

**DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS**

Memorandum

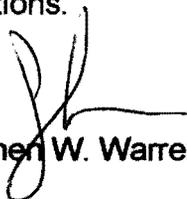
Date: MAR 24 2011
From: Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Information and Technology (005A)
Subj: Adoption of IPv6 at VA
To: See List Attached

1. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued a directive on September 28, 2010, mandating that all federal agencies communicate via Internet Protocol Version 6 (IPv6) on public web sites and external email by 2012 and transition to IPv6 for all internal infrastructure and applications by 2014. The legacy IPv4 address space has been exhausted and IPv6 is the mechanism that will propel the continued global development of the Internet throughout this century. As one of the largest Federal agencies and one of the leaders in the Federal space in IPv6 transition, VA has an obligation to the veteran and to our country to lend all due attention to this transition.

2. Effective immediately, I am directing all OI&T organizations and staff that, along with IPv4, the IPv6 protocol must be integrated into all VA OI&T activities. From this point forward, IPv6 technology must be included in all infrastructure and application design, development efforts, and procurements. By 2015, all computing, application, and network resources must turn off IPv4 as a communication mechanism in VA unless there is a waiver from my office or the device/service runs in an enclave.

3. Leveraging the Internet has far reaching implications and is of critical and strategic importance to our nation and to the Department's ability to most effectively serve the veteran. Maintaining continuity of communications and capabilities for our partners and customers as the private sector moves to IPv6 is essential. VA will not be a laggard in transitioning.

4. There are several federal policy and guidance documents to assist OI&T organizations in all aspects of transition to IPv6. Please contact Steven Pirzchalski, our agency's IPv6 transition manager, at 202-461-5910 for additional information or questions.


Stephen W. Warren

Addressees:

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology (005A)
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Information Security (005R)
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Information Technology Resource Management (005F)
Deputy Chief Information Officer, Architecture, Strategy, and Design (005E)
Deputy Chief Information Officer, Product Development (005Q)
Deputy Chief Information Officer, Service Delivery and Engineering (005OP)
Executive Director for Quality, Performance, and Oversight (005X)
Deputy Director, IPO
Advocate for Health (005A)
Advocate for Benefits (005A)
Advocate for Corporate Customers (005A)