



## ITA Reduces Customer Costs through New Cabling Standards

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Army Information Technology Agency (ITA) developed new cabling standards, reducing customer costs by \$250,000 per year for all new standard Unclassified Work Area Outlets (WAOs). ITA revised the minimum cabling standard requirement from four copper and one fiber to two copper and no fiber connections to reduce costs within the Pentagon and meet changes in customer demand. The revised standards were developed through a nine month effort to deliver cost savings to ITA's customers.

ITA decided to investigate the cost savings of new cabling standards when projecting the future of the Pentagon's information technology infrastructure and the trend of customer's demand for network connectivity. As customer demands for copper cabling sharply declined, ITA engineers identified the significant costs and telecommunication room rack space consumed by the three spare copper cables included in each standard Unclassified WAO.

The ITA Operations Directorate's Cable Engineers led the new standards development using the Army Corp of Engineers' Unified Facilities Criteria for Department of Defense installation and facility design and cabling guidelines. Cost savings through reduced time, materials, rack space and pathway space are provided by the new standards. Furthermore, the reduced cabling is projected to provide ample bandwidth for customers for the next 10-20 years.

"While standards revisions are rare, we will continue to review and revise them as our industry evolves. We are also reviewing and revising our SOPs regularly to achieve cost savings," said Mr. Mark Hendershot, Senior Information Transport Systems Engineer, Registered Communications Distribution Designer (RCDD) Certified, ITA Operations.

ITA is committed to supporting the customer's mission success and delivering cost savings to the Pentagon. ITA is creating connections by putting the Byte in the Fight!