Office of the Chief Information Officer

TO: Distribution

FROM: Chief Information Officer and Assistant Administrator for Procurement

SUBJECT: Policies to Ensure IPv6 Compliance for Information Technology (IT) Purchases

The purpose of this memorandum is to communicate NASA Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6) procurement policies that require IPv6 compliant products to be included in all new information technology acquisitions that use Internet Protocol (IP). IPv6 was created over a decade ago and is intended to eventually replace IPv4. The driving purpose for IPv6 is to provide significantly more IP address space to support the enormous growth in Internet capable devices. As the next generation Internet standard, the plentiful IP addresses provided by IPv6 enable flexibility in design and innovation, supporting the newest technologies and protocols (e.g. Internet of Things) which require IPv6.

The NASA IPv6 procurement policies are aligned with the federal goals contained in the September 2010 Office of Management and Budget (OMB) IPv6 memorandum. The federal intent is to ensure the United States Government (USG) can improve operational efficiencies via IPv6, enable the general public to access citizen services via IPv6, as well as enable the USG to access public services that are only available via IPv6.

Unless the NASA Chief Information Officer (CIO) waives the requirement, the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 11.002 (g) requires federal agencies to include IPv6 compliance requirements when buying networked IT products. Please disseminate this information within your organizations to ensure IPv6 compliance for IT purchases that use IP.

1. NASA Form (NF) 1707, Special Approvals and Affirmations of Requisitions, a form required to accompany purchase requests, has been updated adding IPv6 requirements. The following items must be provided with the completed NF 1707 when purchasing networked IT:
   - Specification of IPv6 requirements for each item to be purchased
   - Suppliers Declaration of Conformance (SDOC), a legal document that specifies and certifies the product’s IPv6 capabilities
• Technical Analysis, a comparison between NASA’s requirements and the capabilities of the IT product proposed by the vendor

Please note that an IPv6 requirements specification and obtaining a vendor SDOC should happen as early as possible, preferably in the market analysis phase of the procurement.

2. An NF 1835, IPv6 Compliance Procurement Waiver, is required for purchases of networked IT items that are not IPv6 capable. For purchases below $100K, the approval authority is the Center CIO. Purchases of $100K and higher require Agency CIO approval.

The updated forms NF 1707 and NF 1835 are available at the NASA Electronic Forms website: https://nef.nasa.gov.

3. In accordance with FAR Part 11.002 (g), effectively immediately, requestors procuring IT services that use IP must include IPv6 requirements in acquisitions plans and requirements documents. The NASA baseline requirements are provided below to assist with the IPv6 requirements specification process:
   - Must support Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol version 6 (DHCPv6)
   - Must support Dual Stack (Operates IPv4 and IPv6 simultaneously)
   - Must support IPv6 only mode

For more information or assistance, review the NASA IPv6 Compliance Users Guide that is available at the NASA IPv6 internal website: https://inside.nasa.gov/ocio/content/nasa-ipv6. An explanation of the NASA baseline requirements, including Frequently Asked Questions, the IPv6 FAR language, sample IPv6 contract requirements text, and NASA Center points of contact are included.

The OCIO point of contact is Mr. Kevin Jones, NASA IPv6 Transition Manager, 650-604-2006, Kevin.L.Jones@nasa.gov. The Office of Procurement point of contact is Ms. Diane Thompson, Procurement Analyst, 202-358-0514, Diane.Thompson@nasa.gov.

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