by Space and Missile Center and Electronic System Command) are exempt from CAM; AF Space Command (AFSPC) will advocate for the sustainment of these systems.

1.3. If organizationally aligned as a FOA under a HAF Deputy Chief of Staff (DCS), prepare a Program Objective Memorandum (POM) and submit it to the appropriate DCS for review and approval. After approval, the FOA will submit its POM input to the AF Corporate Structure in accordance with Annual Planning and Programming Guidance and POM Planning Instructions.

- 1.4. Provide appropriate operational and support agency representation in the requirements and/or upgrade/modification process.
- 1.5. Follow established directives when establishing and prioritizing upgrade/modification requirements.
- 1.6. Identify Minimum Essential Systems Listing items. If necessary, using commands can supplement with their own specific requirements.
- 1.7. Oversee weapon system configuration following established MAJCOM and weapon system SPM procedures. The weapon system SPM is responsible for maintaining system engineering integrity to include planning to establish and maintain configuration control and interoperability. The lead command is responsible for fleet-wide interoperability, commonality, and configuration control. Therefore, both the lead command and the SPM must first approve any implementation of permanent modification for which there was no previous validated need.
- 1.8. Establish standards, tasks, and formal training requirements for both operations and maintenance (O&M). For AF Special Operations Command, provisions of USAF or US Special Operations Command Memoranda of Agreement apply.
- 1.9. Manage munitions test and training requirements in accordance with AFI 36-2217, *Munitions Requirements for Aircrew Training*, for each weapon system they are designated lead command. Establish and prioritize weapon systems and aircraft integration efforts in accordance with AF SEEK EAGLE initiatives.
- 1.10. Establish minimum Readiness Spares Package standards. Using commands can supplement with their own specific requirements, if necessary.
- 1.11. Author weapon system-specific AF Instructions (AFIs) or AF Joint Instructions and/or AF/Multi-Service Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTPs) in accordance with applicable AF, Department of Defense (DoD), and Joint policy documents, for each weapon system they are designated lead command.
- 1.12. Follow established US Government and DoD policy guidelines requiring adherence to international, multinational, and bilateral agreements (including arms control agreements and regimes), arrangements, custom, and practice.
- 1.13. Execute the following responsibilities with respect to weapon system fielding:
  - 1.13.1. Define and document fielding requirements for execution by the SPM.
  - 1.13.2. Develop and execute appropriate programming plans that document MAJCOM responsibilities in fielding execution.
  - 1.13.3. Upon initiation by the System Program Office and in conjunction with the SPM, develop, sign and distribute Expectation Management Agreements (EMAs) that detail the desired sustainment capability of, and modification plans for weapon systems. The EMAs also delineate lead command and using MAJCOM responsibilities, to include AFMC and using MAJCOMs, Air Education and Training Command (AETC), and wing commanders at field locations, in accordance with AFI 63-101, *Operations of Capabilities Based Acquisition System*.
  - 1.13.4. Maintain and distribute a point of contact list of stakeholders for every fielding effort to facilitate coordination and communication with the SPM and the gaining unit(s).

1.13.5. Charter a General Officer Steering Group when deemed appropriate, for new weapon system beddown.

1.13.6. Support AFMC and represent the using commands during the requirements review processes. Lead commands will coordinate and consolidate programmatic inputs (e.g. force structure, basing, usage changes, etc.) with using commands to ensure this information is available and integrated into the requirements review processes.

2. Using commands will advocate for their sustainment requirements through the lead command in support of AFMC's planning, programming, budgeting, and execution responsibilities under CAM. Using commands will coordinate with AFMC for command-unique items.

2.1. Using commands will comply with AFIs for applicable weapon systems. Using commands may publish command supplements as needed to address mission-unique requirements.

2.1.1. Using command supplements, when required for unique mission considerations, may not be less restrictive than the published AFI.

2.2. Modifications driven by using commands or unique mission requirements for MDS hardware/software are the using commands' programming responsibility.

2.2.1. The lead command and the SPM must approve any modifications before they may become permanent.

3. Lead commands, in conjunction with using commands, will define and document all new weapons system beddown requirements and coordinate these with the applicable SPM. The lead command and using commands have the responsibility to program for all new weapon system requirements to include, but not limited to, military construction, minor construction, training systems and equipment, appropriate environmental costs, and initial O&M costs. Previously programmed budget will transfer from losing to gaining command if beddown locations are subsequently changed.

3.1. Lead commands in conjunction with using commands will develop and execute appropriate programming plans that document command responsibilities for new weapon system beddown. Lead commands and using commands will conduct Site Activation Task Forces (SATAFs), as deemed appropriate, to support beddown and the development of programming plans. Lead commands will support using commands as they conduct their SATAFs and provide beddown lessons learned to using commands.

3.2. Lead commands, in conjunction with using commands, will develop System Training Plans and coordinate them with the SPM and AETC, in accordance with AFI 36-2251, *Management of Air Force Training Systems*.

3.3. Lead commands will ensure appropriate National Environmental Protection Act activities are accomplished before any major federal action is accomplished.

4. The AF will centrally manage other fleet requirements using an "enterprise" approach. AFMC, acting as the EA for the AF, will centrally program, budget, and execute flying hour Depot Level Repairables, Depot Purchased Equipment Maintenance, Contractor Logistics Support, Technical Orders, Sustaining Engineering, O&M funded support equipment, flying hour consumables, and Aviation Petroleum, Oil, and Lubricants. (AFSPC will accomplish these activities for space systems.) Lead Commands, in conjunction with user commands, will collaborate with AFMC to prioritize requirements on an annual basis.

5. Organizations not able to perform full lead command duties may negotiate transfer of certain functions to MAJCOMs or agencies with more capability in those areas. Responsibilities will be delineated in the appropriate program management directive.
6. This AFPD provides overarching policy covering a wide range of activities impacted by the lead command concept. Cognizant agencies should develop implementation strategies and procedures tailored to their particular activity.
7. See [Attachment 2](#) and [Attachment 3](#) for lead command assignments.

MICHAEL W. WYNNE  
Secretary of the Air Force

**Attachment 1****GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

Title 10, U.S.C. Section 2464, *Core Logistics Capabilities*

DoDD 4120.15E, *Designating and Naming Military Aerospace Vehicles*, 29 November 2004

AFPD 10-21, *Air Mobility Lead Command Roles and Responsibilities*, 1 May 1998

AFI 10-501, *Program Action Directives (PAD) and Programming Plans (PPLAN)*, 5 January 1994

AFI 10-503, *Base Unit Beddown Program*, 29 May 2003

AFI 10-601, *Capabilities Based Requirements Development*, 31 July 2006

AFI 10-602, *Determining Mission Capability and Supportability Requirements*, 18 March 2005

AFI 10-901, *Lead Operating Command—Communications and Information Systems Management*, 22 March 2001

AFI 16-401(I), *Designating and Naming Defense Military Aerospace Vehicles*, 14 April 2005

AFI 33-360, *Publications and Forms Management*, 18 May 2006

AFI 36-2217, *Munitions Requirements for Aircrew Training*, 1 November 2000

AFI 36-2251, *Management of Air Force Training Systems*, 20 March 2003

AFI 63-101, *Operations of Capabilities Based Acquisition System*, 29 July 2005

AFI 63-111, *Contract Support for Systems, Equipment and End-Items*, 21 October 2005

AFI 63-1101, *Modification Management*, 17 July 2001

AFI 65-601V1, *Budget Guidance and Procedures*, 3 March 2005

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**AETC**—Air Education and Training Command

**AFC2ISRC**—AF Command and Control, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Center

**ACC**—Air Combat Command

**AFDW**—Air Force District of Washington

**AFSA**—Air Force Flight Standards Agency

**AFI**—Air Force Instruction

**AFMAN**—Air Force Manual

**AFMC**—Air Force Materiel Command

**AFPD**—Air Force Policy Directive

**AFRC**—Air Force Reserve Command

**AFSOC**—Air Force Special Operations Command

**AFSPC**—Air Force Space Command

**AMC**—Air Mobility Command

**ANG**—Air National Guard

**AOC**—Air and Space Operations Center

**ARC**—Air Reserve Component

**CAM**—Centralized Asset Management

**CONOPS**—Concept of Operations

**CSAF**—Chief of Staff, United States Air Force

**DCGS**—Distributed Common Ground System

**DCS**—Deputy Chief of Staff

**DIA**—Defense Intelligence Agency

**DoD**—Department of Defense

**DPEM**—Depot Purchased Equipment Maintenance

**DRU**—Direct Reporting Unit

**DSCA**—Defense Security Cooperation Agency

**EA**—Executive Agent

**EMA**—Expectation Management Agreements

**FOA**—Field Operating Agency

**HAF**—Headquarters Air Force

**MAJCOM**—Major Command

**MDS**—Mission Design Series

**MILCON**—Military Construction

**O&M**—Operations and Maintenance

**PACAF**—Pacific Air Forces

**POM**—Program Objective Memorandum

**RegAF**—Regular Air Force

**SATAF**—Site Activation Task Force

**SPM**—System Program Manager

**TTP**—Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures

**USAFE**—United States Air Forces Europe

### *Terms*

**Mission Design Series**—System by which military aerospace vehicles are identified. See DoD 4120.15-L, *Model Designation of Military Aerospace Vehicles*, for a complete description of this identification system.

**SEEK EAGLE**—The AF certification program for determining safe munitions carriage, employment and jettison limits, safe escape, and ballistics accuracy, when applicable, for all stores in specified loading configurations on United States AF and Foreign Military Sales aircraft. SEEK EAGLE includes compatibility analyses for fit, function, electromagnetic interface, flutter, loads, stability and control, and separation; stores loading procedures; ground and wind tunnel tests; and flight tests. The end product is source data for flight, delivery, loading manuals, and the weapon ballistics portion of the aircraft operational flight program.

**System Program Manager**—The individual designated in accordance with criteria established by the appropriate Component (AF) Acquisition Executive to manage an acquisition program and is appropriately certified under the provisions of the *Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act*. The program manager is responsible for the execution of a program within the approved Acquisition Program Baseline.

**Weapon System**—A combination of one or more weapons with all related equipment, materials, services, personnel, and means of delivery and deployment (if applicable) required for self-sufficiency. (Joint Pub 1-02)

## Attachment 2

## LEAD COMMAND ASSIGNMENTS FOR AIRCRAFT MDS WEAPON SYSTEMS

A2.1. **Figure A2.1.** lists the lead command for each aircraft MDS weapon system. The designated commands will begin exercising lead command duties and responsibilities effective immediately. HQ USAF/A8P is responsible for updating lead command assignments as required by events.

**Figure A2.1. Lead Command Assignments for Aircraft MDS Weapon Systems**

<b><u>AIR COMBAT COMMAND (ACC) LEAD COMMAND</u></b>				
<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>	<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>	
A-10	PACAF	F-117	AFMC	
	USAFE			
	AFMC		B-1	AFMC
	AFRC		B-2	ACC Only
	ANG		B-52	AFMC
			AFRC	
OA-10	PACAF			
	USAFE	E-3	PACAF	
	AFRC	E-4	ACC Only	
	ANG	E-8	ANG	
		E-9	ACC Only	
F-4	ACC Only	EC-130H	ACC Only	
		C-130E/H (Senior Scout)	ANG	
F-15	PACAF	C-130H (Scathe View)	ANG	
	USAFE			
	AETC	OC-135	ACC Only	
	AFMC	RC-135	ACC Only	
	ANG	TC-135	ACC Only	
		WC-135	ACC Only	
F-16	PACAF			
	USAFE	U-2	ACC Only	
	AETC			
	AFMC	MQ-1	AFMC	
	ANG		AFSOC	
	AFRC		ANG	
		RQ-4	ACC Only	

F-22A	AETC	MQ-9	AFMC
	AFMC		AFSOC
	PACAF		ANG
<b><u>ACC LEAD COMMAND (cont)</u></b>			
<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>	<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>
HC-130	AFRC	HH-60	PACAF
	ANG		AETC
	AETC		AFRC
			ANG
MC-130P (CSAR)	ANG		AFMC
			USAFE
<b><u>AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMAND (AETC) LEAD COMMAND</u></b>			
<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>	<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>
T/AT-38	ACC	T-6A (JPATS)	AETC Only
	AFMC	T-41	AETC Only
UH-1H	AETC Only	T-37	AETC Only
TH-1H	AETC Only	C/T-43	AETC Only
T-1	AETC Only	T-51A	AETC Only
TG-10B/C/D, 14, 15	AETC Only	UV-18	AETC Only
<b><u>AIR MOBILITY COMMAND (AMC) LEAD COMMAND</u></b>			
<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>	<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>
C-17	AETC	C-40B	PACAF
	AFMC		USAFE
	PACAF	C-40C	ANG
	AFRC		AFRC (begin FY07)
	ANG	C-130	ACC
C-5	AETC		AETC
	AFRC		USAFE
	ANG		AFRC
C-9	AFRC		ANG
			PACAF
C-20	USAFE		AFSOC
		C-141	AFRC
C-21	AETC		

	PACAF	C/KC-135	USAFE
	USAFE		PACAF
	ANG		ACC
	AFFSA		ANG
			AFRC
C-32 (except C-32B)	AMC Only		AETC
			AFMC
C-37	PACAF	KC-10	AMC Only
	USAFE	KC-45A	AMC Only
		VC-25	AMC Only
<b><u>AF SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND (AFSOC) LEAD COMMAND</u></b>			
<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>	<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>
AC-130	AFSOC Only	CV-22	AETC
EC-130E/J	ANG	MH -53	AETC
MC-130 (SOF)	AETC	C-32B	ANG
	AFRC	Small UAV	ACC
		U-28A	AFSOC Only
<b><u>AF SPACE COMMAND (AFSPC) LEAD COMMAND</u></b>			
<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>	<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>
UH-1N	AFMC		
	AFDW		
	AETC		
	AFSOC		
	PACAF		
<b><u>AF MATERIEL COMMAND (AFMC) LEAD COMMAND</u></b>			
<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>	<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>
NC-130	AFMC Only	NKC-135	AFMC Only
E-10	AFMC Only	C-12	PACAF
			(DIA/DSCA)

<b><u>AIR NATIONAL GUARD (ANG) LEAD COMMAND</u></b>			
<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>	<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>
C-22	ANG Only	LC-130	ANG Only
C-26	ANG Only	C-38	ANG Only
<b><u>AF RESERVE COMMAND (AFRC) LEAD COMMAND</u></b>			
<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>	<b>MDS</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>
WC-130	AFRC Only		

## Attachment 3

## LEAD COMMAND ASSIGNMENTS FOR NON-AIRCRAFT WEAPON SYSTEMS

A3.1. **Figure A3.1.** lists the lead command for non-aircraft weapon systems. The designated commands will begin exercising lead command duties and responsibilities effective immediately. HQ USAF/A8P is responsible for updating lead command assignments as required by events.

**Figure A3.1. Lead Command Assignments for Non-Aircraft Weapon Systems**

<b><u>ACC LEAD COMMAND (See Note 1)</u></b>			
<b>Weapon System</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>	<b>Weapon System</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>
AGM-86B	ACC Only	AGM-129A	ACC Only
AGM-86C/D	PACAF	AN/USQ-163 (AOC) (See Note 2)	PACAF
			USAFE
AN/GSQ-272 AF DCGS (See Note 2)	PACAF		AFMC
	USAFE		AFRC
	AETC		ANG
	ANG		AFSPC
Guardian Angel	ANG		AFSOC
	PACAF		AMC
	AFRC		
	USAFE		
AN/TYQ-23 Modular Control Equipment (MCE) Control and Reporting Center (CRC)	PACAF	AN/TSQ-209 Communications Central Automated ASOC System Tactical Air Control Party (TACP)/ Air Support Operations Center (ASOC)	PACAF
	USAFE		USAFE
	ANG		ANG

<b><u>AFMC LEAD COMMAND</u></b>			
<b>Weapon System</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>		
YAL-1A	AFMC Only		
<b><u>AFSPC LEAD COMMAND</u></b>			
<b>Weapon System</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>	<b>Weapon System</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>
LGM-30G (MMIII)	AFSPC Only	WS-1A (DMSP)	AFSPC Only
Atlas V	AFSPC Only	LS-3A (DSP)	AFSPC Only
SB-3A (Delta II)	AFSPC Only	ES-4A (DSCS II)	AFSPC Only
Delta IV	AFSPC Only	ES-5A (DSCS III)	AFSPC Only
SB-5A (Titan IV)	AFSPC Only	NS-7C (GPS IIA)	AFSPC Only
Minotaur	AFSPC Only	NS-7D (GPS IIR)	AFSPC Only
SSB-9A (Pam D II)	AFSPC Only	NS-7E (GPS IIF)	AFSPC Only
ASB-11A (Pegasus)	AFSPC Only	ES-8A (MILSTAR)	AFSPC Only
Taurus	AFSPC Only	AN-TLC-XXX	
		(Counter-Comm System)	AFSPC Only
<b><u>AMC LEAD COMMAND</u></b>			
<b>Weapon System</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>	<b>Weapon System</b>	<b>Using Commands</b>
Tunner Cargo Loader	ACC	Halvorsen Cargo Loader	ACC
	AETC		AETC
	AFMC		AFMC
	AFRC		AFRC
	AFSOC		AFSOC
	AFSPC		AFSPC
	PACAF		PACAF
	USAFE		USAFE
	ANG		ANG
Contingency Response Group	ANG		
	PACAF		
	USAFE		

**NOTES:**

1. ACC is lead command for all new aircraft munitions weapon systems unless otherwise designated. See Note 2.
2. ACC is the Lead Operational Command for AOC and Distributed Common Ground System (DCGS) with the following responsibilities: 1) Developing "as is" Concept of Operations (CONOPS); 2) Providing operational requirements to the AF Command and Control, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Center (AFC2ISRC); 3) Leading training activities including providing a Formal Training Unit (FTU is AOC only); 4 ) Developing fielding priorities, developing TTPs. AFC2ISRC is the lead agency for AOC and DCGS with the following responsibilities: 1) POM; 2) Requirements generation and requirements implementation; 3) Developing "to be" CONOPS; 4) Providing Combined AOC-X/Distributed Ground Station-X as integration & development facility; 5) Coordinating support for sustainment and life cycle costs.