

U.S. Army
NEWS RELEASE
Army Public Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20310

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release #R-02-49 August 15, 2002

ARMY ANNOUNCES BUSINESS INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT TRANSFORMATION

The Secretary of the Army has approved eight new Army business initiatives as part of a formal DOD process designed to identify and implement business reform actions that create greater efficiencies and cost saving.

The approved initiatives, which were worked through the Army's Business Initiatives Council (BIC), include restructuring the funding of military training service support, examining the privatization of Army lodging, outsourcing the management of household goods storage and shipment in the National Capital Region, using electronic signatures rather than hard copy documents to approve personnel actions, developing a web-based system for preparation and approval of civilian timecards, and establishing a public-private partnership for renovations at Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC).

Six initiatives were approved for immediate Army implementation and two were approved for submission to the Department of Defense's BIC, as these two initiatives may have benefits that could be extended across all the military services. With the approval of these initiatives, the Secretary of the Army has now approved a total of 23 BIC initiatives. A complete list of the Army approved initiatives can be found at <http://www.asafm.army.mil/bic.asp>

A key BIC philosophy is that savings will be retained by the organization that executes the initiative, thus encouraging organizations to be innovative in their proposals. "The anticipated results of Army BIC initiatives are efficiencies that will free manpower and funding resources to be reallocated to Army Transformation," said Dr. Craig College, the executive director of the Army BIC.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld created the BIC process in June 2001. Both the Army and the DoD councils focus on finding ways to streamline stringent legislative requirements, cumbersome directives, and lengthy staffing processes. Anticipated savings for DoD initiatives are over \$100 million per year.

The Army will continue to complete succeeding rounds of BIC efforts quarterly, in an effort to facilitate improvement of its business operations and processes.

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- Media seeking more information should call 703-697-7592.

- Industry representatives should call 703-692-5270
- For additional information regarding the Army BIC go to <http://www.asafm.army.mil/BIC.asp>

