

# Software Acquisition *Go Bag*

## SWP: Ready, Set, Go!

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# Agenda

- ❖ Am I Ready?
- ❖ Am I Set?
- ❖ Let's Go!
- ❖ What's Next?

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# SWP: Ready, Set, Go!

## Who should use this guide?

*You!* This guide is for everyone in a **Program Management Office** involved in software acquisition using or considering using the DoW's SWP. Whether you are a member of leadership, software development, engineering, program management, contracts, costing, logistics, or testing, this is for you!

In projects that are not yet an official program, this Tactical Guide along with *Cracking the CNS Code* can help Sponsors and users create a draft CNS prior to official program stand-up.

# Am I Ready?

Does your Program Management Office (PMO) meet the expectations to adopt the Software Acquisition Pathway (SWP)?

- 1. Have you instilled an Agile culture throughout the program office that includes users?**

# Am I Ready?

Does your PMO meet the expectations to adopt the SWP?

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2. **What is your plan to use Agile methods in a DevSecOps environment?**

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2. What is your plan to use Agile methods in a DevSecOps environment?
3. **What is your plan to involve users every step of the way and to adapt as needed?**

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4. **What is your plan to integrate testing (i.e., government DT and OT), including early testing?**

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5. **What is your plan to involve the cybersecurity team early and continuously?**

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5. What is your plan to involve the cybersecurity team early and continuously?
6. **What is your plan to involve other certification authorities (e.g., safety of flight, nuclear) early and continuously?**

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5. What is your plan to involve the cybersecurity team early and continuously?
6. What is your plan to involve other certification authorities (e.g., safety of flight, nuclear) early and continuously?
7. **Will you be able to provide users with new functionality at least annually if not more often?**

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- 1. I'm a new acquisition program entering the SWP planning phase.  
What do I need?**

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1. I'm a new acquisition program entering the SWP planning phase.  
What do I need?
2. **I'm an existing acquisition program planning to transition to the SWP.**  
**What do I need?**

## The Myth

**“Existing acquisition programs in execution must go straight into the SWP Execution Phase.”**

# Am I Set?

Let's get set to enter the SWP:

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What do I need?
2. I'm an existing acquisition program planning to transition to the SWP.  
What do I need?
3. **I have a new program that is not yet a program of record.**  
**How do I get started?**

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# Let's Go!

If you have these SWP Artifact Requirements, you're ready to move out:

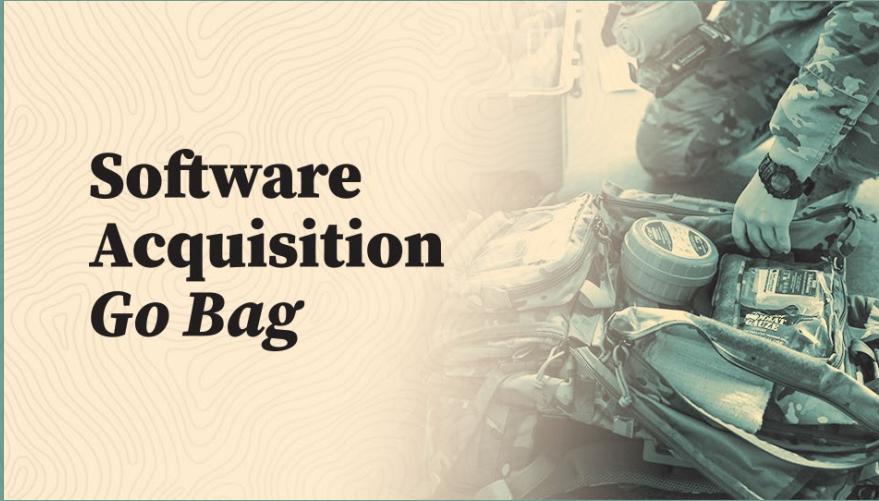
Program Type	SWP Artifact Requirements
New acquisition program	Draft Capability Needs Statement (CNS) signed by the Sponsor or user
Existing acquisition program—planning phase	Acquisition Decision Memo (ADM) signed by the Decision Authority (DA)
Existing acquisition program—execution phase	Existing documents that were reviewed to determine whether updates are needed to requirements documents, strategy documents, etc.  ADM signed by the DA
New program of record	Draft CNS signed by the Sponsor or User  ADM signed by the DA

Follow Office of the Secretary of War for Acquisition and Sustainment (OSW A&S) steps for sending an email and providing details to register your program. Congratulations!

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# What's Next?

Are you planning to attend the [Weapon System Software Summit](#) at the [DoW Maintenance Symposium](#), Jan 20-23, 2026?

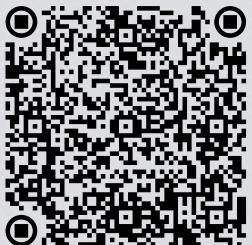
If so, please join us for an in-person tutorial on ***SWP: Ready, Set, Go!***  
On Jan 20<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 5:00 pm.

For more details on the tutorial see the description on the symposium's [Program page](#).

# What's Next?

Head on over to our website to learn more:

- Visit [Software Acquisition Go Bag](#).
- Send us your questions and [feedback](#).
- [Subscribe](#) to our Go Bag mailing list to get notifications of new Go Bag launches, webinars, and more!
- [Pack Your Go Bag](#) on our website.



# Team Contact – Stay Engaged with Go Bag!



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**Julie Cohen**  
Senior Member of  
the Technical Staff



**Brigid O'Hearn**  
Principal Engineer



Additional Tactical Guides and Supplements are in development that will provide help with the SWP and software acquisition in general. Stay tuned!

