DoD Software Protection Initiative
HPEC
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Software Protection Initiative

- **Direction**
  - Dec 13, 2001: USD(AT&L) memo formally kick-starts the DoD Software Protection Initiative

- **Mission**
  - Prevent the unauthorized distribution and exploitation of application software critical to national security

- **Vision**
  - Establish the Software Protection Initiative as an integral layer of the defense-in-depth concept for information assurance
  - Complement existing information assurance efforts in network security and operating systems access controls with an application-centric approach to protecting critical DoD intellectual property
What’s at Stake?

- Comprehensive collection efforts are underway to steal critical technologies
  - Application software is a high-value target
    - The examples below illustrate the difficulties in protecting critical technology

(Sources: Michael Schwartz, The role of espionage in the Soviet atomic bomb project; AFOSI Detachment 709 open source analysis)

- Use of SPI technology will allow us to:
  - Maintain operational superiority
  - Ensure our ability to dominate the battlespace
  - Provide defense-in-depth for U.S. forces
Software Protection Initiative
Protection Technologies

- Current commercial practices focus on revenue protection and have minimal shelf life

- Military grade protection must provide robust protection, reliability, and scalability
  - Current, most robust protection measures involve hardware and software
  - Hardware is embedded with trust which forms the foundation of the protection technology
  - Software application talks to the hardware to ensure protected execution