Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army

Acquisition, Logistics and Technology

Modernizing Software Acquisition: Going Agile

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11 OCT 22
Army’s Software Practice Evolution

Desired End-State: Continuous/Flexible

Current Army Challenge:
The capabilities required for the joint fight are software intensive and the Army is not currently delivering in a flexible and timely manner to meet the nation’s deterrence needs as an enterprise.

Agile/Iterative process:
• Fast, integrated cycles with incremental capabilities & cyber updates in days to months
• Developers & Operators tightly coupled
• Reduced risk and cost while improving quality by finding & fixing defects and vulnerabilities earlier

Changes to RFPs to enable Agile:

New Contract Development Strategy may include:
• Product Vision & Roadmap – Focus on desired outcomes, objectives of the product, and general ideas of features and dates
• Requirement for vendors to develop software in an Agile Framework
• Description of the Team Skillsets required
• Requirement to implement a DevSecOps Pipeline

Proposed Changes to Source Selection and Evaluations
• Leverage tech demos/challenges and oral proposals to assess vendor solutions, reduce B&P cost/cycle time, streamline source selection processes
• Leverage phased evaluations and advisory down-selects to reduce number of proposals evaluated in full
• Assess vendor’s ability to:
  • Be agile
  • Deliver quality at speed
  • Operate a DevSecOps Pipeline
  • Incorporate Human Centered Design
Based on recent high profile cyber incidence and new policies placing an increased importance on securing the software supply chain

ASA(ALT) is considering the requirement of Software Bill of Materials (SBOMs) to enhance its software assurance and improve cyber readiness

Resulting in our ability gain new insights into our software inventory by linking the SBOM data sets with existing Software vulnerability databases such as CVE

Draft SBOM Contract Language has been developed and seeking industry feedback
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UNCLASSIFIED: Cleared for public release
Questions?