PARA	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	PURPOSE
020401	Deletes the use of the acronym "AO" for the term "Accountable Officials." AO is only used for the term "Authorizing Official(s)."	Amendment
020401.A.1	Adds the requirement that accountable official appointments be revoked in writing when the accountable official no longer holds the position.	Update
020401.A.5	Adds the requirement that signed letters of appointment for accountable officials be maintained in the office of the accountable official.	Update
020401.B	Clarifies that designation of the responsible individuals for the Finance Defense Travel Administration (FDTA) Function is at the discretion of the organization/ installation commander.	Update
020401.B.7	Adds additional responsibilities for the FDTA function. These include retaining letters of appointment for authorizing officials appointed as certifying officers for travel claims at the organization/installation supported by the FDTA and providing a letter signed by the installation or activity commander to the appropriate disbursing office(s). Such letters state that authorizing officials acting as certifying officers for travel claims have been appointed and delegated in writing.	Update
020401.B.8	Adds the responsibility for the FDTA function to ensure that access permission levels and routing schemes—within the DTS at the organizational and/or installation level supported by the FDTA—provide for review and approval of travel authorizations and payment only by the appropriate officials.	Update
020401.B.9	Adds the responsibility for the FDTA function to initiate debt collection action when a traveler owes money to the government.	Amendment
020401.C	Corrects an error in the paragraph number which requires that the authorizing official be appointed as a certifying officer and designated in writing. The correct paragraph number is 330501.	Amendment

PARA	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	PURPOSE
000401 (141		T T T (
020401.C.11	Adds, as an additional authorizing official (AO) responsibility, the requirement to retain records that substantiate certified travel claims (including copies of	Update
	receipts) in the office where certification occurred for 6 years, 3 months in accordance with National Archives and Records Administration General Records Schedule 6.	
020401.C.12	Adds the responsibility that authorizing officials shall counsel travelers indebted to the United States and follow- up until the debt is satisfied.	Amendment
020401.D	Corrects the statement "two separate individuals must	Amendment
020401.12	authorize the trip and certify the trip records" by	¹ inclution
	replacing it with the statement "Individuals may act as	
	both the certifying officer and the authorizing official (AO)	
	on the same travel voucher but may not certify their own	
	travel claim for payment." Also corrects misuse of the	
	phrase "certify trip records." The correct terminology is	
	"perform certification for payment by approving and forwarding completed trip records to the disbursing office	
	for payment."	
020401.E	Adds the requirement that self-authorizing officials be	Amendment
	appointed in writing and shall acknowledge in writing that they may not certify their own travel claims for payment.	
020402.A	Establishes the requirement for the traveler to provide copies of receipts to the authorizing official.	Update
020402.B	Incorporates revised subparagraph 020402.B into	Update
020402.C	subparagraph 020402.A. Subparagraphs 020402.C	
020402.D	through E have been redesignated as 020402.B through D.	T T T (
020403	Deletes prepayment review from the statement "Reviewing	Update
	officials conduct prepayment and post payment review of travel payment certified by certifying officers." Adds the	
	statements: "The DTS includes extensive programmed	
	system edit checks and internal control mechanisms that	
	perform prepayment reviews on every travel record.	
	Prepayment review by reviewing officials is not required	
	for DTS payments." Corrects reference to Volume 5.	

PARA	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	PURPOSE
020404	Adds the description and responsibilities of the "government entity."	Amendmen
020602	Clarifies the amount of time accounting systems shall maintain new year obligations received from the DTS in a pending status by including the following statements. "The DTS shall maintain electronically next fiscal year obligations until the final 2 weeks of the current fiscal year. For the final 2 weeks of each fiscal year and, until the accounting systems begin processing data for the new fiscal year, accounting systems shall maintain electronically all new year obligations received from the DTS in a pending status."	Update
020706.A	Adds a subparagraph defining prepayment review.	Amendmen
020706.B	Adds a subparagraph defining post payment review.	Amendmen
020706.C.1	Renumbers the old 020706.A as 020706.C.1.	Amendmen
020706.C.2	Renumbers the old 020706.B as 020706.C.2.	Amendmen
020706.C.3	Renumbers the old 020706.C as 020706.C.3 and incorporates guidance contained in the OUSD(C) memorandum of August 19, 1997, titled "Responsibilities for Prepayment and Post Payment Review of Travel Settlement Claims at DoD Travel Reengineering Test Sites."	Incorporate
<u>Annex 1</u>	Incorporates and updates guidance contained in the OUSD(C) memorandum of August 19, 1997, titled "Responsibilities for Prepayment and Post Payment Review of Travel Settlement Claims at DoD Travel Reengineering Test Sites."	Incorporate
<u>Annex 2</u>	Incorporates and updates guidance contained in the OUSD(C) memorandum of August 19, 1997, titled "Responsibilities for Prepayment and Post Payment Review of Travel Settlement Claims at DoD Travel Reengineering Test Sites."	Incorporate

PARA	EXPLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	PURPOSE
ГАКА	EAFLANATION OF CHANGE/REVISION	FURFUSE
Annex 3	Incorporates and updates guidance contained in the	Incorporate
	OUSD(C) memorandum of August 19, 1997, titled	
	"Responsibilities for Prepayment and Post Payment	
	Review of Travel Settlement Claims at DoD Travel	
	Reengineering Test Sites. "	

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CHAPTER 2

DEFENSE TRAVEL SYSTEM

0201 GENERAL

020101. <u>General</u>. This chapter identifies the Department of Defense (DoD) financial management policies and procedures for travelers performing official government travel under the Defense Travel System (DTS), including the DTS-Limited (DTS-L) when used to prepare authorizations and compute travel vouchers for payment. This includes: (A) business travel, (B) schoolhouse training travel, and (C) deployment or travel involving more than one person. This guidance and the Joint Federal Travel Regulations/Joint Travel Regulations (JFTR/JTR), Appendix O, address simplified entitlements for official travelers using the DTS and the DTS-L. It does not include every condition under which travel and transportation allowances are authorized or limited by the JFTR/JTR. Information contained in this volume does not modify the JFTR/JTR.

020102. <u>Additional Guidance</u>. General, nonregulatory information can be obtained from the DTS Program Manager Home Page: <u>http://www.dtic.mil/travelink/</u> or the Northrop Grumman Mission Systems (NGMS) DTS Home Page: <u>http://www.defensetravel.osd.mil/</u>.

0202 <u>POLICY</u>

Questions regarding finance policy and the DTS should be directed to:

Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) Directorate for Accounting and Finance Policy and Analysis The Pentagon, Room 3A882 Washington, DC 20301-1100

0203 IMPLEMENTATION

Questions concerning implementation of the DTS should be addressed to:

Program Management Office - Defense Travel System Crystal Square 4, Suite 100 1745 Jefferson Davis Highway Arlington, VA 22202-3402 e-mail: pmodts@osd.pentagon.mil

0204 <u>RESPONSIBILITIES</u>

★ 020401. <u>Accountable Official Responsibilities</u>. Accountable officials involved in the travel management process shall serve as control points within the organization. These positions shall be designated in writing by Heads of DoD Components (or designees) as prescribed by <u>Volume 5, Chapter 33</u>, section 3305, of this Regulation. Accountable officials include authorizing officials, certifying officers and the Finance Defense Travel Administrators.

A. <u>General Responsibilities for all Accountable Officials</u>

 \star 1. Acknowledge responsibilities in writing. Accountable officials are appointed in writing. When the accountable official no longer holds the position, the appointment shall be revoked in writing.

2. Implement, maintain, and enforce system and other internal procedures and control points within an organization to minimize opportunities for erroneous payments.

procedures.

- 3. Comply with all applicable DoD regulations, policies, and
- 4. Respond in a timely manner to inquiries by reviewing officials.

 \star 5. Accountable officials shall maintain signed letters of appointment in their offices. These letters and signed letters of revocation of appointment shall be archived for 3 years and 6 months after the accountable official no longer holds the position in accordance with each organization's records management guidance.

★ B. <u>Finance Defense Travel Administrator (FDTA)</u>. The FDTA can be one or more person(s) in the budget, resource management, accounting or finance functions who is responsible for assisting in the management and support of the DTS at the organizational and/or installation level as designated by the responsible commander. FDTA responsibilities include:

1. Manage and support the DTS at the organizational and/or installation level.

2. Manage travel data by reconciling periodically the official accounting system with the DTS.

3. Operate and maintain systems to support travel management.

4. Allocate funds to the appropriate DTS budget module after funds have been certified as available by comptroller, or designated representative.

5. Ensure lines of accounting (LOAs) are properly established and maintained in the authorizing official's DTS budget module, labeled in a clear and easy to understand manner, with the fiscal year included in the first two positions of the LOA label.

6. Prevent violations of the Antideficiency Act by adhering to sound funds control and accounting practices.

★ 7. In accordance with <u>Volume 5</u>, <u>Chapter 11</u>, paragraph 110203 of this Regulation, retain a file of approved letters of appointment for Authorizing Officials appointed as certifying officials for travel claims at the organizational and/or installation level supported by the FDTA. The FDTA shall provide a letter signed by the installation or activity commander to the appropriate disbursing office(s) stating that all authorizing officials acting as certifying officials for travel claims have been appointed and delegated in writing in accordance with <u>Volume 5</u>, paragraph 330501 of this Regulation. This requirement shall not apply if the disbursing office can be provided with the capability to verify electronically that certifying officials for electronic vouchers have been duly appointed in writing.

 \star 8. Ensure that access permission levels and routing schemes within DTS provide for review and approval of travel authorizations and payments only by the appropriate official(s). Permission levels must provide for appropriate separation of duties.

 \star 9. Initiate debt collection action to recover monies owed to the United States by travelers.

★ C. <u>Authorizing Official (AO)</u>. This individual shall be appointed in writing and be responsible for determining the necessity of trips and funds availability, authorizing travel, assigning the proper LOA prior to authorization, and approving travel claims for validity after completion of travel. The AO shall be the individual who controls the mission, authorizes the trip, and controls funds for temporary duty (TDY) travel. (See JFTR/JTR, Appendix O, paragraph T4000.) An AO may act as a certifying officer when he or she certifies travel claims for payment by approving and forwarding completed trip records to the disbursing office for payment. This specific responsibility requires that the AO be appointed as a certifying officer and designated in writing in accordance with <u>Volume 5, Chapter 33</u>, paragraph 330501 of this Regulation. The AO, as appointed is responsible to:

1. Determine the necessity of a trip as mission essential and in the government's interest.

- 2. Determine funds availability based on the DTS budget module.
- 3. Assign the proper LOA prior to authorization.

4. Disapprove trip requests when "should cost" estimates exceed the funding available in the DTS budget.

5. Request additional funding allocation from the appropriate fund allocation official for the DTS budget module if a requested trip is critical and when the "should cost" estimate exceeds the amount of funds available in the DTS budget module.

6. Review and authorize trip requests, including "should cost" estimates, for consistency with DoD TDY policy, the JFTR/JTR and mission requirements.

7. Review all policy exceptions and disapprove, approve or justify as

8. Review, as a minimum, receipts and/or required justification when the "should cost" estimate differs substantially from the claim submitted by the travelers.

9. Certify travel claim for payment by approving after completion of travel using an electronic signature.

10. Electronically forward certified claims to the disbursing office for payment.

 \star 11. Receipts and supporting documentation must be stored in an electronic fomat with the DTS trip record.

 \star 12. Counsel travelers when an indebtedness to the United States occurs and continue follow-up actions until the debt is satisfied.

★ D. <u>Certifying Officers</u>. Certifying officers are appointed in accordance with <u>Volume 5, Chapter 33</u>, paragraph 330303, and section 3306, of this Regulation. AOs must be appointed, specifically, in writing as certifying officers in order to perform certification for payment and approve and forward completed trip records to the disbursing office for payment. Individuals may act as both the certifying officer and AO on the same travel voucher but may not certify their own travel claim for payment. Certifying officers shall be pecuniarily liable for erroneous payments from negligent performance of duties in accordance with <u>Volume 5</u>, <u>Chapter 33</u>, paragraphs 330505, and section 3307 of this Regulation.

 \star E. <u>Self-Authorizing Official</u>. No blanket authorization/orders shall be issued under the DTS system. Instead, individuals who previously traveled under blanket travel authorization/orders shall be designated as self-authorizing officials. These individuals may act as their own AOs authorizing their own itineraries and travel arrangements. They may not, however, certify their own claims for payment. Self-authorizing officials shall be designated in writing and shall acknowledge in writing that they may not certify their own claims for payment.

020402. <u>Traveler</u>. The traveler is responsible for preparing initial authorizations, amendments and post trip vouchers. The traveler also is liable for any false or fraudulent written or oral statements under the False Claims Act (18 U.S.C. 287, 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 31 U.S.C. 3729). The traveler shall:

★ A. Fax or scan all records to substantiate certified travel claims (including original receipts for all lodging expenses, and all original receipts for individual reimbursable expenses of \$75 or more) to the DTS trip record. This capability will also include an electronic archive for 6 years and 3 months in accordance with the National Archives and Records Administration General Records Schedule 6 "Accountable Officers' Accounts Records"...

 \star B. Electronically sign and forward the completed travel claim to the AO.

★ C. Prepare itinerary amendments and all post trip settlement claims.

 \star D. Provide justification to the AO in the comments field of the authorization, amendment, or voucher for variations from policy and or any substantial variances between the authorized "should cost" estimate and the final travel claim.

★ 020403. <u>Reviewing Official</u>. Reviewing officials shall be appointed in writing to conduct random postpayment reviews of payments in accordance with <u>Volume 5</u>, section 0103, paragraph 010303. Reviewing officials conduct post-payment review of travel payments certified by certifying officers. The DTS includes extensive programmed system edit checks and internal control mechanisms that perform prepayment reviews on every travel record. Prepayment review by reviewing officials is not required for DTS payments. Both AOs and travelers are required to offer expeditious and complete cooperation to reviewing officials.

★ 020404. <u>Non DTS Entry Agent</u>. A Non DTS Entry Agent is a military member or DoD employee, designated in writing by local command authority, responsible for the input of trip requests and claims for reimbursement in the DTS for unconnected travelers who do not have reasonable access to the DTS. When the entry agent electronically signs the voucher for the unconnected traveler, the only certification that is made is that the information contained in the unconnected traveler's manually prepared and signed paper voucher is entered as claimed on that voucher. The entry agent is not responsible for the validity of the paper voucher signed by the traveler, but is responsible for entering the data correctly as presented. The entry agent must retain copies of all supporting documentation for all documents they enter into DTS for 6 years, 3 months.

0205 TRAVEL AUTHORIZATION

020501. <u>Business Travel</u>. Business travel includes all standard travel to support mission requirements by military personnel and DoD civilian employees who have access to the DTS web portal.

020502. <u>Other Than Business Travel</u>. Other than business travel refers to travelers who are performing "Arrangements Only" through the DTS web portal. No electronic commerce/electronic data interface (EC/EDI) transaction shall be generated and no obligation of funds will occur in the official accounting system. Travelers who use the DTS web portal only for arrangements will process their settlements using paper vouchers and travel authorization/orders in accordance with <u>Chapter 8</u> of this volume. NOTE: Upon initial implementation of the DTS, business travel may include travel that cannot be obligated or paid using the DTS. For example, until all Defense accounting and disbursing systems (DADS) are interfaced with the DTS, travel citing the funds of other organizations cannot be processed in DTS if the paying station of the other organization is not yet accepting DTS transactions.

020503. <u>Group Authorization</u>. Group authorizations involve two or more individuals who are traveling together. A group authorization allows the AO to generate one trip record with multiple names. Group authorizations are appropriate for such travel as conferences or deployment exercises.

020504. Local Travel at PDS

A. <u>General</u>. A claim for reimbursement of expenditures for official business is submitted in DTS using the "Local Voucher." This process can be used for such expenses as taxicabs, public carriers, or privately owned conveyances (POCs) while transacting official business in the locality of the permanent duty station (PDS). Claims shall be submitted as soon as practical after expense has occurred. Claims may be submitted for each individual trip or by combining recurring trips on a claim. The local voucher should not be used for use of POC in connection with TDY travel involving per diem allowance.

B. <u>Voucher Preparation and Approval</u>. The voucher created by the traveler shall identify the date, type of expense, and amount for each expense. The traveler shall annotate, in the comments field, the point of origin and destination, and the amount of fare and trips or distance for each trip. When identical trips are claimed on a voucher, the comments shall show the dates for each trip unless required by local authority, it is not necessary to compute mileage reimbursement for each trip separately. The number of miles may be added and the total multiplied by the mileage rate. The form shall be signed electronically by the traveler and approved by a certifying officer.

020505. <u>Nonconnected Traveler</u>. Nonconnected travelers are individuals who belong to organizations operating under the DTS, but who do not have access to DTS through computer or telephone dial-in. Nonconnected travelers include new accessions into the Military Services, including recruits traveling from basic training to follow-on training locations. New accessions will be considered as nonconnected travelers only when the Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) where they are accessed or from a training location that they are departing from are using the DTS software to process travel documents.

0206 FISCAL YEAR END TRAVEL AND ACCOUNTING POLICY

020601. <u>Split Year Funding</u>. In the event of a trip that is initiated using currently available fiscal year funding, but which requires new fiscal year funding to continue or complete the travel, the traveler shall return to his or her official duty station if no appropriation act has been signed or no continuing resolution has been passed to make available new fiscal year funds. Expenses incurred in returning to the traveler's duty station shall be posted in the new fiscal year as necessary costs to close down operations.

★ 020602. <u>New Fiscal Year Obligations</u>. The procedures outlined in the DTS Finance Guide paragraph 2.3 should be followed for travel involving future-year and multi-year travel. See <u>http://www.defensetravel.osd.mil/</u> and navigate to the DTS Finance Guide.

A. For travel that crosses fiscal years, only the obligations applicable to current fiscal year funds shall be forwarded from DTS to the accounting systems prior to the final 2 weeks of the fiscal year.

B. During the final 2 weeks of each fiscal year, and until the accounting system(s) begin processing data for the subsequent fiscal year, accounting systems electronically shall maintain all such pending obligations received from the DTS in a pending status. During this timeframe, such pending obligations shall not be rejected to the DTS if funding documents are not received and targets are not loaded into the accounting system(s). The DTS shall continue to send files to the applicable accounting systems where they shall be retained until the applicable system reopens for the subsequent fiscal year's business. At that time, the pending DTS transactions shall be processed. Once normal processing begins, all transactions shall be processed in a normal manner.

0207 <u>DEFENSE TRAVEL SYSTEM-LIMITED</u>

020701. <u>General</u>. The Defense Travel System-Limited (DTS-L) is an interim capability available for use until the DTS is fully deployed.

020702. <u>Capabilities</u>. The DTS-L offers the following travel management capabilities:

- A. Electronic travel authorization/order preparation and authorization.
- B. Preparation of "should cost" obligation estimates.
- C. Budget module.
- D. Static database of airline, rental car, and hotel data.
- E. Ability to print travel related forms.

- F. Route and review functions.
- G. Computations of final travel settlement with limitation.
- H. User training and installation assistance.
- I. User developed external financial interfaces.

020703. <u>Comparison with the DTS</u>. The DTS-L is an interim capability meant to assist in the Department's transition to the full DTS. The following capabilities provided by DTS are not included in DTS-L:

- A. Interface to the DoD public key infrastructure (digital signature).
- B. Interface to the Defense Table of Official Distances (DTOD).
- C. Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) to DADS.

D. Live availability of travel reservation data through the commercial Global Distribution Systems (GDS).

E. Connection to their organization's contracted commercial travel office (CTO).

F. Interface to the official DoD travel archive operated by the Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC).

020704. <u>Levels of DTS-L Functionality</u>. There are three levels of functionality available with the DTS-L. Each organization is responsible for determining the appropriate level of functionality for their respective organizations. The levels of operation are:

A. Level 1: An electronic travel authorization writer designed to function within the current standard, paper-driven process. The DTS-L will generate an accurate "should cost" computation, provide electronic route and review, and print all travel forms. The "should cost" computation available under DTS-L level 1 will be based on the entitlements contained in Appendix O of the JFTR/JTR; however, reimbursement to the traveler will be based on the standard JFTR/JTR entitlements. Use of Appendix O entitlements for the purpose of reimbursing a traveler is only available to users of DTS-L levels 2 and 3, and DTS.

B. Level 2: Full level 1 capability plus electronic voucher computation designed to function within the current standard, paper-driven process for AO certification. Precertified computed vouchers (paper copies) then shall be forwarded to the appropriate disbursing/travel entitlement activity.

C. Level 3: Full level 1 and level 2 capabilities plus a user developed external interface to accounting and disbursing systems or commercial travel offices (CTOs). Users are responsible for the development of all electronic interfaces. Accounting and disbursing interfaces shall be developed in accordance with requirements established by the DFAS. All CTO interfaces shall be developed in accordance with current CTO contracts.

020705. <u>Travel Settlement Computation.</u> The DTS-L has been certified, with qualifications, to compute final travel settlement and payment. None of the prohibited types of travel listed in paragraph T4000 of the JTR/JFTR shall be processed through the DTS-L for final payment. The following additional travel categories do not compute correctly and shall not be processed through DTS-L for final payment:

A. Personally procured transportation (tickets not purchased through a government travel office). There are no verifications in the DTS-L to determine if city-pairs were used or if business or first class tickets were purchased. Consequently, these trip records shall be forwarded to the AO for review of ticket receipt.

B. TDY/Temporary Additional Duty (TAD) with leave (civilian/military), TDY with accompanying dependents, and constructive travel.

C. Claims for field duty with occasional missed meals for civilian and military and also field duty requiring lodging cost for civilians.

D. Private auto mileage other than terminal mileage, unless the official mileage has been validated with the DTOD and authorized.

E. Partial payments.

F. Travel settlement vouchers with non-Automated Teller Machine (ATM) advances.

020706. <u>Prepayment and Post Payment Audit Random Review</u>. Prepayment and post-payment audit reviews ensure the propriety of the travel voucher, the legality of the payment, and accuracy of the facts stated in the travel voucher and supporting records. The following subparagraphs set forth specific requirements for both prepayment and post payment examinations of travel vouchers.

A. <u>Prepayment Review</u>. A prepayment examination is defined as an administrative review that takes place just prior to the travel voucher being submitted for payment. The purpose of the review is to ensure that the voucher contains the necessary substantiation and documentation for lawful and proper payment. Under manual processing systems, the reviewer will also verify the accuracy of the computations.

B. <u>Post Payment Review</u>. A post payment examination is defined as an administrative review that takes place following the payment of a voucher. These reviews will normally take place at a location where original returns are submitted to a servicing DFAS Site, or a centralized payment center, or a designated consolidated review activity. Individuals who are independent of the particular entity that prepared and disbursed the payments being examined may perform these reviews.

C. Each of the DTS-L levels of functionality has unique prepayment and post-payment audit review requirements. These requirements are:

1. Level 1: Authorizing officials, resource managers, approving officials and certifying officers have the same responsibilities for prepayment and post payment audits and random reviews as outlined in <u>Chapter 5</u> of this volume. Prepayment random review by the installation that operates the system is required under this level.

2. Level 2 and Level 3: Requires a post payment review to be performed by an entity not directly associated with or under the cognizance of the authorizing, certifying, or paying activity.