

# U.S. Navy and Sweden Join Forces

## to Develop "Environmental Considerations"

### Program Manager Handbook Seeks to Reduce Environmental Impacts

The incorporation of environmental considerations into the systems acquisition process is not only a goal of the United States Department of Defense (DoD) but other countries as well. As the Executive Agent for Cooperation between the Swedish Armed Forces and the United States Department of Defense (DoD Project Agreement Number SW-N-96-1503), the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for the Environment (DASN(E)) with the assistance of the Chief of Naval Operations Environmental Readiness Division (CNO N45) has been leading the effort to work with the Swedish Armed Forces to incorporate environmental considerations into the acquisition process. U.S. and Swedish cooperation was the catalyst that led to the development of Environmental Considerations in the Systems Acquisitions Process—A Handbook for Program Managers.

This Program Manager Handbook was based on the experiences of DoD and Swedish Armed Forces and developed to help weapon system program managers incorporate environmental

considerations into the systems acquisition process.

The Handbook takes a practical approach to the challenges of developing weapon systems that minimize environmental impacts throughout each phase of their life cycle while fulfilling system mission performance requirements. A variety of acquisition approaches are presented along with actual examples of how they were applied to U. S. and Swedish weapon system programs.

Additionally, the Handbook presents an overview of environmental management and planning tools to assist program managers to look forward throughout the system life cycle and consider environmental issues during the design stage. Early prevention or reduction of environmental impacts is the most cost effective way to reduce the environmental compliance burdens during operation, maintenance, and disposal of weapon systems.

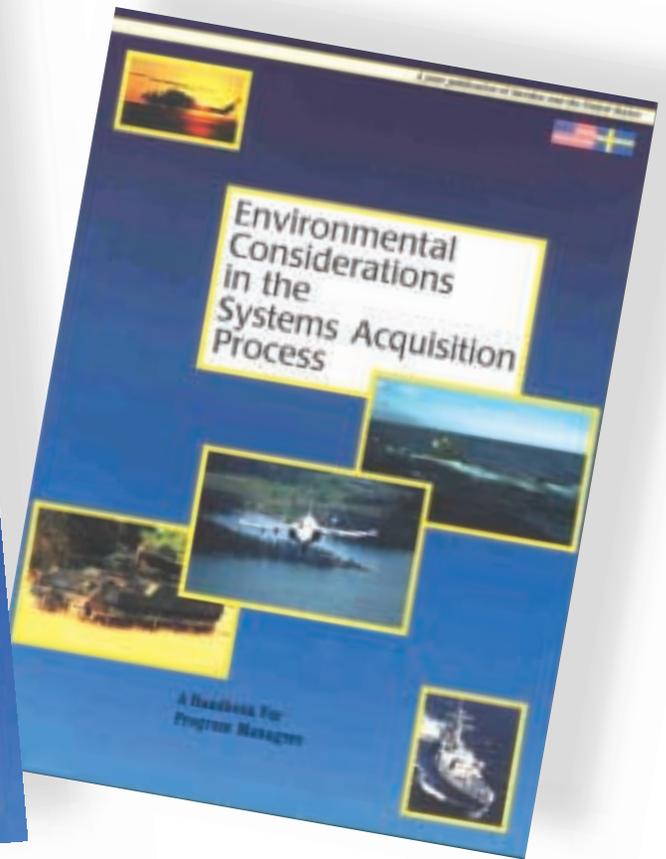
The Handbook provides high-level regulatory compliance background and waste stream analysis for ships, aircraft, tactical vehicles and artillery,

munitions, and electronics. It provides specific broad-based recommendations for program managers to apply in consideration of life-cycle environmental issues for each acquisition phase. The checklists are a good starting point for the program manager to understand where to allocate resources to include environmental considerations during the development of the system with minimal environmental impacts and associated costs.

The Handbook is available at the following web sites:

- Defense Environmental Network & Information eXchange (DENIX)  
<http://www.denix.osd.mil>
- ESOH Special Interest Area on Program Manager Community of Practice (PM CoP)  
<http://pmcop.dau.mil>
- Navy Shipboard Environmental Information Clearinghouse (SEIC)  
<http://navyseic.dt.navy.mil>

On the basis of the experiences gained from the development and international distribution of the Program Managers Handbook, Sweden and the U.S. developed Annex 8 to their Project Agreement. This allowed both countries to build on the success of the Handbook's marketing efforts and expand the reach of the information



provided. Of primary importance is the opportunity to distribute relevant information on incorporating environmental considerations into weapon systems designs to former Soviet bloc nations.

The specific actions that DoD and the Swedish Armed Forces will undertake to complete Annex 8 include:

- Translate the Environmental Considerations in the Systems Acquisitions Process, A Handbook for Program Managers into Russian;
- Distribute the Handbook to former Soviet bloc nations at various international conferences, symposia and websites;
- Define a common list of hazardous materials that can be eliminated or minimized in the development of weapon systems;
- Adapt a life-cycle assessment for application in the material acquisition process; and
- Host a session at the Partners for Peace (PFP) Conference in Tallinn, Estonia 14-18 July 2003, that provides an overview of incorporating environmental, safety, and health considerations into the acquisition process.

The PFP Conference in July signaled the end of the Swedish Armed Forces and DoD's formal cooperation to integrate environmental considerations into the acquisition process. Both countries will continue to work informally as pertinent environmental issues and requirements arise that affect the development of weapon systems in each country and across the globe. ⚓

## CONTACTS

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