The chart illustrates the sequence of decision events in a generic program, which could be a Defense program or, except for the unique DoD terminology, a commercial product.

**DoD Instruction 5000.02 milestones, other decisions, phases and major phase activities are shown in relation to the generic sequence of events.**

**Tailoring of Milestones, Decision Points, and Phases**

- Milestones and decision points illustrated on this chart are standard for DoD; however, Milestone Decision Authorities (MDAs) have full latitude to tailor programs in the most effective and efficient structure as much as needed to accommodate the characteristics of the product being acquired, and to the totality of circumstances associated with the program including operational urgency and risk factors.
  - MDAs tailor program strategy and oversight, including program information, acquisition phase content, the timing and scope of decision reviews and decision levels, based on the specific needs of the product being acquired, including complexity, risk factors, and required timelines to satisfy validated capability requirements.
  - When there is a strong threat based or operationally driven need to field a capability solution in the shortest time, MDAs are authorized to implement streamlined procedures designed to accelerate acquisition system responsiveness. Statutory requirements will be complied with, unless waived in accordance with relevant provisions.

**DoD: Operations and Support Phase**

- The program support strategy is consistent with the structured system and support actions and operational phases seen in the life cycle.
- At the end of the partial life, systems are dismantled and disposed in accordance with all legal and regulatory requirements and policy relating to safety (including environmental), security, and the environment.