BSM CHECKLIST

GAO'S TIPS FOR BETTER BSM

Business systems modernization projects must:

- Have a clear, documented and consistent method of eliciting requirements that takes into account the needs of the specific system and all relevant users and stakeholders
- Adequately document all requirements
- Effectively verify requirements
- Demonstrate adequate management of requirements including policies and procedures that fully describe a minimum set of activities required for each project and provide detailed procedures for each of the key areas of requirements elicitation, documentation, verification, and validation and management
- Have a standardized process for the documentation of requirements that ensures full documentation of the baseline requirements
- Have a process for ensuring that formal peer reviews are planned and completed for key products
- Develop guidance on tracking cost and schedule impact of changes to requirements for all projects
- Develop guidance on establishing and maintaining full bi-directional requirements traceability.

HOW COMPLEX IS YOUR BSM PROJECT?

The Defense Department's business system modernization project includes more than 3,600 systems in five domains. Officials are trying to figure out how to ensure they meet enterprise architecture and other data standards and rules. The number of systems in each domain:

Weapons system lifecycle management: 519
Financial management: 481
Human resources management: 791
Real property and installation management: 253
Material supply and services management: 1,477
To be determined: 101
TOTAL: 3,622