

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

48 CFR Chapter 5

RIN 3090-AE90

General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation

AGENCY: Office of Acquisition Policy, GSA.

ACTION: Interim rule with request for comments.

SUMMARY: The General Services Administration (GSA) is revising the General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation (GSAR) in its entirety. GSA has rewritten the GSAR into plain English, included only regulatory material, and removed internal agency guidance. GSA has also updated the GSAR to reflect recent changes to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR). GSA intends the reissued GSAR to be simpler to understand and less burdensome for contractors and offerors, GSA contracting personnel, and contracting personnel in other agencies delegated contracting authority subject to following GSAR procedures.

DATES: *Effective Date:* September 1, 1999. Comments should be submitted in writing to the address shown below on or before September 7, 1999.

ADDRESSES: Mail comments to General Services Administration, Office of Acquisition Policy, GSA Acquisition Policy Division (MVP), 1800 F Street, NW, Room 4012, Washington, DC 20405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gloria Sochon, GSA Acquisition Policy Division, (202) 208-6726.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Background

On January 28, 1992, the President directed agencies to evaluate their regulatory programs and eliminate certain rules that restrict the economy. On September 11, 1993, the President directed agencies to eliminate at least half of their internal management regulations. While these directives did not apply to GSA acquisition regulations, GSA initiated a review and rewrite of the GSAR following the same principles. The GSAR, as reissued—

- Uses plain English to improve clarity and understanding.
- Reduces the amount of regulatory material.
- Eliminates internal operating procedures that do not have a significant effect beyond GSA, or a

- significant cost or administrative impact on contractors or offerors.
- Eliminates guidance which merely implements or supplements the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) without a significant cost or administrative impact on contractors or offerors, or an effect beyond GSA's internal operating procedures.
- In subparts 503, 515, 552, and 570, incorporates changes from the interim rule published in the **Federal Register** at 63 FR 18843, April 16, 1998 (ADP 2800.12A, CHGE 79). GSA received no comments on this interim rule. The interim rule updated regulation procedures for acquisitions of leasehold interests in real property for consistency with FAR Part 15 where applicable. The interim rule is incorporated with editorial changes for plain language, more clear organization, and consistency in cross references.
- In subparts 504.5 and 505.1, provides guidance on use of GSA's Electronic Posting System for issuing synopses and solicitations.
- In subparts 511, 516, 542, and 552 incorporates changes from the interim rule published in the **Federal Register** at 64 FR 4788, February 1, 1999 (ADP 2800.12A, CHGE 81). The interim rule clarified requirements for making deliveries under contracts that provide for delivery to both civilian and military locations, clarified the contracting activities authorized to place orders under Federal Supply Service (FSS) contracts, allowed Procuring Contracting Officers (PCOs) in FSS to authorize Administrative Contracting Officers (ACOs) to issue cure or show causes notices, revised the time for submission of close-out reports under FSS multiple award contracts (MAS), and simplified the process for deleting items from FSS MAS contracts. Only the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) submitted comments. VA requested that the authority to delete items without prior approval be optional for VA because of potential conflicts with its Prime Vendor system. VA also requested that publication requirements for supplemental price lists be clarified to reflect workdays and be based on calendar months. GSA adopts these comments. VA also requested that section 552.216-73 identify a GSA contact for information on authorized schedule users. This comment is not adopted. Questions regarding authorized users should be referred to the contracting officer.
- In subparts 515.3, 537.2, and 552.237-73, provides guidance on use of outside evaluators. GSA published a

- proposed rule on disclosure and use of proprietary information in the **Federal Register** at 58 FR 42715, August 11, 1993. GSA received 18 comments from 5 respondents and considered all comments in preparing this interim rule. Two principal areas of concern from industry concerned adding a requirement for nongovernment evaluators to execute nondisclosure agreements directly with the owners of proposal information and clarification of available remedies for violations. GSA will not require nondisclosure agreements between outside evaluators and the owner of proposal information. Such a requirement would be impractical to administer and does not add to the protection afforded the owner of the information. The owner of proposal information has remedies under the Trade Secrets Act. The Government has contractual and legal remedies, including those defined at FAR 3.104, FAR 52.203-8 and 52.203-10, GSAR 552.237-73, and the termination provisions of the contract.
- In sections 532.71 and 552.232-1, allows automatic payment for recurring services (i.e., fixed roll payment).
- In sections 536.271 and 552.236-83, establishes procedures for using project labor agreements for large and significant Federal construction projects.
- Incorporates updates to remain consistent with the FAR through Federal Acquisition Circular (FAC) 97-10, including:
- Revises section 503.1 to eliminate references to certifications and parallel the organization of FAR section 3.1.
- In section 511.404(a)(1), updates the FAR reference from FAR 52.211-1 to FAR 52.211-8.
- Reorganizes Part 513 to correspond to FAR Part 13.
- Eliminates certifications that are not based on statute, including section 514.303 (eliminating the requirement that the receipt for withdrawal of a bid certify the representative's authority), section 528.301 (deleting the reference to certification of insurance and deferring to applicable FAR clauses), and sections 537.110 and 552.237-72 (changing the certification regarding quasi-military armed forces to a prohibition).
- Reorganizes and updates Part 515 to correspond to FAR part 15.
- Makes conforming changes to rules on cost and pricing data and information other than cost or pricing data in Part 515.

- Updates subpart 519.8 and section 552.219–74, to conform to changes in FAC 97–05 and 97–06, and to add direct section 8(a) award authority based on a Memorandum of Understanding with the Small Business Administration.
- Updates subparts headings in Part 528 to correspond to subpart headings in the FAR.
- Implements agency protest procedures in sections 533.103 and 552.233–70.
- Reorganizes Part 542 to correspond to FAR Part 42.
- Updates prescription citations in Part 552 to conform to the revised Parts 501–550 and 570.
- Deletes the following sections from Part 552, which are either obsolete or duplicate FAR provisions or clauses:
 - 552.203–4 Contingent Fee Representation and Agreement
 - 552.214–16 Minimum Bid Acceptance Period
 - 552.214–74 Solicitation Copies
 - 552.225–70 Buy American Act—Hand or Measuring Tools or Stainless Steel
- Flatware**
 - 552.225–72 Eligible Products from Nondesignated Countries—Waiver
 - 552.225–75 Buy American Act Notice—Construction Materials
 - 552.228–70 Bid Guarantee and Bonds
 - 552.228–71 Bid Guarantee
 - 552.228–72 Performance Bond
 - 552.228–73 Performance and Payment Bonds
 - 552.233–70 Disputes (Utility Contract)
 - 552.236–83 Furnishing Information and Records
 - 552.270–40 Asbestos and Hazardous Waste Management.
- Renumbers section 552.211–1 to 552.211–8 for consistent cross-numbering to the corresponding clause of FAR 52.211–8.
- Incorporates a clause at sections 552.212–71 and 552.238–78, Cancellation, required by the Federal Supply Service for multiple award schedule contracts.
- At section 552.212–71, Contract Terms and Conditions Applicable to GSA Acquisition of Commercial Items, separates provisions from clauses and updates references to revised provisions and clauses.
- At section 552.212–72, Contract Terms and Conditions Required to Implement Statutes or Executive Orders Applicable to GSA Acquisition of Commercial Items, separates provisions from clauses; adds 552.225–8, Buy American Act—Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program Certificate and 552.225–9, Buy American Act—Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program; and updates references to revised provisions and clauses.
- At section 552.216–70, Economic Adjustment—FSS Multiple Award Schedule Contracts, corrected the title of the clause for internal consistency.
- At section 552.225–8, Buy American Act—Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program Certificate, conforms the name to the related FAR provisions.
- At section 552.225–9, Buy American Act—Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program, conforms the name to the related FAR clause.
- At section 552.225–70, Buy American Act—Hand of Measuring Tools or Stainless Steel Flatware, updates GSAR references.
- At section 552.228–70, Workers' Compensation Laws, changes "workmen's" to "workers'" to conform to FAR references.
- At section 552.232–23, Assignment of Claims, deletes references to "delivery" orders so that the clause covers both delivery and task orders.
- At section 552.232–70, Invoice Requirements, deletes references to "purchase" and "delivery" orders so that the clause covers purchase, delivery, and task orders.
- At section 552.232–76, Electronic Funds Transfer Payment, updates the clause to conform the information required under leases for real property to FAR requirements for other contracts.
- At section 552.232–77, Payment by Credit Card, updates procedures for consistency with the new Government credit card contract and removes "delivery" so that the clause covers both delivery and task orders.
- At section 552.236.77, Specifications and Drawings, corrects the reference to the FAR clause at 52.236–21, Specifications and Drawings for Construction.
- At section 552.236–78, Shop Drawings, Coordination Drawings, and Schedules, corrects the reference to the FAR clause at 52.236–21, Specifications and Drawings for Construction.
- At section 552.238–74, Contractor's Report of Sales, updates references to the clause at 552.238–76, Industrial Funding Fee and adds task orders in paragraph (a).
- At section 552.238–76, Industrial Funding Fee, updates references to the clause at 552.238–75, Contractor's Report to Sales.
- At section 552.243–71, Equitable Adjustments, revises a reference from "workmen's" to "workers'" to conform to references in the FAR.
- At section 552.243–72, Modifications (Multiple Award Schedule), updates references to GSAR clauses.
- At section 552.246–70, Source Inspection by Quality Approved Manufacturer, corrects the numbering of subparagraphs in paragraph (b).
- At section 552.247–71, Diversion of Shipment Under F.O.B. Destination Contracts. The clause authorizes GSA to unilaterally direct shipment of an order to an alternate location. Prior to changes resulting from the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act, FAR 52.243–1, Changes—Fixed Price, and 52.247–54, Diversion of Shipment Under F.O.B. Destination Contracts, provided the Government the right to unilaterally change the place of delivery and defined the basis for making related price adjustments GSA's Federal Supply Service (FSS) used these clauses to implement efficient inventory management in the Stock, SOP, and Single Award Schedule programs. The authority to divert shipment to certain volume orders allows FSS to maintain optimum inventory levels and minimize space, storage, handling, and related expenses. It also allows FSS to respond quickly to customer agency needs. FAR 52.212–4(c) allows changes "only by written agreement of the parties." This requires FSS to process a bilateral modification for each order when directing shipment to an alternate location would be in the Government's best interest. This creates unacceptable delays in processing orders and responding to customer agencies' needs. It also cause FSS to maintain excessive stock levels and storage facilities in order to respond to unusual orders. This unnecessarily increases FSS costs, and in turn, costs to customer agencies. The ability to unilaterally direct shipments improves responsiveness and reduces costs in the Government's best interest.
- At section 552.225–5, Authorized Deviations in Provisions, conforms the provision to changes in FAR 52.252–5.
- At section 552.252–6, Authorized Deviations in Clauses, conforms the clause to changes in FAR 52.252–6.
- Revises the following clauses applicable to leases of real property to provide a common standard to measuring usable square feet based on the Building Owners and Managers Association definition:
 - 552.270–2 Historic Preference.
 - 552.270–4 Definitions
 - 552.270–14 Changes
 - 552.270–16 Adjustment for Vacant Premises

- 552.270-18 Default in Delivery—Time Extensions
 - 552.270-20 Payment
 - 552.270-29 Acceptance of Space
- Redesignates provisions and clauses so that they appear in the sequence referred to in parts 501-551 and 570.

Old section	New section
552.203-73	552.203-70
552.203-70	552.203-71
552.209-73	552.209-70
552.209-74	552.209-71
552.209-75	552.209-72
552.209-76	552.209-73
552.214-73	552.214-70
552.214-75	552.214-71
552.214-76	552.214-72
552.216-71	552.216-70
552.216-72	552.216-71
552.216-73	552.216-72
552.216-74	552.216-73
552.219-71	552.219-70
552.219-72	552.219-71
552.219-73	552.219-72
552.219-74	552.219-73
552.223-71	552.223-72
552.223-72	552.223-71
552.225-71	552.225-70
552.228-75	552.228-70
552.229-72	552.229-71
552.232-70	552.232-74
552.232-71	552.232-75
552.232-72	552.232-70
552.232-73	552.232-76
552.232-77	552.232-73
552.232-78	552.232-71
552.232-79	552.232-72
552.232-80	552.232-77
552.238-72	552.238-74
552.238-74	552.238-71
552.238-75	552.238-72
552.238-76	552.238-75
552.238-77	552.238-76
552.246-71	552.246-72
552.246-72	552.246-71
552.270-4	552.270-2
552.270-6	552.270-3
552.270-10	552.270-4
552.270-11	552.270-5
552.270-12	552.270-6
552.270-13	552.270-7
552.270-15	552.270-8
552.270-16	552.270-9
552.270-17	552.270-10
552.270-18	552.270-11
552.270-19	552.270-12
552.270-20	552.270-13
552.270-21	552.270-14
552.270-22	552.270-15
552.270-25	552.270-16
552.270-27	552.270-17
552.270-28	552.270-18
552.270-30	552.270-19
552.270-31	552.270-20
552.270-32	552.270-21
552.270-33	552.270-22
552.270-34	552.270-23
552.270-35	552.270-24
552.270-36	552.270-25
552.270-37	552.270-26
552.270-38	552.270-27
552.270-39	552.270-28
552.270-41	552.270-29

B. Executive Order 12866

This rule was submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under Executive Order 12866. This is not a major rule under 5 U.S.C. 804.

C. Regulatory Flexibility Act

This interim rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601, *et seq.* The guidance on disclosure and use of proprietary information implements agency procedures for releasing proposals outside the Government for evaluation and provide a contract clause to ensure that evaluation contractors protect proposal information appropriately. The agency protest procedures offer vendors an alternate forum which is quicker and less expensive than protests to the General Accounting Office or the Courts. The other revisions do not add any new requirements; but reduce the number of agency regulations, restate existing requirements in plain English, and provide consistency with the FAR. These revisions streamline GSA acquisition rules, provide greater flexibility, and promote understanding.

D. Paperwork Flexibility Act

The reissued GSAR contains information collection requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*) which were approved previously by OMB and assigned the control numbers shown in section 501.106.

E. Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996

This rule is not a major rule under 5 U.S.C. 804. This rule was submitted to Congress and GAO under 5 U.S.C. 804.

F. Determination to Issue an Interim Rule

Urgent and compelling reasons exist to promulgate this interim rule without prior opportunity for public comment. Many of the updates to consistency with the FAR are necessary to comply with statute or Executive Orders. For example, this rule implements Section 29 of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 425), eliminating certifications not required by statute or approved by the Office of Federal Procurement Policy, and Executive Order 12979, Agency Procurement Protests, providing inexpensive, informal, simple, and quick resolution of protests. Other changes necessary for consistency with the FAR implement streamlined and innovative acquisitions procedures that benefit contractors,

offerors, and GSA contracting personnel, such as GSA implementation of new FAR Part 15 source selection procedures. Further, the rule provides significant benefits to the Federal government, offerors, and contractors by:

- Reducing the number of agency regulations, which reduces administrative burden and promotes flexibility in the acquisition process.
- Restates requirements in plain English, which promotes understanding.
- Provides consistency with the FAR, which eliminates conflicts and reduces confusion.

However, pursuant to Pub. L. 98-577 and FAR 1.501, GSA will consider public comments received in response to this interim rule in the formation of the final rule.

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Chapter 5

Government procurement.

Dated: June 16, 1999.

Ida M. Ustad,

Deputy Associate Administrator for Acquisition Policy.

Accordingly, the General Services Administration revises 48 CFR Chapter 5, to read as follows:

CHAPTER 5—GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

SUBCHAPTER A—GENERAL

Part

- 501 General Services Administration Acquisition Regulations System
- 502 Definitions of Words and Terms
- 503 Improper Business Practices and Personal Conflicts of Interest
- 504 Administrative Matters

SUBCHAPTER B—COMPETITION AND ACQUISITION PLANNING

- 505 Publicizing Contract Actions
- 509 Contractor Qualifications
- 511 Describing Agency Needs
- 512 Acquisition of Commercial Items

SUBCHAPTER C—CONTRACTING METHODS AND CONTRACT TYPES

- 513 Simplified Acquisition Procedures
- 514 Sealed Bidding
- 515 Contracting by Negotiation
- 516 Types of Contracts
- 517 Special Contracting Methods

SUBCHAPTER D—SOCIOECONOMIC PROGRAMS

- 519 Small Business Programs
- 522 Application of Labor Laws to Government Acquisitions
- 523 Environment, Conservation, Occupational Safety and Drug-Free Workplace
- 525 Foreign Acquisition

SUBCHAPTER E—GENERAL CONTRACTING REQUIREMENTS

- 527 Patents, Data, and Copyrights
- 528 Bonds and Insurance
- 529 Taxes
- 532 Contract Planning
- 533 Protests, Disputes, and Appeals

SUBCHAPTER F—SPECIAL CATEGORIES OF CONTRACTING

- 536 Construction and Architect-Engineer Contracts
- 537 Service Contracting
- 538 Federal Supply Schedule Contracting

SUBCHAPTER G—CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

- 542 Contract Administration and Audit Services
- 543 Contract Modifications
- 546 Quality Assurance
- 547 Transportation
- 549 Termination of Contracts

SUBCHAPTER H—CLAUSES AND FORMS

- 552 Solicitation Provisions and Contract Clauses
- 553 Forms

SUBCHAPTER I—SPECIAL CONTRACTING PROGRAMS

- 570 Acquiring Leasehold Interests in Real Property

SUBCHAPTER A—GENERAL

PART 501—GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION ACQUISITION REGULATION SYSTEM

Subpart 501.1—Purpose, Authority, Issuance

- Sec.
- 501.101 Purpose
- 501.103 Authority
- 501.104 Applicability
- 501.105 Issuance
- 501.105-1 Publication and code arrangement
- 501.105-2 Arrangement of regulations
- 501.105-3 Copies
- 501.106 OMB Approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act

Subpart 501.4—Deviations From the FAR and GSAR

- 501.402 Policy
- 501.403 Individual deviations
- 501.404 Class deviations

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 501.1—Purpose, Authority, Issuance

501.101 Purpose.

(a) The General Services Acquisition Regulation (GSAR) contains agency acquisition policies and practices, contract clauses, solicitation provisions, and forms that control the relationship between GSA and contractors and prospective contractors.

(b) GSAR address rules directly to you, the contracting officer, unless otherwise indicated.

501.103 Authority.

GSA's Senior Procurement Executive issues the GSAR under the authority of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended.

501.104 Applicability.

(a) *General.* The GSAR applies to contracts for suppliers or services, including construction.

(b) *Acquisition of leasehold interests in real property.* Part 570 establishes rules for the acquisition of leasehold interests in real property. Other provisions of 48 CFR chapter 5 (GSAR) do not apply to leases of real property unless specifically cross-reference in part 570.

(c) *Relationship to state.* Some GSAR rules implement and interpret laws and other authorities affecting procurement. A GSAR rule specifically directed by statute has the force and effect of law.

(d) *GSAR/FAR Relationship.* The GSAR may deviate from the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) if authorized. If the GSAR does not implement the FAR, the FAR alone governs.

501.105 Issuance.

501.105-1 Publication and code arrangement.

The GSAR is published in the following sources:

- (a) Daily issue of the **Federal Register**.
- (b) Annual Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), as Chapter 5 of Title 48.
- (c) GSA Acquisition Manual distributed within GSA.
- (d) GSA Home Page at <http://www/gas.gov>. Click on either "Government Agencies" or on "Business and Industry," the click on "Acquisition."

501.105-2 Arrangement of regulations.

(a) The GSAR numbers and captions policies and procedures to correspond to how they appear in the FAR, e.g., 1.104 in the FAR is 501.104 in the GSAR.

(b) GSAR rules not implementing the FAR have numbers beginning with 70, e.g., part 570, subsection 515.209-70.

(c) The GSAR may have gaps in its numbering scheme because a FAR rule may not require GSAR implementation.

501.105-3 Copies.

The GSAR in CFR form may be purchased from: Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.

501.106 OMB approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act.

GSAR Reference	OMB Control No.
509.105-1(a)	3090-0007
511.170-3(a)	3090-0203
511.170-3(c)	3090-0203
511.204(d)	3090-0246
511.404(a)(1)	3090-0204
511.404(a)(2)	3090-0204
511.404(a)(5)	3090-0204
514.201-7(a)	3090-0200
516.203-4(a)(1)	3090-0243
516.506	3090-0248
519.708(b)	3090-0252
522.406-6	1215-0149
523.370	3090-0205
532.111(c)	3090-0080
532.905-70	9000-0102
532.905-71	3090-0080
537.110(a)	3090-0197
537.110(b)	3090-0006
538.273(a)(1)	3090-0250
538.273(a)(3)	3090-0262
538.273(b)(1)	3090-0121
542.1107	3090-0027
546.307-70	3090-0027
546.302-71	3090-0027
549.502(b)	3090-0027
552.211-8	3090-0204
552.211-70	3090-0203
552.211-77	3090-0246
552.211-78	3090-0204
552.211-82	3090-0204
552.214-71	3090-0200
552.216-70	3090-0243
552.216-72	3090-0248
552.216-73	3090-0248
552.219-72	3090-0252
552.223-72	3090-0205
552.232-72	3090-0080
552.237-70	3090-0197
552.237-71	3090-0006
552.238-70	3090-0250
552.238-72	3090-0262
552.238-74	3090-0121
552.242-70	3090-0027
552.246-70	3090-0027
552.246-71	3090-0027
552.249-71	3090-0227
GSA-72-A	3090-0121
GSA-527	3090-0007
GSA-618-D	1215-0149
GSA-1142	3090-0080
GSA-1364	3090-0086
GSA-1678	3090-0027
GSA-2419	9000-0102
570.702(c)	3090-0086

Subpart 501.4—Deviations From the FAR and GSAR

501.402 Policy.

Uniformity is a goal of GSA's Acquisition Regulation System. Despite this desire for uniformity, a contracting activity may take any of the following actions:

(a) Develop and test new procedures and techniques.

(b) Adopt alternate procedures in the public interest for unique programmatic or managerial requirements

(c) Deviate from a regulatory provision implementing a statutory requirement provided the deviation does not violate the underlying statute. Deviations must not be used to defeat the FAR and GSAR approval requirements.

501.403 Individual deviations.

(a) The Contracting Director approves individual deviations from the FAR and GSAR.

(b) If GSA delegates authority to another agency and requires compliance with the GSAR as a condition of the delegation, the Contracting Director in the agency receiving the delegation may approve individual deviations from the GSAR unless the agency head receiving the delegation designates another official.

(c) Send a copy of each deviation to GSA's Senior Procurement Executive (MV).

501.404 Class deviations.

(a) HCAs approve class deviations from the FAR and GSAR.

(b) If GSA delegates authority to another agency and requires compliance with the GSAR as a condition of the delegation, the HCA in the agency receiving the delegation may approve class deviations from the GSAR unless the agency head receiving the delegation designates another official.

(c) Send a copy of each deviation to GSA's Senior Procurement Executive (MV).

(d) A request for class deviations must be supported by statements that fully describe the need for and the nature of the deviation.

(e) Class deviations from the GSAR:
(1) Expire in 12 months if not extended.

(2) May be rescinded earlier by GSA's Senior Procurement Executive or by officials designated under paragraph (a) of this section without prejudice to any action taken previously.

PART 502—DEFINITIONS OF WORDS AND TERMS

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 502.1—Definitions

502.101 Definitions.

Agency competition advocate means the GSA Competition Advocate in the Office of Acquisition Policy.

Assigned counsel means the attorney employed by the Office of General Counsel (including offices of Regional Counsel) assigned to provide legal review or assistance.

Contracting activity competition advocate means the individual

designated in writing by the head of the contracting activity (HCA). This authority may not be redelegated. The HCA must ensure that the designated competition advocate is not assigned any duty or responsibility that is inconsistent with the advocacy function. The identity of the designated official shall be communicated to procuring staff and the Senior Procurement Executive.

Contracting director means:

(a) Except in FSS, a director of a Central Office or Regional office Division responsible for performing contracting or contract administration functions.

(b) In FSS, a director of a Commodity Center or FSS Bureau.

Contracting officer's representative (COR), contracting officer's technical representative (COTR), or contract administrator means a Government employee designated in writing by the contracting officer to perform specific limited activities for the contracting officer, such as contract administration.

Debarring official or suspending official means the Senior Procurement Executive or a designee.

Head of the contracting activity means the Deputy Associate Administrator for Acquisition Policy (MV); Commissioners of the Federal Technology Service (FTS); Federal Supply Service (FSS), or Public Buildings Service (PBS); or Regional Administrators. The Deputy Associate Administrator for Acquisition Policy serves as the HCA for Central Office contracting activities outside of FTS, FSS, and PBS.

Senior procurement executive means the Deputy Associate Administrator for Acquisition Policy.

Senior program official means a person reporting to, and designated by, the HCA to have overall program responsibility for determining how the agency will meet its need. The official should have a position of authority over the participating offices. Examples include Assistant Regional Administrators or Deputy Commissioners.

PART 503—IMPROPER BUSINESS PRACTICES AND PERSONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Subpart 503.1—Safeguards

Sec.

503.104 Procurement integrity

503.104-3 Definitions

503.104-9 Contract clauses

Subpart 503.2—Contractor Gratuities to Government Personnel

503.204 Treatment of violations

Subpart 503.4—Contingent Fees

503.404 Contract clause

Subpart 503.5—Other Improper Business Practices

503.570 Advertising

503.570-1 Policy

503.570-2 Contract clause

Subpart 503.7—Voiding and Rescinding Contracts

503.702 Definition

503.705 Procedures

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 503.1—Safeguards

503.104 Procurement integrity.

503.104-3 Definitions.

Federal agency procurement as used in FAR 3.104 and in this section, also means acquisitions of leasehold interests in real property.

503.104-9 Contract clauses.

Acquisitions of Leasehold Interests in Real Property

Insert a clause substantially the same as the clause at 552.203-70, Price Adjustment for Illegal or Improper Activity, in solicitations and contracts for and modifications to leasehold interests in real property exceeding \$100,000.

Subpart 503.2—Contractor Gratuities to Government Personnel

503.204 Treatment of violations.

(a) The Senior Procurement Executive, or designee, makes determinations under FAR 3.204.

The Senior Procurement Executive, or designee, takes all the following actions:

- (1) Coordinates with legal counsel.
- (2) Initiates proceedings under FAR 3.204(a) by notifying the contractor that GSA is considering action against the contractor for a violation of the Gratuities clause. Notice is sent by a certified letter to the last known address of the party, its counsel, or agent for service of process. In the case of a business, notice is sent to any partner, principal officer, director, owner or co-owner, or joint venture.

(3) Presumes receipt if no return receipt is received within 10 calendar days after mailing the notice.

(b) The contractor has 30 calendar days to exercise its rights under FAR 3.204(b), unless the Senior Procurement Executive, or designee, grants an extension.

(c) If there is a dispute of fact material to making a determination, the Senior Procurement Executive, or designee, may refer the matter to an agency fact-finding official designated by the

Chairman of the GSA Board of Contract Appeals. Referrals for fact-finding are not made in cases arising from a conviction or indictment as defined in FAR 9.403. If a referral is made, the fact-finding official takes all the following actions:

(1) Gives the contractor an opportunity to dispute material facts relating to the determinations under FAR 3.204(a)(1) and (2).

(2) Conducts proceedings under rules consistent with FAR 3.204(b).

(3) Schedules a hearing within 20 calendar days of receipt of the referral. The contractor or GSA may request an extension for good cause.

(4) Delivers to the Senior Procurement Executive, or designee, written findings of fact (together with a transcription of the proceedings, if made) within 20 calendar days after the hearing record closes. The findings must resolve any material disputes of fact by a preponderance of the evidence.

(d) The Senior Procurement Executive, or designee, may reject the findings of the fact-finding official only if the findings are clearly erroneous or arbitrary and capricious.

(e) In cases arising from conviction or indictment, or in which there are no disputes of material fact, the Senior Procurement Executive, or designee, conducts the hearing required by FAR 3.204(b).

(f) If the Gratuities clause was violated, the contractor may present evidence of mitigating factors to the Senior Procurement Executive, or designee, either orally or in writing, in accordance with a schedule the Senior Procurement Executive, or designee, establishes. The Senior Procurement Executive, or designee, exercises the Government's rights under FAR 3.204(c) only after considering mitigating factors.

Subpart 503.4—Contingent Fees

503.404 Contract clause.

Insert 552.203–5, Covenant Against Contingent Fees, in solicitations and contracts for the acquisition of leasehold interests in real property expected to exceed \$100,000.

Subpart 503.5—Other Improper Business Practices

503.570 Advertising.

503.570–1 Policy.

GSA policy precludes contractors from referring to GSA contracts in commercial advertising in a manner that states or implies the Government approves or endorses the product or service or considers it superior to other products or services. The intent of this

policy is to prevent the appearance of Government bias toward any product or service.

503.570–2 Contract clause.

Insert the clause at 552.203–71, Restriction on Advertising, in solicitations and contracts, including acquisitions of leasehold interests in real property, if the contract amount is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

Subpart 503.7—Voiding and Rescinding Contracts

503.702 Definition.

Notice means a letter sent by certified mail with a return receipt requested to the last known address of a party, its counsel, or agent for service of process. In the case of a business, such notice may be sent to any partner, principal officer, director, owner or co-owner, or joint venturer. If no return receipt is received within 10 calendar days of mailing, receipt is presumed.

Voiding and rescinding official means the Senior Procurement Executive or designee.

503.705 Procedures.

(a) Contracting officer's actions:

(1) If a contract is tainted by misconduct, consult with assigned counsel to determine if the Government has a common law remedy such as avoidance, rescission, or cancellation.

(2) If the contractor has a final conviction for a violation under 18 U.S.C. 201–224, you may refer the matter to the voiding and rescinding official under FAR 3.705.

(i) In the referral, identify the final conviction and include the information required by FAR 3.705(d)(2) through (5).

(ii) Coordinate the referral with the Office of Inspector General to determine whether to recommend debarment.

(3) You may postpone a decision to exercise the Government's common law right to void, rescind, or cancel a contract until completion of legal proceedings against the contractor.

(b) Voiding and rescinding official's actions:

(1) The voiding and rescinding official reviews the referral and coordinates with assigned counsel and the contracting activity.

(2) If the official decides to declare void and rescind a contract and to recover the amounts expended and the property transferred, the official takes both the following actions:

(i) Issues the notice required by FAR 3.705.

(ii) Conducts the hearing contemplated by FAR 3.705(c)(3).

(3) In case of a dispute of material fact about the agency decision, the official refers the matter to the fact-finding official designated by the Chairman of the GSA Board of Contract Appeals. The voiding and rescinding official makes this referral if the dispute of fact relates to any of the following:

(i) Contracts affected by the final conviction.

(ii) Amounts expended and property transferred by the Government under the affected contracts.

(iii) Identity and value of any tangible benefits received by the Government under the affected contracts.

(4) The voiding and rescinding official issues GSA's final decision under FAR 3.705(e) after receiving the fact-finding official's report, if a referral was made. The voiding and rescinding official may reject the fact-finding official's findings only if they are clearly erroneous or arbitrary and capricious.

(5) The official coordinates the final decision was the contracting activity and provides the activity a copy of the decision.

(c) *Fact-finding official's actions:* The fact-finding official takes all the following actions:

(1) Gives the contractor an opportunity to dispute material facts.

(2) Conducts the proceedings under rules consistent with FAR 3.705(c)(3).

(3) Schedules a hearing within 20 calendar days after receiving the referral. The official may grant extensions for good cause at the request of the contractor or GSA.

(4) Delivers written findings of fact to the voiding and rescinding official (together with a transcription of the proceeding, if made) within 20 calendar days after the hearing record closes. The findings must resolve any material disputes of fact by a preponderance of the evidence.

PART 504—ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Subpart 504.4—Safeguarding Classified Information Within Industry

Sec.

504.402 General

504.475 Return of classified information

Subpart 504.5—Electronic Commerce in Contracting

504.500 Scope of subpart

504.502 Policy

504.570 Procedures for using the EPS

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 504.4—Safeguarding Classified Information Within Industry

504.402 General.

(a) This subpart:

(1) Prescribes procedures for safeguarding classified information required to be disclosed to contractors in connection with the solicitation of offers, and the award, performance, and termination of contracts.

(2) Implements the requirements of the Department of Defense's Industrial Security Regulation (ISR) and Industrial Security Manual for Safeguarding Classified Information (ISM). By agreement, the Department of Defense (DOD) will act for, and on behalf of, GSA in rendering security services required for safeguarding classified information released by GSA to U.S. industry.

(b) As used in this subpart, the term:

(1) "Contractor(s)" means prospective contractors, subcontractors, vendors, and suppliers.

(2) "U.S. industry" means those industries (including educational and research institutions) located within the United States, its possessions, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

504.475 Return of classified information.

(a) You must recover classified information unless it has been destroyed as provided in paragraph 19 of the ISM. The Government agency that provided classified information to a GSA contractor is responsible for the return of the information.

(b) You must ensure that classified information furnished to prospective offerors, offerors, or contractors is returned immediately after any of the following:

(1) After bid opening or closing date for receipt of proposals by non-responding offerors.

(2) After contract award by unsuccessful offerors.

(3) Upon termination or completion of the contract.

(4) Upon notification that authorization to release classified information has been withdrawn.

(5) After notification that a facility:

(i) Does not have adequate means to safeguard classified information.

(ii) Has had its security clearance revoked or inactivated.

(6) Whenever otherwise instructed by the authority responsible for the security classification.

Subpart 504.5—Electronic Commerce in Contracting

504.500 Scope of subpart.

This subpart provides policy and procedure for use of GSA's Electronic Posting System (EPS).

504.502 Policy.

(a) The EPS is GSA's primary vehicle for disseminating synopses and written solicitations. GSA intends that the EPS will substitute for, not supplement, paper copies of solicitations. (Note that FAR 2.101 defines "in writing" or "written" to include "electronically transmitted and stored information.")

(b) This policy does not apply to orders placed against existing contracts, including Federal Supply Service schedule contracts.

(c) Nothing in this policy limits your authority to obtain oral quotations or proposals as authorized by regulation (e.g., FAR 13.106-1 or FAR 15.203(f)).

504.570 Procedures for using the EPS.

(a) You must use the EPS to issue any synopsis required by FAR part 5 or GSAR part 505.

(b) You must issue each written solicitation on the EPS, except as provided in paragraphs (c)(2) and (d) of this section.

(c) Although GSA intends that the EPS will substitute for paper copies of solicitations, web-based transactions are not practical in some industries or in some geographic areas at this time.

(1) If you expect that electronic access to a solicitation will result in adequate competition, distribute the solicitation only through the EPS. Include the following notice in the related synopsis:

GSA is issuing this solicitation only electronically. Interested parties may access the solicitation at <http://www.eps.gov>. This site provides instructions for downloading the solicitation file.

(2) If you believe that distribution of paper copies is necessary to ensure adequate competition, document the file to justify distribution of paper copies. Include the notice in paragraph (c)(1) of this section in the related synopsis, leaving out the first sentence.

(d) In some cases, release of construction drawings must be controlled to ensure adequate security. In other cases, an exhibit or attachment incorporated in a solicitation may not be

available electronically. In either of these cases, you must explain in both the synopsis and the solicitation how interested parties may obtain a copy. In addition to the notice required by paragraph (c), include a notice substantially the same as follows in both the synopsis and solicitation. Tailor the notice as necessary for the particular acquisition.

This solicitation incorporates documents which are not available electronically. See [Identify the solicitation section that lists the subject documents]. Interested parties may request copies of these documents by writing the Contracting Officer at the address in [Identify address block in the solicitation].

(e) The Electronic Posting System Manual provides detailed instructions for using the EPS. The Manual is available at <http://www.eps.gov/buyer.html>.

SUBCHAPTER B—COMPETITION AND ACQUISITION PLANNING

PART 505—PUBLICIZING CONTRACT ACTIONS

Subpart 501.1—Dissemination of Information

Sec.

505.101 Methods of disseminating information

Subpart 505.2—Synopses of Proposed Contract Actions

505.202 Exceptions

505.203 Publicizing and response time

501.270 Synopsis of amendments to solicitations

Subpart 505.5—Paid Advertisements

505.502 Authority

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 505.1—Dissemination of Information

505.101 Methods of disseminating information.

(a) In Regions with a Business Service Center (BSC), you may post the notice required by FAR 5.101(a)(2) at the BSC.

(b) Use GSA's Electronic Posting System (EPS) to issue each synopsis required by FAR part 5 or GSAR part 505. When synthesizing a solicitation, include the appropriate notice(s) required by 504.570(c) and (d).

(c) For acquisitions involving real property:

If the acquisition is not exempt under FAR 5.202 or GSAR 505.202, and—

Then you must publicize the proposed acquisition—

(1) The acquisition is for real property appraisal services estimated to cost \$25,000 or more

(1) Either:

(i) In local newspapers.

(ii) In the Commerce Business Daily through the EPS.

If the acquisition is not exempt under FAR 5.202 or GSAR 505.202, and—	Then you must publicize the proposed acquisition—
(2) The acquisition is for leasehold interests in real property estimated to exceed 10,000 square feet (except lease construction on a preselected site).	(2) Either: (i) In local newspapers. (ii) In the Commerce Business Daily through the EPS.
(3) The acquisition is for a leasehold interest in a building to be constructed on a preselected site.	(3) In the Commerce Business Daily through the EPS.

(d) You may publicize proposed leases of 10,000 square feet or less in local newspapers if it will serve to promote competition.

Subpart 505.2—Synopsis of Proposed Contract Actions

505.202 Exceptions.

The Administrator has determined under section 18(c)(3) of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act, as amended (41 U.S.C. 416(c)(3)) and Section 8(g)(3) of the Small Business Act, as amended (15 U.S.C. 644(g)(3)) that:

(a) Synopsizing in the CBD is not always appropriate for acquisitions of leasehold interests in real property (except lease construction on a designated site) or real property appraisal services. You may publicize such contract actions following the procedures in 505.101 and 505.203.

(b) It is not appropriate or reasonable to publish an advance notice of any of the following:

(1) Acquisitions of works of art, including the design, execution and installation of the artwork, under the Art-in-Architecture Program.

(2) Supplemental agreements to leases of real property involving any of the following:

(i) Expansion requests within the scope of a lease (see 570.403).

(ii) Lease extensions under the conditions defined in 570.405.

(iii) Building alterations within the scope of a lease (see 570.5).

505.203 Publicizing and response time.

(a) If you publicize in local newspapers under 505.101(c), ensure that the notice appears in local newspapers at least 3 calendar days before issuance of the solicitation. Except as provided in paragraph (B) of this section, allow at least these minimum response times:

(1) For leasehold interests in real property, 20 calendar days between solicitation issuance and the date established for receipt of initial offers.

(2) For real property appraisal services valued at less than either the Trade Agreements Act (TAA) threshold or the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) threshold, 10

calendar days between solicitation issuance and the date established for receipt of initial offers. The lower of the two thresholds governs.

(3) For real property appraisal services valued at or over the TAA threshold or the NAFTA threshold, 40 calendar days from when the notice appears to receipt of initial offers. If the acquisition falls in a general category identified in an annual forecast, the period may be reduced to as few as 10 days. The lower of the two thresholds governs.

(b) The following exceptions to the publicizing and response times in paragraph (a) of this section apply only to proposed acquisitions of leasehold interests in real property:

(1) For a proposed acquisition conducted using simplified lease acquisition procedures (see 570.2), consider the individual acquisition and establish a reasonable response time.

(2) In cases of urgency, provide as much time as possible and document the file.

505.270 Synopsis of amendments to solicitations.

Synopsizing in the CBD any solicitation amendment when the amendment either:

(a) Increases the anticipated value of the proposed acquisition above the dollar threshold requiring synopsis.

(b) Alters the scope of the proposed acquisition so that increased interest of contractors can be reasonably anticipated.

Subpart 505.5—Paid Advertisements

505.502 Authority.

(a) *Newspapers.* The HCA, or designee, must approve publication of paid newspaper advertisements. Approval is not required if FAR 5.101 or 505.101 requires publication. Document the contract file with the regulatory citation or written approval to support the use of paid newspaper advertisements.

(b) *Other media.* Advance approval is not required to advertise in other media.

PART 509—Contractor Qualifications

Subpart 509.1—Responsible Prospective Contractors

Sec.

509.105 Procedures

509.105-1 Obtaining information

509.105-2 Determinations and documentation

509.106 Preaward surveys

509.106-2 Requests for preaward surveys

Subpart 509.2—Qualifications Requirements

509.206 Acquisitions subject to qualification requirements

509.206-2 Contract clause

Subpart 509.3—First Article Testing and Approval

509.306 Solicitation requirements

509.308 Contract clauses

509.308-1 Testing performed by the contractor

509.308-2 Testing performed by the Government

Subpart 509.4—Debarment, Suspension, and Ineligibility

509.401 Applicability

509.403 Definitions

509.405 Effect of listing

509.405-1 Continuation of current contracts

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509.406 Debarment

509.406-1 General

509.406-3 Procedures

509.407 Suspension

509.407-1 General

509.407-3 Procedures

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 509.1—Responsible Prospective Contractors

509.105 Procedures.

509.105-1 Obtaining information.

(a) *From a prospective contractor.* In making a determination of responsibility, you may use the GSA Form 527, Contractor's Qualification and Financial Information, to obtain information regarding financial capability from a prospective contractor.

(b) *From Government personnel.* Solicit and consider information from all appropriate activities, including legal counsel, quality control, contract management, credit and finance, and the auditor before determining that an offeror is responsible. "Auditor" is either:

- (1) The Assistant Inspector General for Auditing (Central Office only).
 (2) The Regional Inspector General for Auditing.
 (3) Chief, Credit and Finance Section, the Heartland Region (for an evaluation of a prospective contractor's financial competence and credit).

509.105-2 Determinations and documentation.

(a) Provide written notification to a prospective contractor you determine not responsible. Include the basis for the determination. Notification provides the prospective contractor with the opportunity to correct any problem for future solicitation.

(b) Due to the potential for de facto debarment, avoid making repeated determinations of nonresponsibility based on the same past performance information.

(c) To provide for timely consideration of the need to institute action to debar a contractor, submit a copy of each nonresponsibility determination, other than those based on capacity or financial capability, to the debarring official.

509.106 Preward surveys.

509.106-2 Requests for preaward surveys.

Federal Supply Service (FSS). Contracting activities in FSS may use GSA Form 353, Performance Evaluation & Facilities Report, in lieu of SF 1403 through 1406. Complete Section I in accordance with instructions in 553.370-353-I.

Subpart 509.2—Qualifications Requirements

509.206 Acquisitions subject to qualification requirements.

509.206-2 Contract clause.

Insert 552.209-70, Product Removal from Qualified Products List, in solicitations and contracts containing FAR 52.209-1, Qualification Requirements.

Subpart 509.3—First Article Testing and Approval

509.306 Solicitation requirements.

(a) The clauses at FAR 52.209-3 and 52.209-4 do not cover all the solicitation requirements described in FAR 9.306. If a solicitation contains a testing and approval requirement, you must address the requirements in FAR 9.306 (d), (f), (g), (h), (i), and (j). For FSS, the clauses prescribed in 509.308 address the requirement in FAR 9.306(h).

(b) In FSS solicitations that contain FAR 52.209-3, First Article Approval—

Contractor Testing, or FAR 52.209-4, First Article Approval—Government Testing, insert 552.209-71, Waiver of First Article Testing and Approval Requirement.

509.308 Contract clauses.

509.308-1 Testing performed by the contractor.

In FSS solicitations and contracts that will require the contractor to perform testing, insert 552.209-72, Supplemental Requirements for First Article Approval—Contractor Testing, and FAR 52.209-3, Alternate I.

509.308-2 Testing performed by the Government.

In FSS solicitations and contracts that will have the Government responsible for first article testing, insert 552.209.73, Supplemental Requirements for First Article Approval—Government Testing, and FAR 52.209-4, Alternate I.

Subpart 509.4—Debarment, Suspension, and Ineligibility

509.401 Applicability.

This subpart applies to all the following:

(a) Acquisitions of personal property, nonpersonal services (including construction), space in buildings, transportation services (Federal Property Management Regulations (FPMR) Subpart 101-40.4).

(b) The purchase, sale, and disposal of real property.

(c) Contracts for disposal of personal property (FPMR Subpart 101-45.6).

(d) Covered transactions as defined at General Services Property Management Regulations (GSPMR) 105-68.110(a).

509.403 Definitions.

Fact-finding official, means the Chairman of the Debarment and Suspension Board within the GSA Board of Contract Appeals or a designee.

Notice means a letter sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address of a party, its counsel, or agent for service of process. In the case of a business, such notice may be sent to any partner, principal officer, director, owner or co-owner, or joint venturer. If no return receipt is received within 10 calendar days of mailing, receipt will then be presumed.

509.405 Effect of listing.

509.405-1 Continuation of current contracts.

(a) Consider terminating a current contract under any of the following circumstances:

(1) Any of the circumstances giving rise to the debarment or suspension also

constitute a default in the contractor's performance of the contract.

(2) The contractor presents a significant risk to the Government in completing the contract.

(3) The conduct that provides the cause of the suspension, proposed debarment, or debarment involved a GSA contract.

(b) Determine which of the following is in the Government's best interest:

(1) Terminate the contract for either convenience or cause.

(2) Cancel under appropriate contract clauses (e.g., 552.238-73, Cancellation).

(3) Use other available alternatives under:

(i) FAR 3.2 and 503.2.

(ii) FAR 3.7 and 503.7.

(c) Before making a decision, consult with legal counsel and consider these factors:

(1) Seriousness of the cause for debarment or suspension.

(2) Extent of contract performance.

(3) Potential costs of termination and reprocurement.

(4) Need for or urgency of the requirement, contract coverage, and the impact of delay for reprocurement.

(5) Availability of other safeguards to protect the Government's interest until completion of the contract.

(6) Availability of alternate competitive sources to meet the requirement (e.g., other multiple award contracts, readily available commercial items, etc.).

(d) The debarring official is the designee under FAR 9.405-1(c).

509.405-2 Restrictions on subcontracting.

The debarring official is the designee under FAR 9.405-2(a).

509.406 Debarment.

509.406-1 General.

The debarring official is the designee under FAR 9.406-1(c).

509.406-3 Procedures.

(a) *Investigation and referral.*

(1) Refer to the debarring official matters involving serious contract improprieties or performance deficiencies. Performance deficiencies that continue over a period of time or apply to more than one contract may warrant debarment consideration.

(2) Refer possible criminal or fraudulent activities to the Office of the Inspector General (OIG). See 5 CFR 6701.107, Reporting Waste, Fraud, Abuse, and Corruption. If, after investigation, the OIG believes a cause for debarment exists, it will refer the matter to the debarring official for consideration of debarment action.

(b) *Reports.* Include in referrals to the debarring official a report that contains at least the following:

(1) The recommendation and supporting rationale.

(2) A list of parties to be considered for possible debarment, including the contractor, principals, and affiliates. Include last known home and business addresses, zip codes, and DUNS Number.

(3) A statement of facts.

(4) Copies of documentary evidence and a list of witnesses. Include addresses and telephone numbers. Determine their availability to appear at a fact-finding proceeding and identify the subject matter of their testimony.

(5) GSA's acquisition history with the contractor. Include recent experience, copies of the pertinent contracts, and an explanation of impact debarment would have on GSA programs. OIG referrals do not require this explanation; the debarring official will obtain the information directly from the contracting activity(s).

(6) A list of any known active or potential criminal investigations, criminal or civil proceedings, or administrative claims before the Board of Contract Appeals.

(7) A statement regarding the impact of the debarment action on GSA programs. This statement is not required for referrals by the Inspector General; the debarring official will obtain a statement directly from the contracting activity(s).

(c) *Review.* The debarring official will review the report, and after coordinating with assigned legal counsel, either:

(1) Initiate debarment action.

(2) Decline debarment action.

(3) Request additional information.

(4) Refer the matter to the OIG for further investigation and development of a case file.

(d) *Decisionmaking process.*

(1) The debarring official will provide:

(i) Notice of declinations, proposed debarments, and decisions to the referring activity.

(ii) Notice of proposed debarment to each party being considered for debarment.

(iii) Decision notices to each party after considering information in the administrative record and information and argument submitted by the affected party or parties.

(2) A party proposed for debarment:

(i) Has 30 calendar days after receipt of the notice to respond to the debarring official or the debarment becomes final.

(ii) May request and receive a copy of the administrative record that was the basis for the proposed debarment. If information is withheld, the party will be notified and provided the reason.

(iii) May request the opportunity to present information and argument in person to the debarring official. The debarring official will schedule an oral presentation within 20 calendar days of receipt of the request, unless a longer period of time is requested by the party. An oral presentation is informal and a transcript usually is not made. The party may supplement the oral presentation with written information and arguments.

(iv) May identify to the debarring official material facts in dispute and the bases. For an action other than one based on a conviction of civil judgment, a party may request review and a written finding by a fact-finding official.

(3) The debarring official will determine whether there is a genuine dispute of material fact. If so, the debarring official refers the matter to a fact-finding official, who will take the following action as appropriate:

(i) Schedule a hearing within 20 calendar days after receipt of a request to resolve disputed facts.

(ii) Grant extensions for good cause.

(iii) Provide notice of scheduled hearing.

(iv) Conduct hearings under rules consistent with FAR 9.406-3(b)(2).

(v) Resolve facts in dispute and provide the debarring official with written findings of fact based on a preponderance of the evidence. The fact-finding official provides the written findings of fact (together with a transcription of the proceeding, unless waived) within 20 calendar days after the hearing record closes.

509.407 Suspension.

§ 509.407-1 General.

The suspending official is the designee under FAR 9.407-1(d).

§ 509.407-3 Procedures.

(a) *General.* The procedures in 509.406-3 apply to suspension actions except as noted in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) *Fact-finding.*

(1) *Fact-finding* will not be conducted in an action:

(i) Based on an indictment.

(ii) When the suspending official finds no genuine dispute of material facts.

(2) If the action is not based on an indictment, the suspending official must coordinate with the Department of Justice or state prosecutorial authority through OIG. Based on the advice received, the suspending official will determine if fact-finding would impair substantial interests of the Federal or state Government. In an action not

based on an indictment, a suspended party may:

(i) Identify to the suspending official material facts in dispute and the bases.

(ii) Request review and a written finding by a fact-finding official to resolve genuine disputes of material fact. For procedures involving a genuine dispute of material fact, see 509.406-3(d)(3).

PART 511—DESCRIBING AGENCY NEEDS

Subpart 511.1—Selecting and Developing Requirements Documents

Sec.

511.170 Use of brand name or equal product descriptions

511.170-3 Solicitation provisions

Subpart 511.2—Using and Maintaining Requirements Documents

511.204 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses

Subpart 511.4—Delivery or Performance Schedules

511.404 Contract clauses

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 511.1—Selecting and Developing Requirements Documents

511.170 Use of brand name or equal product descriptions.

511.170-3 Solicitation provisions.

(a) Include the following immediately after each brand name or equal item description, with instructions for the offeror to complete the information:

Offering on:

Manufacturer's Name _____

Brand _____

Model or Part No. _____

(b) If the solicitation does not require samples for "or equal" offers, include the following notice in the list of brand name or equal items or component parts:

Notice

If you offer other than brand name items identified in this solicitation, you must provide adequate information for GSA to determine the quality of the product(s) offered.

(c) Include a provision substantially the same as the one at 552.211-70, Brand Name or Equal, when you use a brand name or equal purchase description.

(d) If you use brand name or equal descriptions for component parts of an end item and the provision at 552.211-70 is impractical for some or all of the components, you may either:

(1) Not use the provision.

(2) Limit its application to specified components.

Subpart 511.2—Using and Maintaining Requirements Documents**511.204 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses.**

(a) *Construction services.* Insert the clause at 552.211-71, Standard References, in solicitations and contracts for construction services when you expect the contract amount to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, and the solicitation meets either of the following conditions:

(1) The solicitation cites documents or publications not furnished with the solicitation.

(2) The solicitation incorporates documents or publications by reference.

(b) *Federal specifications.* Insert the clause at 552.211-72, Reference to Specifications in Drawings, in solicitations and contracts citing Federal specifications which contain drawings.

(c) *Supply contracts that exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.*

(1) Include the clause at 552.211-73, Marking, in solicitations and contracts for supplies when deliveries may be made to both civilian and military activities and the contract amount is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

(2) Include the clause at 552.211-74, Charges for Marking, in solicitations and contracts that include the clause at 552.211-73 or a similar clause.

(3) Include the clause at 552.211-75, Preservation, Packaging and Packing, in solicitations and contracts for supplies expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold. You may also include the clause in contracts estimated to be at or below the simplified acquisition threshold when appropriate.

(4) Insert a clause substantially the same as the clause at 552.211-76, Charges for Packaging and Packing, in solicitations and contracts for supplies to be delivered to GSA distribution centers.

(d) *Supply contracts.* Include the clause at 552.211-77, Packing List, in solicitations and contracts for supplies, including purchases over the micropurchase threshold.

Subpart 511.4—Delivery or Performance Schedules**511.404 Contract clauses.**

(a) *Supply contracts.*

(1) *Single award schedules.* Insert 552.211-8, Time of Delivery, in solicitations and contracts instead of the clause at FAR 52.211-8. If you need to show different delivery times for different items or groups of items, use Alternate I.

(2) *Multiple award schedules.* Insert 552.211-78, Commercial Delivery Schedule (Multiple Award Schedule), in solicitations issued and contracts awarded under the multiple award schedule program.

(3) *Shelf-life items.* Use the following clauses in solicitations and contracts that require delivery of shelf-life items within a specified number of months from the date of manufacture or production (see 101-27.206-2 of the Federal Property Management Regulation):

(i) Insert 552.211-79, Acceptable Age of Supplies, if the required shelf-life period is 12 months or less, and lengthy acceptance testing may be involved. For items having a limited shelf-life, substitute Alternate I when required by the director of the commodity center concerned.

(ii) Insert 552.211-80, Age on Delivery, if the required shelf-life period is more than 12 months, or when source inspection can be performed within a short time period.

(4) *Stock replenishment contracts.* Insert 552.211-81, Time of Shipment, in solicitations and stock replenishment contracts that do not include the Availability for Inspection, Testing and Shipment/Delivery clause at 552.211-83 and require shipment within 45 calendar days after receipt of the order. If shipment is required in more than 45 days, use Alternate I.

(5) *Notice of shipment.* Include 552.211-82, Notice of Shipment, in solicitation and contracts for supplies when you need to have a notice of shipment from the contractor.

(6) *Indeterminate testing time.* Insert 552.211-83, Availability for Inspection, Testing and Shipment/Delivery, in solicitations and contracts that provide for source inspection by Government personnel and that require lengthy testing for which time frames cannot be determined in advance. If the contract is for stock items, use Alternate I.

(b) *Construction contracts.* Insert the clause at 552.211-84, Non-Compliance with Contract Requirements, in solicitations and contracts for construction when you expect the contract amount to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

PART 512—ACQUISITION OF COMMERCIAL ITEMS**Subpart 512.3—Solicitation Provisions and Contract Clauses for the Acquisition of Commercial Items**

Sec.

512.301 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses for the acquisition of commercial items

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 512.3—Solicitation Provisions and Contract Clauses for the Acquisition of Commercial Items**512.301 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses for the acquisition of commercial items.**

(a) *Solicitation provisions and clauses.* Insert these provisions or clauses in solicitations or solicitations and contracts, respectively, in accordance with the instructions provided:

(1) 552.212-70, Preparation of Offer (Multiple Award Schedule), in solicitations and contracts issued under the multiple award schedule program.

(2) 552.213-71, Contract Terms and Conditions Applicable to GSA Acquisition of Commercial Items, when listed clauses apply. The clause provides for incorporation by reference of terms and conditions which are, to the maximum extent practicable, consistent with customary commercial practice. If necessary, tailor this clause.

(3) 552.212-72, Contract Terms and Conditions Required to Implement Statutes of Executive Orders Applicable to GSA Acquisitions of Commercial Items, when listed clauses apply.

(i) The clause provides for the incorporation by reference of terms and conditions required to implement provisions of law or executive orders that apply to commercial item acquisitions.

(ii) As a result of the General Services Administration Board of Contract Appeals (GSBCA) decision in the protest of *International Business Machines Corporation* GSBCA 90-2 BCA P22,924, May 18, 1990, GSA solicitations and contracts will deviate from FAR 52.225-8, Buy American Act-Trade Agreements-Balance of Payments Program Certificate. Incorporate 552.225-8, Buy American Act-Trade Agreements-Balance of Payments Program Certificate, and 552.225-9, Buy American Act-Trade Agreements-Balance of Payments Program, in solicitations and contracts subject to the Trade Agreement Act. Use them instead of FAR 52.225-8 and 52.225-9 (referenced in FAR 52.212-3 and 52.212-5 respectively).

(4) 552.213-73, Evaluation-Commercial Items (Multiple Award Schedule), in multiple award schedule solicitations. Use this provision instead of FAR 52.212-2.

(b) *Use of required provisions and clauses.* Use only those provisions and clauses prescribed in this part. Unless the use of a provision or clause prescribed elsewhere in the GSAR is consistent with customary commercial practice for the item being acquired, disregard contrary instructions. Provisions and clauses prescribed in this part will be revised to reflect the applicability of new statutes and executive orders.

(c) *Discretionary use of GSAR provisions and clauses.* Consistent with the limitations contained in FAR 12.302(c), include in solicitations and contracts by addendum other GSAR provisions and clauses.

(d) *Use of additional provisions and clauses.* The Senior Procurement Executive must approve the use of a provision or clause that is either not:

(1) Prescribed in the FAR or GSAR for use in contracts for commercial items.

(2) Consistent with customary commercial practice.

SUBCHAPTER C—CONTRACTING METHODS AND CONTRACT TYPES

PART 513—SIMPLIFIED ACQUISITION PROCEDURES

Subpart 513.3—Simplified Acquisition Methods

Sec.

513.302 Purchase orders.

513.302-70 Purchase orders and related forms.

513.303 Blanket purchase agreements (BPAs).

513.303-3 Preparation of BPAs.

513.307 Forms.

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 513.3—Simplified Acquisition Methods

513.302 Purchase orders.

513.302-70 Purchase order and related forms.

(a) See GSA Order, Interim Guidance on Use of the Governmentwide Commercial Purchase Card Service (OAD 4200.8), for forms required for purchase card actions.

(b) Use GSA Form 3000 or 300-1 (pin-feed format), Order for Supplies and Services, instead of OF 347, Order for Supplies or Services, when making purchases payable through the National Electronic Accounting and Reporting (NEAR) System.

(1) This form may also be used to make other purchases when a specific

form is not prescribed. It may be used as a delivery or task order instead of SF 1449, Solicitation/Contract/Order for Commercial Items.

(2) Prepare and process GSA Form 300 following the instructions at 553.370-300-I. Use GSA Form 300A or 300-A(1) (pin-feed format), order for Supplies or Services (continuation), if additional space is needed.

(c) Use GSA Form 1458, Motor Vehicle Shop Work Order, Repair and Purchase Order, instead of the OF 347 when making purchases in connection with the maintenance, servicing or repair of GSA fleet management vehicles.

(d) Use GSA Form 3186, Order for Supplies or Services or GSA Form 3186-B, Order for Supplies or Services (EDI), instead of OF 347, Order for Supplies or Services, when making simplified acquisitions or placing orders against established contracts through the FSS-19 system.

(1) Use GSA Form 3186 for mail orders placed against established contracts.

(2) Document the file for a delivery, task, or purchase order transmitted to contractors electronically using Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) procedures by generating a GSA Form 3186-B.

(e) Use GSA Form 8002B, Motor Vehicle Delivery Order, to order fleet management vehicles. Do not use this form as a purchase order for simplified acquisitions. Use GSA Form 8002A to notify the consignee of the status of motor vehicle requisitions.

513.303 Blanket purchase agreements (BPAs).

513.303-3 Preparation of BPAs.

(a) *Description of agreement.* Describe limitations, if any, on the geographic area to be served.

(b) *Delivery tickets.* Instruct the contractor to include the name of the individual placing the order on the delivery ticket. The individual receiving the item or service must sign and date the delivery or service ticket. Both the supplier and the receiving office must retain a copy of the delivery ticket.

513.307 Forms.

You may use the GSA Form 3521, Blanket Purchase Agreement, to prepare a blanket purchase agreement.

PART 514—SEALED BIDDING

Subpart 514.2—Solicitation of Bids

Sec.

514.201 Preparation of invitations for bids.

514.201-1 Uniform contract format.

514.201-2 Part I—The Schedule.

514.201-6 Solicitation provisions.

514.201-7 Contract clauses.

514.202 General rules for solicitation of bids.

514.202-4 Bid samples.

514.203 Methods of soliciting bids.

514.203-1 Transmittal to prospective bidders.

514.270 Aggregate awards.

514.270-1 Definition.

514.270-2 Guidelines for use.

514.270-3 Evaluation factors for award.

514.270-4 Grouping line items for aggregate award.

514.270-5 Evaluation methodologies for aggregate awards.

514.270-6 Guidelines for using the weight factors method.

514.270-7 Guidelines for using the price list method.

Subpart 514.4—Opening of Bids and Award of Contract

514.407 Mistakes in bids.

514.407-3 Other mistakes disclosed before award.

514.407-4 Mistakes after award.

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 514.2—Solicitation of Bids

514.201 Preparation of invitations for bids.

514.201-1 Uniform contract format.

Include the following notice in each solicitation:

The information collection requirements contained in this solicitation/contract, are either required by regulation or approved by the Office of Management and Budget pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act and assigned OMB Control No. 3090-0162.

514.201-2 Part I—The Schedule.

(a) When you use Standard Form 33, Solicitation, Offer and Award, include the following cautionary notice:

Notice to Bidders—Use Item 13 of the Standard Form 33, Solicitation, Offer and Award, to offer prompt payment discounts. The Prompt Payment clause of this solicitation sets forth payment terms. Do not insert any statement in Item 13 which requires payment sooner than the time stipulated in the Prompt Payment clause. *Example:* If you insert "NET 20" in Item 13, GSA will reject your offer as nonresponsive because the entry contradicts the 30 day payment terms specified in the Prompt Payment clause.

(b) When you use any other authorized form (e.g., Standard Form 1447, Solicitation/Contract), include the notice in paragraph (a) of this section. Change the reference to the form number, form title, and item number accordingly.

§ 514.201-6 Solicitation provisions.

When you will consider all or none bids, insert the provision at 552.214-70, "All or None" Offers, in the solicitation. For requirements or indefinite quantity

contracts, use Alternate I. Do not include this provision in solicitations when you require the bidder to submit bids on all items and will make only one award.

514.201-7 Contract clauses.

(a) *Stock replenishment contracts.* For some stock replenishment contracts, individual contractors may be unable to furnish the Government's monthly requirements. You may determine that progressive awards will be more expedient. In such cases, insert a clause substantially the same as the clause 552.214-71, Progressive Awards and Monthly Quantity Allocations, in the solicitation and contract.

(b) *Examinations of Records.*

(1) Insert 552.214-70, Examination of Records by GSA, in solicitations and contracts for supplies or services that exceed \$100,000, and acquisitions of leasehold interests in real property that exceed the simplified lease acquisition threshold, that meet at least one of the following conditions:

- (i) Involve the use or disposition of Government-furnished property.
- (ii) Provide for advance payments, progress payments based on cost, or guaranteed loan.
- (iii) Contain a price warranty or price reduction clause.
- (iv) Include an economic price adjustment clause where the adjustment is not based solely on an established, third party index.
- (v) Are requirements, indefinite-quantity, or letter contracts as defined in FAR part 16.
- (vi) Contain the provision at FAR 52.223-4, Recovered Materials Certification.

(2) You may modify the clause to define the specific area of audit (e.g., the use or disposition of Government-furnished property). Legal Counsel and the Assistant Inspector General—Auditing or Regional Inspector General—Auditing, as appropriate, must concur in any modifications to the clause.

514.202 General rules for solicitation of bids.

514.202-4 Bid samples.

(a) *Solicitation requirements.*

(1) When you require bid samples, require bidders to submit samples produced by the manufacturer whose products will be supplied under the contract.

(2) The FAR limits use of bid samples to cases where you cannot describe some characteristics of a product adequately in the specification or purchase description. This usually applies to subjective characteristics.

You may determine that you need to examine objective characteristics of bid samples to determine the responsiveness of a bid. Base your determination on past experience or other valid considerations. In the solicitation, separately list "Subjective Characteristics" and "Objective Characteristics."

(3) A sample provision appears at 552.214-72, Bid Sample Requirements. You may use this provision as shown or modify it to fit the circumstances of a procurement.

(b) *Handling and disposition of samples.*

(1) Retain samples from accepted bids for the period of contract performance. If you have no outstanding claims regarding the contract, dispose of the samples at the end of the contract term following the bidder's instructions.

(2) If you anticipate a claim regarding the contract, retain the bid samples until the claim is resolved.

(3) Retain samples from unsuccessful bids until you make award. After award, dispose of these samples following the bidder's instructions.

(c) *Using bid samples.* Include the information required by FAR 14.202-4(e) in the solicitation. Provide the number, size, and full description of samples with instructions on how to submit bids. List the characteristics that you will examine. The list needs to include any aspect of the bid sample the acquisition team will examine to determine the product(s) acceptability.

514.203 Methods of soliciting bids.

514.203-1 Transmittal to prospective bidders.

Prospective bidders, as used in FAR 14.203-1, include both the following:

(a) The incumbent contractor, except when its written response to the notice of contract action under FAR subpart 5.2 states a negative interest.

(b) Bidders that responded to recent solicitations for the same or similar items.

514.270 Aggregate awards.

514.270-1 Definition.

Aggregate award means an arrangement whereby two or more separately-priced line items are combined for award to that bidder whose bid will result in the lowest overall cost to the Government for the line items as a group. The individual price for each item does not have to be the lowest bid received. (See also the definition of a "line item" in FAR 3.302.)

514.270-2 Guidelines for use.

(a) GSA usually solicits prices and reserves the right to make award for individual line items. In some cases it serves GSA's best interest to combine two or more line items for an aggregate award. Such cases include when:

(1) Users desire uniformity of design, style, and finish (e.g., suites of household furniture).

(2) The articles will be assembled and used as a unit, and different manufacturers' components may not be interchangeable.

(3) Users have high demand for certain articles, but demand for related articles is insufficient to attract competitive bids (e.g., various sized of socket wrenches). Awarding the low-demand articles in conjunction with the high-demand articles may encourage competition.

(4) One location (delivery point) has a large requirement, and another location has a requirement too small to individually attract competitive bids.

(5) Awarding and administering numerous small contracts for similar articles or services is impractical.

(b) Before deciding to combine items for aggregate award, consider the following factors:

(1) The capability of bidders to furnish the types and quantities of supplies or services in the aggregate.

(2) How grouping delivery points will affect bidders.

(3) Which combinations will accurately project the lowest overall cost to the Government.

(c) Do not use an aggregate award if it will significantly restrict the number of eligible bidders.

514.270-3 Evaluation factors for award.

Clearly state in the solicitation the basis for evaluating bids for aggregate award. Require bidders to submit a price on each item within the group or a percentage to be added or subtracted from a list price. Advise bidders that failure to submit prices as required within a group makes a bid ineligible for award for that group.

514.270-4 Grouping line items for aggregate award.

(a) *Type of contract.* While this section addresses supply contracts (articles and delivery points), the same principles apply to service contracts (types of services and service areas).

(b) *Effect on competition.* Provide for full and open competition when you group items for award. Grouping items for award may preclude a significant of firms from bidding. This occurs if firms are unable to provide all the types or quantities of supplies or services, or

make deliveries to the various delivery points included in the prospective aggregate group.

(c) *Grouping different articles.* Include only related articles in an aggregate group. Related articles are those normally manufactured or produced by a majority of prospective bidders. Grouping unrelated articles often restricts competition unnecessarily.

(d) *Grouping geographic locations or delivery points.* Consider the following guidelines before deciding to group different geographic locations or delivery points:

(1) A delivery point may have sufficient requirements so that individual shipments involve economic production runs and carload or truckload quantities. In this case, list it as a separate line item.

(2) The types of bidders (i.e., small or large firms, manufacturers or distributors, etc.) who respond to previous solicitations can provide important information. For example, if previous bidders are distributors with franchises in certain territories, grouping different territories could tend to restrict competition.

(3) Transportation costs can affect competition and pricing. They may constitute a significant portion of the total delivered cost. Obtain the advice and assistance of transportation specialists before grouping geographic locations or delivery points. Depending upon the supplies being acquired:

(i) Grouping widespread geographic locations or delivery points may reduce competition or result in higher prices. It can cause you to lose "area pricing" advantages provided by a supplier with a single production point.

(ii) Conversely, for many small commercial items (hand tools, locks, etc.), manufacturers may quote the same price for delivery anywhere in the U.S..

(iii) Tariff boundaries can also affect how manufacturers price deliveries to different areas.

514.270-5 Evaluation methodologies for aggregate awards.

(a) *Definite quantity contracts without options.* For definite quantity contracts without options, the evaluated bid price is the total bid price, as adjusted for any price-related factors identified in the solicitation. This reflects the actual cost to the Government and will identify the most advantageous bid.

(b) *Indefinite quantity contracts, requirements contracts, and options.* Indefinite quantity and requirements

contracts use estimated quantities. Options involve the probability of whether and when the options will be exercised. These situations may result in unbalanced bids (see FAR 15.404-1(g)), leading to inaccurate evaluation of the projected cost and award to other than the most advantageous bid. To avoid unbalanced bids, GSA has two preferred methods for evaluating bids for aggregate awards: weight factors and price list.

(1) *Weight factors method.* Assign a weight to each item in a group. The weight is based on the portion of quantities that item represents. To evaluate bids, multiply each unit price by its weight factor, then total the results.

(2) *Price list method.* Establish prices for bidders to use as a base for preparing their bids. Prepare a list that identifies a base price for each item in a group. Bidders bid a percentage factor to add to or subtract from the base price.

514.270-6 Guidelines for using the weight factors method.

(a) Use the weight factors method when you have reliable estimates for the quantities needed in an acquisition. Reliable estimates of quantities form the foundation for:

(1) Accurate evaluation of the projected cost of each bid.

(2) An appropriate determination of which bid is most advantageous to the Government for the aggregate group.

(b) Assign a weight factor to each item in a group. Develop the weight factor by calculating the portion of the total quantity in a defined group that each item represents.

(c) To evaluate bid prices, first multiply the price bid for each item (unit price X quantity) by its weight factor. Then, add the subtotals together to project the cost for the aggregate group.

(d) You may reduce estimated quantities to smaller numbers by a common denominator. This may help facilitate the computations involved in evaluating bids.

(e) Consider all price-related factors you identified in the solicitation. Award to the responsive and responsible bidder with the lowest evaluated overall cost to the Government for the aggregate group. This represents the most advantageous bid.

514.270-7 Guidelines for using the price list method.

(a) *General.* The price list method helps avoid unbalanced bidding when

you need to make aggregate awards, but lack accurate estimates of anticipated quantities. This method establishes base prices for bidders to use in preparing their bids.

(b) *Solicitation requirements.* When you use the price list methods, in the solicitation:

(1) Include the price list.

(2) Include an estimate of requirements.

(3) Require the bidder to express its price as "net" or as a percentage added to or subtracted from the list prices for each group. Require the bidder to quote only one percentage factor for each group. This means that the bidder provides one percentage factor that applies to every item in a group; not a separate percentage for each item. "Net" indicates the bidder chooses to submit the list prices as its bid.

(4) Identify the percentage factor in paragraph (b)(3) of this section as a price related evaluation factor.

(c) *Developing list prices.* You may develop price lists using one or more of the following sources:

(1) Industry published prices.

(2) Industry surveys.

(3) Government cost estimates based on knowledge of the supplies or services and previous contract prices.

(d) *First time use for an item or service.* The first time you use list prices for an item or service, give prospective bidders an opportunity to review the proposed list. Also provide information on how GSA will use the list prices. You may provide this information in a draft solicitation.

(e) *Balanced prices.* Ensure that the list prices for the grouped items bear a reasonable and balanced relationship to one another. You may use prices from previous awards made using the weight factors method to develop price lists. Review those prices first to ensure they did not result from unbalanced bidding.

(f) *Evaluation and award.* Consider all price-related factors identified in the solicitation. Award to the responsive and responsible bidder whose percentage factor produces the most favorable price to the Government. This represents the most advantageous bid.

(g) *Example.* The following illustrates a bidding schedule arrangement for a group of items for aggregate award under the price list method:

DRILLS, TWIST, HIGH SPEED, UNDER FEDERAL SPECIFICATION (NO. AND DATE), AND AMENDMENT (NO. AND DATE), AMENDMENT (NO. AND DATE) WIRE GAUGE SIZES, STRAIGHT SHANK, SHORT LENGTH, TYPE C

Item No.	National Stock No.	Drill size	Est. quantity	Unit	List price
Group 1 (Items 1 through 5)					
1	5133-00-189-9246	1	2,800	Pkg	\$11.16
2	5133-00-189-9247	2	2,400	Pkg	11.16
3	5133-00-189-9248	3	2,800	Pkg	10.44
4	5133-00-189-9249	4	1,600	Pkg	10.80
5	5133-00-189-9250	5	2,000	Pkg	10.80

The bid on each item above is the list price shown minus/plus ____ percent. (Bidder, insert "net" or a single percentage amount in the blank space and cross out minus or plus, as appropriate.)

(h) *Special considerations for contracts for store stock items.* Show estimated quantities only if estimates of demand for each item within a group can be derived from Government records or verified contractor sales reports. Use only current estimates. If you cannot estimate the Government's needs, the solicitation may include past orders. (See CG Decision, B-209037, 82-2 CPD para 323 (1982).)

(i) *Special considerations for repair and alteration contracts.* In the solicitation:

- (1) List the estimated quantities for work to be performed during both normal working hours and outside of normal working hours.
- (2) State the percent of work anticipated to be performed during normal working hours.
- (3) List the unit prices for work to be performed during both normal working hours and outside of normal working hours.
- (4) Define "normal" in terms of hours and days of the week.
- (5) Advise bidders of the previous year's total expenditures or portions of that total attributable to the listed items.
- (6) If you provide quantity estimates, state that the estimates are for information only and do not constitute guarantees or commitments to order items under the contract.
- (7) Solicit two percentage factors for the line item unit prices listed: one for the unit prices for work performed during normal working hours and the second for the unit prices for work performed outside of normal working hours.

(8) You may require multiple percentages when the solicitation further groups unit prices by trade or business category.

(9) For the evaluated bid price, add together the following percentages:

(i) The percentage of work performed during normal work hours multiplied by

the total estimate adjusted by the bidder's percentage factor for that portion of the work, plus

(ii) The percentage of work performed during other than normal working hours multiplied by the total estimate adjusted by the bidder's percentage factor for that portion of the work.

(10) Consider other price-related factors identified in the solicitation. Make award to the responsible and responsive bidder submitting the lowest overall evaluated bid price for the aggregate group. This represents the most advantageous bid.

Subpart 514.4—Opening of Bids and Award of Contract

514.407 Mistakes in bids.

514.407-3 Other mistakes disclosed before award.

(a) *Delegation of authority by head of the agency.* Under FAR 14.407-3(e), contracting directors (see 502.101) are authorized, without power of redelegation, to make:

(1) The determinations regarding corrections and withdrawals under FAR 14.407-3(a), (b), and (c).

(2) The corollary determinations not to permit withdrawal or correction under FAR 14.407-3(d).

(b) *Legal review and approval.*

Assigned counsel must approve determinations by the contracting director and contracting officer regarding mistakes in bid.

514.407-4 Mistakes after award.

The contracting director and assigned counsel review and approve your determinations under FAR 14.407-4(b) and (c).

PART 515—CONTRACTING BY NEGOTIATION

Sub part 515.2—Solicitation and Receipt of Proposals and Information

Sec.

- 515.204 Contract format
- 515.204-1 Uniform contract format
- 515.205 Issuing solicitations
- 515.209 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses

515.209-70 Examination of records by GSA clause

Subpart 515.3—Source Selection

- 515.305 Proposal evaluation
- 515.305-70 Use of outside evaluators

Subpart 515.4—Contract Pricing

- 515.408 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses

Subpart 515.5—Preaward, Award, and Postaward Notifications, Protests, and Mistakes

- 515.506 Postaward debriefing of offerors

Subpart 515.70—Use and Bid Samples

- 515.7002 Procedures
- Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 515.2—Solicitation and Receipt of Proposals and Information

515.204 Contract format.

515.204-1 Uniform contract format.

(a) The uniform contract format is not required for leases of real property.

(b) Each solicitation and contract must include the two notices in paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) of this section, except that acquisitions of interests in real property, must include only the notice in (b)(1):

(1) "The information collection requirements contained in this solicitation/contract are either required by regulation or approved by the Office of Management and Budget pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act and assigned OMB Control No. 3090-0163."

(2) "GSA's hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Requests for preaward debriefings postmarked or otherwise submitted after 4:30 p.m. will be considered submitted the following business day. Requests for postaward debriefings delivered after 4:30 p.m. will be considered received and filed the following business day."

515.205 Issuing solicitations.

Potential sources, as used in FAR 15.205, include both of the following:

(a) The incumbent contractor, except when its written response to the notice of contract action under FAR subpart 5.2 states a negative interest.

(b) Offerors that responded to recent solicitations for the same or similar items.

515.209 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses.

515.209-70 Examination of records by GSA clause.

Clause for Other Than Multiple Award Schedules

(a) For other than multiple award schedule (MAS) contracts, insert the clause at 552.215-70, Examination of Records by GSA, in solicitations and contracts over \$100,000, including acquisitions of leasehold interests in real property, that meet any of the following conditions:

- (1) Involve the use or disposition of Government-furnished property.
 - (2) Provide for advance payments, progress payments based on cost, or guaranteed loan.
 - (3) Contain a price warranty or price reduction clause.
 - (4) Involve income to the Government where income is based on operations under the control of the contractor.
 - (5) Include an economic price adjustment clause where the adjustment is not based solely on an established, third party index.
 - (6) Are requirements, indefinite-quantity, or letter type contracts as defined in FAR part 6.
 - (7) Are subject to adjustment based on a negotiated cost escalation base.
 - (8) Contain the provision of FAR 52.223-4, Recovered Material Certification.
- (b) You may modify the clause at 552.215-70 to define the specific area of audit (e.g., the use or disposition of Government-furnished property, compliance with the price reduction clause). Counsel and the Assistant Inspector General—Auditing or Regional Inspector General—Auditing, as appropriate, must concur in any modifications to the clause.

Clause for Multiple Award Schedules

(c) Insert the clause at 552.215-71, Examination of Records by GSA (Multiple Award Schedule), in solicitations and contracts for MAS contracts.

(d) With the Senior Procurement's Executive approval, you may modify the clause at 552.215-71 to provide for post-award access to and the right to examine records to verify that the pre-award/modification pricing, sales or other data related to the supplies or services offered under the contract which formed the basis for the award/modification was accurate, current, and complete. The following procedures apply:

(1) Such a modification of the clause must provide for the right of access to expire 2 years after award or modification.

(2) Before modifying the clause, you must make a determination that absent such access there is a likelihood of significant harm to the Government and submit it to the Senior Procurement Executive for approval.

(3) The determinations under paragraph (d)(2) of this section must be made on a schedule-by-schedule basis.

Subpart 515.3—Source Selection

515.305 Proposal evaluation.

(a) *Restrictions placed on a proposal by the submitter.* If you receive a proposal with more restrictive conditions than those in the provision at FAR 52.215-1(e), ask whether the submitter is willing to accept the conditions of the paragraph at FAR 52.215-1(e). If the submitter refuses, consult with legal counsel on whether to accept the proposal as marked or return it.

(b) *Actions before releasing proposal.* Before releasing any proposal to an evaluator you must take all the following actions:

(1) Obtain the signed original "Conflict of Interest Acknowledgment and Nondisclosure Agreement" from each Government and nongovernment individual serving as an evaluator. Use the Acknowledgment/Agreement in Figure 515.3-1.

(i) For employees of other Executive agencies, replace the reference in paragraph (c) of the Acknowledgment/Agreement to GSA's supplemental standards with a reference to the applicable agency.

(ii) For nongovernment evaluators, substitute paragraph (c) of the Acknowledgment/Agreement with the following language and delete paragraph (h):

"(c) I have read and understand the requirements of subsection 27(a) and 27(b) of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 423).

(2) Attach to each proposal a cover page bearing the following notice:

Government Notice for Handling Proposals

To anyone receiving this proposal or proposal abstract:

- (1) This proposal must be used and disclosed for evaluation purposes only.
- (2) You must apply a copy of this Government notice to any reproduction or abstract of this proposal.
- (3) You must comply strictly with any authorized restrictive notices which the submitter places on this proposal.
- (4) You must *not* disclose this proposal outside the Government for evaluation purposes except to the extent authorized by,

and in accordance with, the procedures in 48 CFR 515.305-71.

515.305-70 Use of outside evaluators.

(a) *Conditions.* To use outside evaluators, you must meet the restrictions in FAR 37.203 and 537.2.

(b) *Limitations on disclosing proposal information.* You may disclose proposal information outside the Government before the Government's decision as to contract award only to the extent authorized in this section. Disclosure and handling must comply with FAR 3.1 and 503.1.

(c) *Solicitation notice.* Include in the solicitation a notice substantially as follows:

Notice About Releasing Proposals

(1) The Government intends to disclose proposals received in response to this solicitation to nongovernment evaluators.

(2) Each evaluator will sign and provide to GSA a "Conflict of Interest Acknowledgment and Nondisclosure Agreement."

Figure 515.3-1—Conflict of Interest Acknowledgment and Nondisclosure Agreement

Conflict of Interest Acknowledgment and Nondisclosure Agreement

For proposals submitted in response to GAS solicitation no. _____, I agree to the following:

(a) To the best of my knowledge and belief, no conflict of interest exists that may either:

- (1) Diminish my capacity to impartially review the proposals submitted.
- (2) Or result in a biased opinion or unfair advantage.

(b) In making the above statement, I have considered all the following factors that might place me in a position of conflict, real or apparent, with the evaluation proceedings:

- (1) All my stocks, bonds, other outstanding financial interests or commitments.
- (2) All my employment arrangements (past, present, and under consideration).
- (3) As far as I know, all financial interests and employment arrangements of my spouse, minor children, and other members of my immediate household.

(c) I have read and understand the requirements of the Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch (5 CFR Part 2635) and Supplemental Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the General Service Administration (5 CFR Part 6701).

(d) I have a continuing obligation to disclose any circumstances that may create an actual or apparent conflict of interest. If I learn of any such conflict, I will report it immediately to the Contracting Officer. I will perform no more duties related to evaluating proposals until I receive instructions on the matter.

(e) I will use proposal information for evaluation purposes only. I understand that any authorized restriction on disclosure placed on the proposal by the prospective contractor, prospective subcontractor, or the Government applies to any reproduction or abstracted information of the proposal.

(f) I will use my best efforts to safeguard proposal information physically. I will not disclose the contents of, nor release any information about, the proposals to anyone other than:

(1) The Source Selection Evaluation Board or other panel assembled to evaluate proposals submitted in response to the solicitation identified above.

(2) Other individuals designed by the contracting Officer.

(g) After completing evaluation, I will return to the Government all copies of the proposals and any abstracts.

(h) GSA Appropriations Act restriction: These restrictions are consistent with and do not supersede, conflict with or otherwise alter the employee obligations, rights, or liabilities created by Executive Order No. 12958; section 7211 of title 5, United States Code (governing disclosure of Congress); section 1034 of title 10, United States Code, as amended by the Military Whistleblower Protection Act (governing disclosure to Congress by members of the military); section 2302(b)(8) of title 5, United States Codes, as amended by the Whistleblower Protection Act (governing disclosures of illegality, waste, fraud, abuse or public health or safety threats); the Intelligence Identities Protection Act of 1982 (50 U.S.C. 421 et seq.) (governing disclosures that could expose confidential Government agents); and the statutes which protect against disclosure that may compromise the national security, including sections 641, 793, 794, 798, and 952 of title 18, United States Code, and section 4(b) of the Subversive Activities Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 783(b)). The definitions, requirements, obligations, rights, sanctions, and liabilities created by said Executive order and listed statutes are incorporated into this agreement and are controlling.

(Enter name of evaluator and organization)

Date

Subpart 515.4—Contract Pricing

515.408 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses.

MAS Requests for Information Other Than Cost or Pricing Data

(a) You should use Alternative IV of the FAR provision at 52.215-20,

Requirements for Cost or Pricing Data or Information Other than Cost or Pricing Data, for MAS contracts to provide the format for submission of information other than cost or pricing data for MAS contracts. To provide uniformity in request under the MAS program, you should insert the following in paragraph (b) of the provision:

(1) An offer prepared and submitted in accordance with the clause at 552.212-70, Preparation of Offer (Multiple Award Schedule).

(2) Commercial sales practices. The Offeror shall submit information in the format provided in this solicitation in accordance with the instructions at Figure 515.4 of the GSA Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR 515-2), or submit information in the Offeror's own format.

(3) Any additional supporting information requested by the Contracting Officer. The Contracting Officer may require additional supporting information, but only to the extent necessary to determine whether the price(s) offered is fair and reasonable.

(4) By submission of an offer in response to this solicitation, the Offeror grants the Contracting Officer or an authorized representative the right to examine, at any time before initial award, books, records, documents, papers, and other directly pertinent records to verify the pricing, sales and other data related to the supplies or services proposed in order to determine the reasonableness of price(s). Access does not extend to Offeror's cost or profit information of other data relevant solely to the Offeror's determination of the prices to be offered in the catalog or marketplace.

(b) Insert the following format for commercial sales practices in the exhibits or attachments section of the solicitation and resulting contract (see FAR 12.303).

Commercial Sales Practices Format

Name of Offeror _____ SIN(s) _____

Note: Please refer to Clause 552.212-70, Preparation of Offer (Multiple Award Schedule), for additional information concerning your offer. Provide the following information for each SIN (or group of SINS or SubSIN for which information is the same).

(1) Provide the dollar value of sales to the general public at or based on an established catalog or market price during the previous 12-month period or the offerors last fiscal year: \$ _____. State beginning and ending of the 12 month period. Beginning _____ ending _____. In the event that a dollar value is not an appropriate measure of the sales, provide and describe your own measure of the sales of the item(s).

(2) Show your total projected annual sales to the Government under this contract for the contract term, excluding options, for each SIN offered. If you currently hold a Federal Supply Schedule contract for the SIN the total projected annual sales should be based on your most recent 12 months of sales under that contract.

SIN _____ \$ _____
 SIN _____ \$ _____
 SIN _____ \$ _____

(3) Based on your written discounting policies (standard commercial sales practices in the event you do not have written discounting policies), are the discounts and any concessions which you offer the Government equal to or better than your best price (discount and concessions in any combination) offered to any customer acquiring the same items regardless of quantity or terms and conditions? YES ___ NO ___ (See definition of "concession" and "discount" in 552.212-70.)

(4)(a) Based on your written discounting policies (standard commercial sales practices in the event you do not have written discounting policies), provide information as requested for each SIN (or group of SINS for which the information is the same) in accordance with the instructions at Figure 515.4, which is provided in this solicitation for your convenience. The information should be provided in the chart below or in an equivalent format developed by the offeror. Rows should be added to accommodate as many customers as required.

Column 1 Customer	Column 2 Discount	Column 3 Quantity/Volume	Column 4 FOB Term	Column 5 Concessions

(b) Do any deviations from your written policies or standard commercial sales practices disclosed in the above chart ever result in better discounts (lower prices) or concessions than indicated? YES ___ NO ___ If YES, explain deviations in accordance with the instructions at Figure 515.4, which is provided in this solicitation for your convenience.

(5) If you are a dealer/reseller without significant sales to the general public, you should provide manufacturers' information required by paragraphs (1) through (4) above for each item/SIN offered, if the manufacturer's sales under any resulting contract are expected to exceed \$500,000. You must also obtain written authorization from the manufacturer(s) for Government access, at any time before award or before

agreeing to a modification, to the manufacturer's sales records for the purpose of verifying the information submitted by the manufacturer. The information is required in order to enable the Government to make a determination that the offered price is fair and reasonable. To expedite the review and processing of offers, you should advise the manufacturer(s) of this requirement. The contracting officer may require the

information be submitted on electronic media with commercially available spreadsheet(s). The information may be provided by the manufacturer directly to the Government. If the manufacturer's item(s) is being offered by multiple dealers/resellers, only one copy of the requested information should be submitted to the Government. In addition, you must submit the following information along with a listing of contact information regarding each of the manufacturers whose products and/or services are included in the offer (include the manufacturer's name, address, the manufacturer's contact point, telephone number, and FAX number) for each model offered by SIN:

- (a) Manufacturer's Name.
- (b) Manufacturer's Part Number.
- (c) Dealer's/Reseller's Part Number.
- (d) Product Description.
- (e) Manufacturer's List Price.
- (f) Dealer's/Reseller's percentage discount from list price or net prices.

(End of Format)

(c) Include the instructions for completing the commercial sales practices format in Figure 515.4 in solicitations issued under the MAS program.

Figure 515.4—Instructions for Commercial Sales Practices Format

If you responded "yes" to question (3), on the Commercial Sales Practices Format in paragraph (b) of this section, complete the chart in question (4)(a) for the customer(s) who receive your best discount. If you responded "no", complete the chart in question (4)(a) showing your written policies or standard sales practices for all customers or customer categories to whom you sell at a price (discounts and concessions in combination) that is equal to or better than the price(s) offered to the Government under this solicitation or with which the Offeror has a current agreement to sell at a discount which equals or exceeds the discount(s) offered under this solicitation. Such agreement shall be in effect on the date the offer is submitted or contain an effective date during the proposed multiple award schedule contract period. If your offer is lower than your price to other customers or customers categories, you will be aligned with the customer or category of customer that receives your best price for purposes of the Price Reductions clause at 552.238-75. The Government expects you to provide information required by the format in accordance with these instructions that is, to the best of your knowledge and belief, current, accurate, and complete as of 14 calendar days prior to its submission. You must also disclose any changes in your price list(s), discounts and/or discounting policies which occur after the offer is submitted, but before the close of negotiations. If your discount practices vary by model or product line, the discount information should be by model or product line as appropriate. You may limit the number of models or product lines reported to those which exceed 75% of actual historical Government sales (commercial sales may be substituted if

Government sales are unavailable) value of the special item number (SIN).

Column 1—Identify the Applicable Customer or Category of Customer

A "customer" is any entity, except the Federal Government, which acquires supplies or services from the Offeror. The term customer includes, but is not limited to original equipment manufacturers, value added resellers, state and local Governments, distributors, educational institutions (an elementary, junior high, or degree granting school which maintains a regular faculty and established curriculum and an organized body of students), dealers, national accounts, and end users. In any instance where the Offeror is asked to disclose information for a customer, the Offeror may disclose information by category of customer if the Offeror's discount policies or practices are the same for all customers in the category. (Use a separate line for each customer or category of customer.)

Column 2—Identify the Discount

The term "discount" is as defined in solicitation clause 552.212-70, Preparation of Offer (Multiple Award Schedule). Indicate the best discount (based on your written discounting policies or standard commercial discounting practices if you do not have written discounting policies) at which you sell to the customer or category of customer identified in column 1, without regard to quantity; terms and conditions of the agreements under which the discounts are given; and whether the agreements are written or oral. Net prices or discounts off of other price lists should be expressed as percentage discounts from the price list which is the basis of your offer. If the discount disclosed is a combination of various discounts (prompt payment, quantity, etc.), the percentage should be broken out for each type of discount. If the price lists which are the basis of the discounts given to the customers identified in the chart are different than the price list submitted upon which your offer is based, identify the type or title and date of each price list. The contracting officer may require submission of these price lists. To expedite evaluation, offerors may provide these price lists at the time of submission.

Column 3—Identify the Quantity or Volume of Sales

Insert the minimum quantity or sales volume which the identified customer or category of customer must either purchase/order, per order or within a specified period, to earn a discount indicate the time period.

Column 4—Indicate the FOB Delivery Term for Each Identified Customer

See FAR 47.3 for an explanation of FOB delivery terms.

Column 5—Indicate Concessions Regardless of Quantity Granted to the Identified Customer or Category of Customer

Concessions are defined in solicitation clause 552.12-70, Preparation of Offers (Multiple Award Schedule). If the space provided is inadequate, the disclosure should be made on a separate sheet by reference.

If you respond "yes" to question 4(b) in the Commercial Sales Practices Format, provide an explanation of the circumstances under which you deviate from your written policies or standard commercial sales practices disclosed in the chart on the Commercial Sales Practices Format and explain how often they occur. Your explanation should include a discussion of situations that lead to deviations from standard practice, an explanation of how often they occur, and the controls you employ to assure the integrity of your pricing. Examples of typical deviations may include, but are not limited to, one time goodwill discounts to charity organizations or to compensate an otherwise disgruntled customer; a limited sale of obsolete or damaged goods; the sale of sample goods to a new customer, or the sales of prototype goods for testing purposes.

If deviations from your written policies or standard commercial sales practices disclosed in the chart on the Commercial Sales Practices Format are so significant and/or frequent that the Contracting Officer cannot establish whether the price(s) offered is fair and reasonable, then you may be asked to provide additional information. The Contracting Officer may ask for information to demonstrate that you have made substantial sales of the item(s) in the commercial market consistent with the information reflected on the chart on the Commercial Sales Practices Format, a description of the conditions surrounding those sales deviations, or other information that may be necessary in order for the Contracting Officer to determine whether your offered price(s) is fair and reasonable. In cases where additional information is requested the Contracting Officer will target the request in order to limit the submission of data to that needed to establish the reasonableness of the offered price. (End of Figure)

(d) Insert the clause at 452.215-72, Price Adjustment—Failure to Provide Accurate Information, in solicitations and contracts under the MAS program.

(e) You should use Alternate IV of FAR 52.215-21, Requirements for Cost or Pricing Data or Information Other Than Cost or Pricing Data—Modifications, to provide for submission of information other than cost or pricing data for MAS contracts. To provide for uniformity in requests under the MAS program, you should insert the following in paragraph (b) of the clause:

(1) Information required by the clause at 552.243-72, Modifications (Multiple Award Schedule).

(2) Any additional supporting information requested by the Contracting Officer. The Contracting Officer may require additional supporting information, but only to the extent necessary to determine whether the price(s) offered is fair and reasonable.

(3) By submitting a request for modification, the Contractor grants the Contracting Officer or an authorized representative the right to examine, at any time before agreeing to a modification, books, record, documents, papers, and other directly pertinent records to verify the pricing, sales and other data related to the supplies or services proposed in order to determine the

reasonableness of price(s). Access does not extend to Contractor's cost or profit information or other data related solely to the Contractor's determination of the prices to be offered in the catalog or marketplace.

Subpart 515.5—Preawarded, Award, and Postaward Notifications, Protests, and Mistakes

515.506 Postaward debriefing of offerors.

For purposes of determining the date of receipt of a request for a post award debriefing, GSA's hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Request received after 4:30 p.m. will be considered received the following business day.

Subpart 515.70—Use of Samples

515.7002 Procedures.

(a) *Unsolicited samples.* The reference to FAR 14.404-2(d) in FAR 14.202-4(g) does not apply.

"However, qualifications in the proposal that are at variance with the Government's requirements, constitute deficiencies. Resolve these as provided in FAR 15.306."

(b) *Solicitation requirements.*

(1) Use the clause at FR 52.214-20. The second sentence in paragraph (c) of the clause does not apply. Substitute a sentence substantially as follows:

Failure of the bid samples to conform to all the required characteristics listed in the solicitation constitutes a deficiency in the proposal (see FAR 15.306).

(2) In addition to listing subjective characteristics that you cannot adequately describe in the specification, you may list and evaluate objective characteristics. To include objective characteristics, you must determine that examination of such characteristics is essential to the acquisition of any acceptable product. Base your determination on past experience or other valid considerations.

(c) FAR 52.215-1(c)(3) applies to samples received after the time set for receipt of offers.

PART 516—TYPES OF CONTRACTS

Subpart 516.2—Fixed Price Contracts

Sec.

516.203-4 Contract clauses

Subpart 516.5—Indefinite-Delivery Contracts

516.506 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses

Subpart 516.6—Time-and-Materials, Labor-Hour, and Letter Contracts

516.603 Letter contracts

516.603-3 Limitations

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 516.2—Fixed Price Contracts

516.203-4 Contract clauses.

(a) *Multiple award schedules.* Do not use FAR 52.216-2, 52.216-3, or 52.216-4 in negotiated acquisitions based on discounts from established commercial catalogs or pricelists. Instead, use:

(1) 52.216-70, Economic Price Adjustment—FSS Multiple Award Schedule Contracts, in a 1-year solicitation or contract.

(2) 52.216-70 (Alternate I) in multiyear solicitations and contracts.

(b) *Stock or Special Order Program Contracts.* In multiyear solicitations and contracts, after making the determination required by FAR 16.203-2, use 52.216-71, Economic Price Adjustment-Stock and Special Order Program Contract, or a clause prepared as authorized in paragraph (a)(2)(ii) of this subsection.

(1) If the contract includes one or more options to extend the term of the contract, use the clause with its Alternate I or a clause substantially the same as 52.216-71 with its Alternate I suitably modified.

(2) In a contract requiring a minimum adjustment before the price adjustment mechanism is effectuated, use the basic clause with Alternate II or with Alternate I and Alternative II.

(3) If the Producer Price Index is not an appropriate indicator for price adjustment, modify the clause to use an alternate indicator for adjusting prices. Similarly, if other aspects of 52.216-71 are not appropriate, use an alternate clause following established procedures.

(c) *Adjustments based on cost indexes of labor or material.*

(1) If you decide to provide for adjustments based on cost indexes of labor or material, prepare a clause that defines each of the following elements:

(i) The type of labor and/or material subject to adjustment.

(ii) The labor rates, including any fringe benefits and/or unit prices of materials that may be increased or decreased.

(iii) The index(es) that will be used to measure changes in price levels and the base period or reference point from which changes will be measured.

(iv) The period during which the price(s) will be subject to adjustment.

(2) The contracting director must approve use of this clause.

Subpart 516.5—Indefinite-Delivery Contracts

516.506 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses.

(a) In solicitations and contracts for stock or special order program items,

when the contract authorizes FSS and other activities to issue delivery or task orders, insert the clause at 52.216-72, Placement of Orders. If only FSS will issue delivery or task orders, insert the clause with its Alternate I.

(b) In solicitations and contracts for single or multiple award schedule program items, insert the clause at 52.216-72, Placement of Orders, with its Alternate II.

(c) If the clause at 52.216-72 is prescribed, insert the provision at 52.216-73, Ordering Information, in solicitations for stock items and in other FSS solicitations. Use 52.216-73 Alternate I when 52.216-72 Alternate I is prescribed. Use 52.216-73 Alternate II when 52.72 Alternate II is prescribed.

Subpart 516.6—Time-and-Materials, Labor-Hour, and Letter Contracts

516.603 Letter contracts.

516.603-3 Limitations.

Architect-Engineer (A-E) Services

(a) *Requirement for a price proposal.* Before you award a letter contract, the proposed A-E must provide a price proposal for the non-design effort.

(b) *Contents of each letter contract.*

You must include the following information in the letter contract:

(1) The scope. If you include the design effort, only authorize the A-E to perform those services that are independent of the design effort (for example, feasibility studies, existing facility surveys or site investigation, etc.). Do not authorize the A-E to begin the design effort before the letter contract is definitized.

(2) A definitization schedule. Include dates for each of the following:

(i) Submission of the design fee proposal.

(ii) Start of negotiations.

(iii) Definitization. This date must be no later than 90 days after the date of the letter contract.

(3) A limitation on the Government's liability for the non-design effort to be performed under the contract. Insert this amount in FAR 52.216-24, Limitation of Government Liability.

(c) *Unilateral price decision.* If you must issue a unilateral price decision, the maximum contract amount must not exceed a reasonable price for the excludable items plus the 6 percent statutory fee limitation for the project.

PART 517—SPECIAL CONTRACTING METHODS

Subpart 517.1—Multiyear Contracting

Sec.

517.109 Contract clauses

Subpart 517.2—Options

- 17.202 Use of options
- 17.203 Solicitations
- 17.207 Exercise of options
- 17.208 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 517.1—Multiyear Contracting**517.109 Contract clauses.**

Use of FAR 52.217-2, Cancellation Under Multi-year Contracts, is optional in multiyear contracts authorized by 40 U.S.C. 490(a)(14) for maintenance and repair of fixed equipment in federally-owned buildings and services and 40 U.S.C. 481(a)(3) for public utility services.

Subpart 517.2—Options**517.200 Scope of subpart.**

(a) This subpart applies to all GSA contracts for supplies and services, including:

(1) Services involving construction, alteration, or repair (including dredging, excavating, and painting) of buildings, bridges, roads, or other kinds of real property.

(2) Architect-engineer services.

(b) If a requirement in this subpart is inconsistent with FAR 17.2, this subpart takes precedence.

517.202 Use of options.

(a) *Supplies or services.*

(1) You should use options when they meet one or more of the following objectives:

(i) Reduce procurement lead time and associated costs.

(ii) Ensure continuity of contract support.

(iii) Improve overall contractor performance.

(iv) Facilitate longer term contractual relationships with those contractors that continually meet or exceed quality performance expectations.

(2) An option is normally in the Government's interest in the following circumstances:

(i) You anticipate a need for additional supplies or services during the contract term.

(ii) Multiyear contracting authority is not available or its use is inappropriate and you anticipate a need for additional supplies or services beyond the initial contract term.

(iii) There is a need for continuity of supply or service support.

(iv) Funds are not available for the entirety of the Government's needs, but are likely to become available during the contract term.

(v) The initial contract will be used to evaluate the performance of an emerging small business.

(3) Do not use an option if the market price is likely to change substantially and an economic price adjustment clause inadequately protects the Government's interest.

b *Construction.* For limitations on the use of options, see 536.213 and 536.270.

517.203**Solicitations.**

A solicitation that includes an option to extend should inform offerors that the contract could result in a long term contractual relationship subject to both of the following conditions:

(a) Continuing need by GSA.

(b) Level of contract performance that at least meets GSA's quality performance expectations.

517.207 Exercise of options.

Before exercising an option, you must:

(a) Synopsise it unless you meet of the following conditions:

(1) The option was evaluated as part of the original competition.

(2) The contract action meets an exception in FAR 5.202.

(b) Conclude that the contractor's performance under the contract met or exceeded the Government's expectation for quality performance, unless another circumstance justifies an extended contractual relationship.

(c) Determine that the option price is fair and reasonable.

517.208**Solicitation provisions and contract clauses.**

(a) For solicitations under FSS's Stock or Special Order Program, insert a provision substantially the same as the provision at 552.217-70, Evaluation of Options, if both of the following conditions apply:

(1) The solicitation contains an option to extend the term of the contract.

(2) The contract will be fixed price and contain an economic price adjustment clause.

(b) Insert the provision at 552.217-71, Notice Regarding Option(s), or a similar provision, in solicitations that include an option for increased quantities of supplies or services or an option to extend.

SUBCHAPTER D—SOCIOECONOMIC PROGRAMS**PART 519—SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS****Subpart 519.5—Set-Asides for Small Business**

Sec.

519.508 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses

Subpart 519.7—The Small Business Subcontracting Program

519.708 Solicitation provisions

519.708-70 Contract clauses

Subpart 519.8—Contracting with the Small Business Administration (The 8(a) Program)

519.870 Direct 8(a) contracting

519.870-8 Contract clauses

Subpart 519.12—Small Disadvantaged Business Participation Program

519.1202 Evaluation factor or subfactor

519.1202-2 Applicability

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 519.5—Set-Asides for Small Business**519.508 Solicitation provisions for contract clauses.**

Insert 552.219-70, Allocation of Orders—Partially Set-Asides Items, in solicitations and requirements type supply contracts that are partially set aside for small business.

Subpart 519.7—The Small Business Subcontracting Program**519.708 Contract clauses.****519.708-70 Solicitation provisions.**

Insert the following provisions as directed:

(a) 552.219-71, Notice to Offerors of Subcontracting Plan Requirements, on the cover page of solicitations containing the clause at FAR 52.219-9, Small Business Subcontracting Plan.

(b) 552.219-72, Preparation, Submission, and Negotiations of Subcontracting Plans, in solicitations requiring submission of the subcontracting plan with initial offers.

(c) 552.219-73, Goals for Subcontracting Plan as follows:

(1) Use the basic provision in sealed bid solicitations containing FAR 52.219-9 if you are able to establish realistic target goals.

(2) Use Alternate I in:

(i) sealed bid solicitations if you cannot establish target goals.

(ii) Negotiated solicitations that include FAR 52.219-9, but do not include 552.219-72.

Subpart 519.8—Contracting With the Small Business Administration (The 8(a) Program)

519.870 Direct 8(a) contracting.

519.870-8 Contract clauses.

(a) Insert the following clauses in solicitations, contracts, and orders issued under the MOU:

(1) Insert the clause at 552.219-74, Section 8(a) Direct Award.

(2) Insert the clause at FAR 52.219-14, Limitation on Subcontracting.

(3) Insert the clause at FAR 52.219-18, Notification of Competition Limited to Eligible 8(a) Concerns, Substitute the following paragraph for paragraph (c) of the clause. Add the word "Deviation" at the end of the clause title.

(c) Any award resulting from this solicitation will be made directly by the Contracting Officer to the successful 8(a) offeror selected through the evaluation criteria set forth in this solicitation.

(b) Do not use the clauses at FAR 52.219-11, Special 8(a) Contract Conditions, FAR 52.219-12, Special 8(a) Subcontract Conditions, or FAR 52.219-17, Section 8(a) Award.

Subpart 519.12—Small Disadvantaged Business Participation Program

519.1202 Evaluation factor or subfactor.

519.1202-2 Applicability.

In addition to the exception in FAR 19.1202-2, do not evaluate the extent of participation of SDB concerns in performance of multiple award schedule contracts when all fair and reasonable offers from responsible sources are accepted.

PART 522—APPLICATION OF LABOR LAWS TO GOVERNMENT ACQUISITIONS

522.001 Definition.

Subpart 522.1—Basic Labor Policies

Sec.

522.101 Labor relations

522.101-1 General

522.10-3-5 Contract clauses

Subpart 522.4—Labor Standards for Contracts Involving Construction

522.406 Administration and enforcement

522.406-6 Payrolls and statements

Subpart 522.8—Equal Employment Opportunity

522.803 Responsibilities

522.804 Affirmative action programs

522.804-1 Nonconstruction

522.805 Procedures

522.807 Exemptions

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

522.001 Definition.

Agency labor advisory, as used in this part, means the Director of the GSA Acquisition Policy Division, Office of Acquisition Policy.

Subpart 522.1—Basic Labor Policies

522.101 Labor relations.

522.101-1 General.

(a) GSA personnel performing official duties must maintain GSA's impartiality in disputes between labor and contractor management by refraining from involvement in or expressing a position on:

(1) Labor negotiations between contractors and unions.

(2) The merits of any dispute between labor and a contractor's management.

(b) The Office of General Counsel (OGC) and the agency labor advisor:

(1) Serve as focal points on contractor labor relations.

(2) Initiate contact on contractor labor relations matters with national offices of labor organizations, Government departments, agencies or other governmental organizations.

(3) Serve as a clearinghouse for information on labor laws applicable to Government acquisitions.

(4) Respond to questions involving FAR Part 22, this part, or other contractor labor relations matters concerning GSA acquisition programs. OGC determines the agency's legal position.

522.103-5 Contract clauses.

Insert FAR 52.222-1, Notice to the Government of Labor Disputes, in solicitations and contracts for items on the DoD Master Urgency List.

Subpart 522.4—Labor Standards for Contracts Involving Construction

522.406 Administration and enforcement.

522.406-6 Payrolls and statements.

Statement From Prime Contractors or Subcontractors That Personally Perform Work

(a) Weekly payrolls and statements of compliance with respect to payment of wages are not required from a prime contractor or a subcontractor that personally performs work.

(b) Instead, a prime contractor or a subcontractor that personally performs work must submit weekly certified statements clearly showing the following information:

(1) The individual's contractual relationship.

(2) The scope and date(s) the individual performed the work.

(3) The individual received no wages for the labor performed.

(4) No mechanics or laborers were employed in the prosecution of the work.

(c) Use GSA Form 618-D, Statement to be Submitted When Work is Performed Personally, to furnish this information.

Subpart 522.8—Equal Employment Opportunity

522.803 Responsibilities.

Submit questions on the applicability of E.O. 11246 and implementing regulations to assigned legal counsel.

522.804 Affirmative action programs.

522.804-1 Nonconstruction.

(a) The requirements of FAR 22.804 also apply to each contractor and subcontractor with 50 or more employees who either:

(1) Serves as a depository of Government funds.

(2) Is a financial institution serving as an issuing and paying agent for U.S. savings bonds and savings notes.

(b) Contractors, subcontractors, and financial institutions must develop a written affirmative action compliance program for each of its establishments even if the amount held is less than \$50,000.

522.805 Procedures.

(a) To determine whether the contract meets the threshold in FAR 22.805(a), include the value of the basic contract plus priced options. A contract modification exercising a priced option is not a contract award under FAR 22.805(a)(1)(ii) and does not require a preaward clearance.

(b) Submit preaward review requests directly.

Furnishing Information to Contractors

(c) In addition to the poster required by FAR 22.805(b), provide each nonexempt contractor a copy of SF 100.

522.807 Exemptions.

The agency labor advisor submits a request for exemption.

PART 523—ENVIRONMENT, CONSERVATION, OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE

Subpart 523.3—Hazardous Materials Identification and Material Safety Data

Sec.

523.303 Contract clause

523.370 Solicitation provision

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 523.3—Hazardous Materials Identification and Material Safety Data**523.303 Contract clause.**

(a) Insert 552.223–70, Hazardous Substances, in solicitations and contracts for packaged items subject to the Federal Hazardous Substances Act and the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act.

(b) Insert 552.223–71, Nonconforming Hazardous Materials, in solicitations and contracts for supplies that contain hazardous materials.

523.370 Solicitation provision.

Insert 552.223–72, Hazardous Material Information, in any solicitation that provides for delivery of hazardous materials on an f.o.b. origin basis.

PART 525—FOREIGN ACQUISITION**Subpart 525.1—Buy American Act-Supplies**
Sec.

525.105 Evaluating offers

525.105–70 Procurement of hand or measuring tools or stainless steel flatware for DOD

525.109 Solicitation provisions and contract clause

Subpart 525.3—Balance of Payments Program

525.302 Policy

525.302–70 Procurements for agencies under the Foreign Assistance Act

Subpart 525.4—Trade Agreements

525.402 Policy

525.408 Solicitation provision and contract clauses

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).**Subpart 525.1—Buy American Act-Supplies****525.105 Evaluating offers.****525.105–70 Procurement of hand or measuring tools or stainless steel flatware for DOD.**

(a) “Stainless steel flatware” means special order and stock items of stainless steel flatware purchased for DOD, including, but not limited to, the following National Stock Numbers (NSN):

7340–00–060–6057

7340–00–205–3340

7340–00–205–3341

7340–00–241–8169

7340–00–241–8170

7340–00–241–8171

7340–00–559–8357

7340–00–688–1055

7340–00–721–6316

7340–00–721–6971

(b) Purchases of hand or measuring tools or stainless steel flatware exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold by DOD must be domestic end

products. In the case of stainless steel flatware, the Secretary of the Department concerned can make an exception. The individual must determine that a satisfactory quality and sufficient quantity produced in the United States or its possessions are not available when needed at domestic market prices.

(c) If GSA solicitations of hand or measuring tools or stainless steel flatware include DOD requirements, GSA will apply the DOD restrictions. The bases for applying the DOD restriction to GSA acquisitions are:

(1) DOD’s restrictions apply to requisitions of such items from the GSA stock program.

(2) The impracticality of establishing a dual supply system to satisfy the requirements of civilian and military agencies.

(3) GSA may reject any offer when it is considered necessary for reasons of national interest.

525.109 Solicitation provisions and contract clause.

If you include DOD requirements for hand or measuring tools or stainless steel flatware in the solicitation for an acquisition to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, insert 552.225–70, Notice of Procurement Restriction—Hand or Measuring Tools or Stainless Steel Flatware, in the solicitation and resulting contract(s).

Subpart 525.3—Balance of Payments Program**525.302 Policy.****525.302–70 Procurements for agencies under the Foreign Assistance Act.**

GSA procurements made directly for other agencies of items to be used outside the United States are made the Balance of Payments Program. The only exception is if GSA contracts as the agent for an agency governed by the Foreign Assistance Act (22 U.S.C. 2151 *et seq.*). If this exception applies, the contract will be governed by the policies and procedures of the agency instead of FAR 25.3 and 525.3. For example, GSA sometimes acts as agent for the Agency for International Development and the Bureau of International Narcotics Matters.

Subpart 525.4—Trade Agreements**525.402 Policy.**

As a result of the General Services Administration Board of Contract Appeals (GSBCA) decision in the protest of *International Business Machines Corporation*, 90–2BCA P22,924, May 18, 1990, GSA

solicitations and contracts will deviate from FAR 52.225–8, Buy American Act-Trade Agreements-Balance of Payments Program Certificate, and FAR 52.225–9, Buy American Act-Trade Agreements-Balance of payments Program.

525.408 Solicitation provision and contract clauses.

Insert 552.225–8. Buy American Act-Trade Agreements-Balance of Payments Program Certificate, and 552.225–9, Buy American Act-Trade Agreements-Balance of Payments Program, in solicitations and contracts subject to the Trade Agreements Act. Use them instead of FAR 52.225–8 and 52.225–9.

SUBCHAPTER E—GENERAL CONTRACTING REQUIREMENTS**PART 527—PATENTS, DATA, AND COPYRIGHTS****Subpart 527.4—Rights in Data and Copyrights**

Sec.

527.409 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).**Subpart 527.4—Rights in Data and Copyrights****527.409 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses.**

Architect-Engineer Services and Construction Contracts Involving Architect-Engineer Services

Insert the following in solicitations and contracts for architect-engineer services and construction contracts involving architect-engineer services:

(a) Insert 552.227–70, Government Rights (Unlimited), instead of FAR 52.227–17, Rights in Data-Special Works, in contracts, except if 552.227–71 is prescribed.

(b) If the Government requires sole property rights and exclusive control over the design and data, insert 552.227–71, Drawings and Other Data to Become Property of Government, instead of FAR 52.227–17.

PART 528—BONDS AND INSURANCE**Subpart 528.2—Sureties and Other Security for Bonds**

Sec.

528.202 Acceptability of corporate sureties

Subpart 528.3—Insurance

528.310 Contract clause for work on a Government installation

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 528.2—Sureties and Other Security for Bonds**528.202 Acceptability of corporate sureties.**

Corporate surety bonds must be manually signed by the Attorney-in-Fact or officer of the surety company and the corporate seal affixed. You may waive failure of the surety to affix the corporate seal as a minor informality. (See B-184120, July 2, 1975, 75-2 CPD 9.)

Subpart 528.3—Insurance**528.310 Contract clause for work on a Government installation.**

(a) Insert the clause at 552.228-70, Workers' Compensation Laws, in each solicitation and contract that meets all the following conditions:

(1) The contract amount is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

(2) The contract will require work to be performed on Government property.

(b) In the case of an owner-controlled insurance program, or wrap-up insurance, the clause will be a part of the policy holder's requirements.

PART 529—TAXES**Subpart 529.4—Contract Clauses**

Sec.

529.401 Domestic contracts

529.401-70 Purchases at or under the simplified acquisition threshold

529.401-71 Contracts for supplies and services usable by the DC Government

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 529.4—Contract Clauses**529.401 Domestic contracts.****529.401-70 Purchases at or under the simplified acquisition threshold.**

Insert 552.229-70, Federal, State, and Local Taxes, in purchases and contracts estimated to exceed the micropurchase threshold, but not the simplified acquisition threshold.

529.401-71 Contracts for supplies and services usable by the DC Government.

Insert 552.229-71, Federal Tax-DC Government, in solicitations and contracts that permit the District of Columbia Government to place orders.

PART 532—CONTRACT FINANCING**Subpart 532.1—Non-Commercial Item Purchase Financing**

Sec.

532.111 Contract clauses for non-commercial purchases

Subpart 532.2—Commercial Item Purchase Financing

532.206 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses

Subpart 532.7—Contract Funding

532.705 Contract clauses

532.705-1 Clauses for contracting in advance of funds

Subpart 532.8—Assignment of Claims

532.806 Contract clauses

Subpart 532.9—Prompt Payment

532.902 Definitions

532-905 Invoice payments

532.905-70 Certification of payment to subcontractors and suppliers under fixed-price construction contracts

532.905-71 Final payment—construction and building service contracts

532.908 Contract clauses

Subpart 532.70—Authorizing Payment By Governmentwide Commercial Purchase Card

532.7001 Definition

532.7002 Solicitation requirements

532.7003 Contract clause

Subpart 532.71—Payments for Recurring Services

532.7101 Definitions

532.7102 Applicability

532.7104 Contract clauses

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 532.1—Non-Commercial Item Purchase Financing**532.111 Contract clauses for non-commercial purchases.**

(a) *Invoice requirements.* Insert 552.232-70, Invoice Requirements, or something substantially the same, in all solicitations and contracts for supplies, services, construction, architect-engineer services, or the acquisition of leasehold interests in real property that require the submission of invoices for payment. Delete subparagraph (b) of the clause if an Accounting Control Transaction (ACT) number is not required for payment.

(b) *Adjusting payments.* Insert 552.232-71, Adjusting Payments, in all solicitations and contracts for recurring building services expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

(c) *Final payment.* Insert 552.232-72, Final Payment, in all solicitations and contracts for recurring building services expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

Subpart 532.2—Commercial Item Purchase Financing**532.206 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses.**

Discounts for prompt payment.

Include 552.232-8, Discounts for Prompt Payments, in multiple award schedule solicitations and contracts insted of the clause at FAR 52.232-8.

Subpart 532.7—CONTRACT FUNDING**532.705 Contract clauses.****532.705-1 Clauses for contracting in advance of funds.**

Insert 552.232-73, Availability of Funds, in solicitations and contracts for services which are "severable" when both of the following conditions apply:

(a) The contract, or a portion of the contract, will be chargeable to funds of the new fiscal year.

(b) The circumstances described in the prescriptions for FAR 52.232-18 or 52.232-19 do not apply.

Subpart 532.8—Assignment of Claims**532.806 Contract clauses.**

Insert the clause at 552.232-23, Assignment of Claims, in solicitations and requirements or indefinite quantity contracts under which more than one agency may place orders.

Subpart 532.9—Prompt Payment**532.902 Definitions.**

Full cycle electronic commerce means the use of electronic data interchange (EDI), Internet-based invoice processing, and electronic funds transfer (EFT):

(a) By the Government, to place purchase, delivery, or task orders, receive invoices, and pay invoices.

(b) By the Contractor, to accept and fill orders, submit invoices, and receive payment.

532.905 Invoice payments.

(a) *General and architect-engineer contracts.* Before exercising the authority to modify the date for constructive acceptance or constructive approval of progress payments in the clauses listed in this section, you must prepare a written justification explaining why a longer period is necessary. An official one level above you must approve your justification. Determine the time needed on a case-by-case basis.

(1) In subdivision (a)(6)(i) of the clause at FAR 52.232-25, Prompt Payment, do not specify a constructive acceptance period that exceeds 30 days.

(2) In subdivision (a)(4)(i)(A) of the clause at FAR 52.232-26, Prompt Payment for Fixed-Price Architect-

Engineer Contracts, do not specify a constructive acceptance period that exceeds 30 days.

(3) In subdivision (a)(4)(i)(B) of the clause at FAR 52.232-26, Prompt Payment for Fixed-Price Architect-Engineer Contracts, do not specify a period for constructive approval of progress payments that exceeds 7 days.

(b) *Construction contracts.*

(1) Determine on a case-by-case basis the time specified for payment of progress payments in subdivision (a)(1)(i)(A) of the clause at FAR 52.232-27, Prompt Payment for Construction Contracts. Justify in writing periods longer than 14 days. An official one level above you must approve your justification. Under no circumstances may more than 30 days be specified.

(2) Determine the time to be specified in subdivision (a)(4)(i) of FAR clause 52.232-27, for constructive acceptance or approval, on a case-by-case basis. This time may not exceed 7 days unless you justify a longer period in writing, and obtain the approval of an official one level above you. Under no circumstances may more than 30 days be specified.

(c) *Federal Supply Service.*

(1) To increase efficiency and reduce costs to the Government, Federal Supply Service contracts under the Stock, Special Order, and Schedules Programs may authorize payment within 10 days of receipt of a proper invoice. The contract must meet all the following conditions:

(i) The contractor agrees to full cycle electronic commerce.

(ii) The contract includes FAR 52.232-33, Mandatory Information for Electronic Funds Transfer Payment.

(2) The 10 day payment terms apply to each order that meets all the following conditions:

(i) FSS places the order using EDI in accordance with the Trading Partner Agreement.

(ii) The contractor submits EDI invoices in accordance with the Trading Partner Agreement or invoices through the GSA Finance Center Internet-based invoice process.

(iii) A GSA Finance Center pays the invoices using EFT.

(3) The 10 day payment terms do not apply to any order:

(i) Placed by a GSA contracting activity other than FSS.

(ii) Placed by or paid by another agency.

532.905-70 Certification of payment to subcontractors and suppliers under fixed-price construction contracts.

The contractor may use GSA Form 2419, Certification of Progress Payments

Under Fixed-Price Construction Contracts, for the certification required by FAR 52.232-5.

532.905-71 Final payment—construction and building service contracts.

The following procedures apply to construction and building service contracts.

(a) Do not process the final payment on construction or building service contracts until the contractor submits a properly executed GSA Form 1142, Release of Claims. If, after repeated attempts, you are unable to obtain a release of claims from the contractor, you may process the final payment with the approval of assigned legal counsel.

(b) The amount of final payment must include, as appropriate, deductions to cover any of the following:

(1) Liquidated damages for late completion.

(2) Liquidated damages for labor violations.

(3) Amounts withheld for improper payment of labor wages.

(4) The amount of unilateral change orders covering defects and omissions.

532.908 Contract clauses.

(a) *Federal Supply Service.* For FSS Stock, Special Order, and Schedules solicitations and contracts that provide payment in 10 days under 532.905(c):

(1) If the contract will include FAR 52.212-4 insert the clause at 552.232-74, Invoice Payments. GSA received a class deviation to allow use of 552.232-74 for commercial items.

(2) If the contract will not include FAR 52.212-4, insert 552.232-25, Prompt Payment, instead of FAR 552.232-25.

(b) *Leasehold Interests in Real Property.*

(1) Insert 552.232-75, Prompt Payment, in solicitations and contracts for acquiring leasehold interests in real property.

(i) You may modify the date for constructive acceptance in subparagraph (b)(2) of the clause to specify a period longer than 7 calendar days (but not to exceed 30 days) if necessary because of the nature of the services to be received, inspected or accepted by the Government. Prepare a written justification for specifying the longer period and obtain your contracting director's approval.

(ii) Use Alternate I if the lease contract does not contain provisions for ordering alterations or overtime utility services.

(2) Insert 552.232-76, Electronic Funds Transfer Payment, in solicitations and contracts for acquisition of leasehold interests in real property.

Subpart 532.70—Authorizing Payment by Governmentwide Commercial Purchase Card

532.7001 Definition.

Governmentwide commercial purchase card has the same meaning as in FAR 13.101.

532.7002 Solicitation requirements.

(a) In solicitations for supplies and services except telecommunications services (i.e., major systems such as the Federal Telecommunications System or DSN) and multiple award schedule solicitations, request offerors to indicate if they will accept payment by Government commercial credit card. Identify the credit card brand(s) under the GSA SmartPay program that may be used to make payments under the contract, on the cover page or in Section L of the solicitation.

(b) For multiple award schedule contracts, identify the credit card brand(s) under the GSA SmartPay program that may be used to make payments under the contract in the contract award letter.

(c) For orders placed by GSA, you may authorize payment by Government commercial credit card only for orders that do not exceed \$100,000 (see GSA Order, Interim Guidance on Use of the Governmentwide Commercial Purchase Card Service (OAD 4200.8)).

(d) Consider requesting offerors to designate different levels for which they may accept payment by Government commercial credit card, for example:

If awarded a contract under this solicitation, the offeror agrees to accept payment by commercial credit card for orders of:

- ___ \$2,500 or less
- ___ \$25,000 or less
- ___ \$50,000 or less
- ___ \$100,000 or less

532.7003 Contract clause.

Insert the clause at 552.232-77, Payment By Credit Card, in solicitations and resultant contracts for supplies and services except telecommunications services (i.e., major systems such as the Federal Telecommunications System or DSN) to provide for payment by Governmentwide commercial purchase card as an alternative method of payment for orders.

(a) Use the basic clause when only GSA will place orders under the contract.

(b) Use Alternate I for solicitations and contracts under which other agencies may place orders directly.

Subpart 532.71—Payments for Recurring Services**532.7101 Definitions.**

Fixed roll payment means automatic payment of fixed amounts at regular intervals without submission of an invoice or receiving report.

532.7102 Applicability.

You may use fixed roll payments in any contract that meets all four of the following conditions:

(a) The contract provides for recurring services at a constant level for a period of at least two months.

(b) The contract does not contain any discount items.

(c) Payment is due 30 days following completion of the service month.

(d) For a commercial item acquisition, fixed roll payments are consistent with customary commercial practice.

532.7104 Contract clauses.

(a) *Noncommercial item acquisitions.* For solicitations and contracts to be paid by fixed roll payment, include the clause at 552.232-1, Payments. Do not include the clauses at FAR 52.232-1, Payments, or 552.232-70, Invoice Requirements.

(b) *Commercial item acquisitions.* For solicitations and contracts to be paid by fixed roll payment, tailor the clause at FAR 52.212-4 by an addendum as noted in paragraphs (b) (1) and (2) of this section. This tailoring is authorized by a deviation approved on January 5, 1999.

(1) Delete paragraph FAR 52.212-4(g), Invoice.

(2) Add the following to paragraph FAR 52.212-4(i), Payment:

The Government shall pay the Contractor, without submission of invoices or vouchers, 30 days after the service period, the prices stipulated in this contract for services rendered and accepted, less any deductions provided in this contract.

PART 533—PROTESTS, DISPUTES, AND APPEALS**Subpart 533.1—Protests**

Sec.

533.103 Protests to the agency

533.103-72 Solicitation provisions

Subpart 533.2—Disputes and Appeals

533.211 Contracting officer's decision

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 533.1—Protests**§ 533.103 Protests to the agency.**

§ 533.103-72 Solicitation provisions.
Include the provision at 552.233-70, Protests Filed Directly With the General Services Administration, in each solicitation for either:

(a) Supplies, services, construction, or architect-engineer services expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

(b) Acquisition of leasehold interests in real property expected to exceed the simplified lease acquisition threshold.

Subpart 533.2—Disputes and Appeals**§ 533.211 Contracting officer's decision.**

In addition to the information in FAR 33.211(a)(4)(v), advise the contractor in your written decision that a notice of appeal must:

(a) Describe the nature of the dispute and the relief sought, the contract provisions involved, and any other additional information or comments relating to the dispute considered important.

(b) Be signed personally by the appellant (the prime contractor making the appeal) or by an officer of the appellant corporation, or member of the appellant firm, or by the contractor's duly authorized representative or attorney.

SUBCHAPTER F—SPECIAL CATEGORIES OF CONTRACTING**PART 536—CONSTRUCTION AND ARCHITECT—ENGINEER CONTRACTS****Subpart 536.1—General**

Sec.

536.101 Applicability

Subpart 536.2—Special Aspects of Contracting for Construction

536.213 Special procedures for sealed bidding in construction contracting

536.213-3 Invitations for bids

536.213-370 Bids that include alternates

536.213-371 Bids that include options

536.213-372 Bids that include both

alternates and options

536.270 Exercise of options

536.271 Project labor agreements

Subpart 536.5—Contract Clauses

536.570 Supplemental provisions and clauses

536.570-1 Definitions

536.570-2 Authorities and limitations

536.570-3 Specialist

536.570-4 Basis of award—construction contract

536.570-5 Working hours

536.570-6 Use of premises

536.570-7 Measurements

536.570-8 Specifications and drawings

536.570-9 Shop drawings, coordination drawings, and schedules

536.570-10 Samples

536.570-11 Heat

536.570-12 Use of equipment by the Government

536.570-13 Subcontracts

536.570-14 Requirement for a project labor agreement

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 536.1—General**536.101 Applicability.**

If a requirement in this part is inconsistent with a requirement in another GSAR part, this part takes precedence.

Subpart 536.2—Special Aspects of Contracting for Construction**536.213 Special procedures for sealed bidding in construction contracting.****536.213-3 Invitations for bids.****536.213-370 Bids that include alternates.**

(a) The base bid must include all features essential to a sound and adequate building design. If it appears that funds available for a project may be insufficient to include all desired features in the base bid, you may issue a solicitation for a base bid and include one or more alternates in the order of priority. Use alternates only if they are clearly justified and involve substantial amounts of work in relation to the base bid. Their use must be limited and should involve only "add" alternates.

(b) Before opening bids that include alternates, determine, and record in the contract file, the amount of funds available for the project. The amount recorded must be announced at the beginning of the bid opening. The amount is the controlling factor in determining the low bidder. This amount may be increased later when determining the alternate items to award to the low bidder if the following condition is met: the award amount of the base bid plus the combination of alternate items does not exceed the amount offered for the base bid and the same combination of alternate items by any other responsible bidder whose bid conforms to the solicitation. This requirement prevents the displacement of the low bidder by manipulating the alternates to be used.

536.213-371 Bids that include options.

(a) Subject to the limitations in paragraph (c) of this section, you may include options in contracts if it is in the Government's interest.

(b) the appropriate use of options may include, but is not limited to, any of the following:

(1) If additional work is anticipated but funds are not expected to be available at the time of award, and it would not be practicable to award a separate contract or to permit an additional contractor to work on the same site.

(2) If fixed building equipment, e.g. elevators or escalators, will be installed under the construction contract and it is

advantageous to have the installer of the equipment maintain and service the equipment during the warranty period.

(c) You must not use options under any of the following conditions:

(1) the prospective option represents known firm requirements for which funds are available unless competition for the option quantity is impracticable once the initial contract is awarded.

(2) The contractor will incur undue risks; e.g., the price or availability of necessary materials or labor is not reasonably foreseeable.

(d) Solicitations containing option provisions must state the period within which the options may be exercised.

(e) Solicitations must state whether the basis of award is inclusive or exclusive of the options. Before issuing a solicitation that includes evaluated options, you must determine that there is reasonable certainty that funds will be made available to permit exercise of the option.

536.213-372 Bids that include both alternates and options.

(a) Solicitations may include both alternates and options if the conditions in 536.213-370, Bids that include alternates, and 536.213-371, Bids that include options, are satisfied. In these solicitations, the low bidder for purposes of award is the responsible bidder offering the lowest aggregate price for the base bid and the alternates, in the order of priority listed in the solicitation, that provide the most work features within the funds available at bid opening, plus all options designated to be evaluated.

(b) The basis of award may require the evaluation of options associated with alternates if the related alternate is selected.

(c) Before opening bids that include both alternates and options, determine, and record in the contract file, the amount of funds available for the project (i.e., for the base bid and alternate work). The amount recorded must be announced at the beginning of the bid opening. This amount may be increased later when determining the alternate items to be awarded to the low bidder if the following condition is met: the award amount of the base bid and evaluated options plus the alternate items does not exceed the amount offered for the base bid, the evaluated options, and the same combination of alternate items by any other responsible bidder whose bid conforms to the solicitation.

536.270 Exercise of options.

(a) If exercising an option, notify the contractor, in writing, within the time period specified in the contract.

(b) Exercise options only after determining that all the following conditions exist:

(1) Funds are available.

(2) The requirement covered by the option fulfills an existing Government need.

(3) Exercising the option is the most advantageous method of satisfying the Government's need, price and other factors considered.

(c) Before exercising an option, you must determine that the action complies with the option's terms and this section's requirements. Include your written determination in the contract file.

(d) The contract modification, or other written document which notifies the contractor of the exercise of the option, must cite the option clause as authority. If exercising an unpriced or unevaluated option, cite the statutory authority permitting the use of other than full and open competition (see FAR 6.302 and 517.207).

536.271 Project labor agreements.

(a) *Authority.* This subpart implements the Presidential memorandum of June 5, 1997, on using project labor agreements (PLAs) on Federal construction projects. The Presidential memorandum authorizes executive departments and agencies to require PLAs on large and significant construction projects for facilities to be owned by a Federal department or agency.

(b) *Applicability.* These policies and procedures apply to all GSA activities authorized to award contracts for construction of facilities to be owned by a Federal department or agency. You may use a PLA in leasehold arrangement, Federally funded projects, and other appropriate circumstances.

(c) *Definitions.*

Construction means construction, alteration, or repair (including dredging, excavating, and painting) of buildings, structures, or other real property. The terms buildings, structures, or other real property are defined further in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 36.102.

Labor organization means a labor organization engaged in an industry affecting commerce, and any agent of such an organization, and includes any organization of any kind, and any agency, or employee representation committee, group, association, or plan so engaged in which employees participate and which exists for the purpose, in whole or in part, of dealing with employers concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages, rates of pay, hours, or other terms or conditions of employment, and any conference,

general committee, joint or system board, or joint council so engaged which is subordinate to a national or international labor organization (42 U.S.C. 2000e(d)).

Large and significant project means a Federal construction project with a total cost to the Federal Government of more than \$5 million.

Project Labor Agreement (PLA) means an agreement between the contractor, subcontractors, and the union(s) representing workers. Under a PLA, the contractor and subcontractors on a project and the union(s) agree on terms and conditions of employment for the project, establishing a framework for labor-management cooperation to advance the Government's procurement interest in cost, efficiency, and quality.

(d) *Policy.*

(1) You may, on a project-by-project basis, use a PLA on a large and significant project when both of the following conditions apply:

(i) A PLA will advance the Government's procurement interests.

(ii) No laws that apply to the specific construction project preclude the use of the PLA.

(2) Do not require any contractor to enter into a PLA with any particular labor organization.

(3) The use of a PLA is not intended to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural enforceable by a nonfederal party against the United States, its departments, and agencies, its officers or employees, or any other person.

(e) *Procedures.*

(1) As part of procurement planning for construction projects with a total estimated cost to the Federal Government of more than \$5 million, you may consider requiring a PLA.

(2) To require a PLA, you must determine whether use of a PLA will advance the Government's procurement interests in all the following areas:

(i) Cost, efficiency, and quality.

(ii) Promoting labor-management stability.

(iii) Promoting compliance with applicable legal requirements governing safety and health, equal employment opportunity, labor and employment standards, and other matters.

(3) In making the determination required by paragraph (b) of this section, consult with the agency project or program manager and obtain guidance from the Agency Labor Advisor and assigned legal counsel. You should consider the following factors:

(i) Whether past experience with construction projects in the location where the project will be performed indicates that a PLA will be effective.

(ii) Whether delays in performance of the construction contract would have significant adverse impact on the mission of the agency or operation of the installation or facility.

(iii) Whether any law applies to the specific construction project that would impede use of a PLA.

(iv) Whether the labor organizations in the area can provide a reliable source of skilled, experienced building trades workers in all crafts needed on the job site for the project's duration (taking into consideration other major construction work in the area).

(v) Whether the Government can benefit from uniform work rules and working conditions and established procedures for resolving labor disputes, no strike/no lock-out protections.

(vi) Whether the Government can benefit from increased stability and labor peace that derives from greater labor-management cooperation.

(vii) Whether the requirements for a PLA will unreasonably restrict competition.

(viii) Other relevant information.

(4) Document the rationale supporting your decision to require a PLA in the contract file.

(5) Provide the following information to the Agency Labor Advisor (GSA Acquisition Policy Division (MVP)):

(i) A brief description of the project.

(ii) The estimated cost.

(iii) A copy of the document supporting your decision to require a PLA.

(iv) A copy of the solicitation.

Subpart 536.5—Contract Clauses

536.570 Supplemental provisions and clauses.

536.570-1 Definitions.

Insert 552.236-70, Definitions, in solicitations and contracts if construction, dismantling, demolition, or removal of improvements is contemplated.

536.570-2 Authorities and limitations.

Insert 552.236-71, Authorities and Limitations, in solicitations and contracts if construction, dismantling, demolition, or removal of improvements

is contemplated and the contract amount is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

536.570-3 Specialist

Insert 552.236-72, Specialist, in solicitations and contracts for construction if the technical sections of the contract require unusual experience or specialized facilities for adequate contract performance.

536.570-4 Basis of award—construction contract.

(a) Insert a provision substantially the same as 552.236-73, Basis of Award—Construction Contract, in solicitations for fixed-price construction contracts except if any of the following conditions apply:

(1) The solicitation requires the submission of a lump-sum bid only.

(2) The solicitation is for an indefinite quantity contract.

(3) The contract amount is not expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

(b) *Instructions for use.*

If the solicitation requests the submission of a . . .	Then use the . . .
(1) Base bid and unit prices	Basic provision.
(2) Base bid and options	Provision with its Alternate I.
(3) Base bid and alternates	Provision with its Alternate II.
(4) Base bid, alternates, and options	Provision with its Alternate III.

536.570-5 Working hours.

Insert 552.236-74, Working Hours, in solicitations and contracts if construction, dismantling, demolition, or removal of improvements is contemplated and the contract amount is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

536.570-6 Use of premises.

Insert 552.236-75, Use of Premises, in solicitations and contracts if construction, dismantling, demolition, or removal of improvements is contemplated.

536.570-7 Measurements.

Insert 552.236-76, Measurements, in solicitations and contracts if construction, dismantling, demolition, or removal of improvements is contemplated.

536.570-8 Specifications and drawings.

Insert the clause at 552.236-77, Specifications and Drawings, in solicitations and contracts if construction, dismantling, demolition, or removal of improvements is contemplated and the contract amount is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

536.570-9 Shop drawings, coordination drawings, and schedules.

Insert the clause at 552.236-78, Shop Drawings, Coordination Drawings, and Schedules, in solicitations and contracts if construction is contemplated and the contract amount is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

536.570-10 Samples.

Insert the clause at 552.236-79, Samples, in solicitations and contracts for construction if the technical sections of the contract require the submission and approval of samples.

536.570-11 Heat.

Insert the clause at 552.236-80, Heat, in solicitations and contracts if construction, dismantling, demolition, or removal of improvements is contemplated.

536.570-12 Use of equipment by the Government.

Insert the clause at 552.236-81, Use of Equipment by the Government, in contracts requiring heating and air-conditioning of existing buildings if it may be necessary for the Government to operate all or part of the equipment before final acceptance of the contract.

536.570-13 Subcontracts.

Insert 552.236-82, Subcontracts, in solicitations and contracts for construction if the contract amount is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

536.570-14 Requirement for a project labor agreement.

Insert a clause substantially the same as 552.236-83, Requirement for a Project Labor Agreement, in solicitations and contracts that will require a project labor agreement.

Part 537—Service Contracting

Subpart 537.1—Service Contracts—General Sec.

537.101 Definitions

537.110 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses

Subpart 537.2—Advisory and Assistance Services

537.270 Contract clause

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 537.1—Service Contracts—General**537.101 Definitions.**

“Contracts for building services” means contracts for services relating to the operation and maintenance of a building (for example, janitorial; window washing; snow removal; trash removal; lawn and grounds care; inspection, maintenance and repair of fixed equipment (e.g., elevators, air-conditioning, hearing systems)) and protection or guard service.

537.110 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses.**Contracts for Building Services**

The following provision and clauses apply to contracts for building services:

(a) Insert 552.237–70, Qualifications of Offerors, in solicitations if the contract amount is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.

(b) Insert 552.237–71, Qualifications of Employees, in solicitations and contracts if the contract amount is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold. If needed, use supplemental provisions or clause to describe specific requirements for employees performing work on the contract.

(c) Insert 552.237–72, Prohibition Regarding “Quasi-Military Armed Forces,” in solicitations and contracts for guard service.

Subpart 537.2—Advisory and Assistance Services**537.270 Contract clause.**

Insert the clause at 552.237–73, Restriction on Disclosure of Information, in solicitations and contracts for proposal evaluation and analysis services.

PART 538—FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULE CONTRACTING**Subpart 538.2—Establishing and Administering Federal Supply Schedules Sec.**

538.270 Evaluation of multiple award schedule (MAS) offers

538.271 MAS contract awards

538.272 MAS price reductions

538.273 Contract clauses

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 538.2—Establishing and Administering Federal Supply Schedules**538.270 Evaluation of multiple award schedule (MAS) offers.**

(a) The Government will seek to obtain the offeror’s best price (the best price given to the most favored

customer). However, the Government recognizes that the terms and conditions of commercial sales vary and there may be legitimate reasons why the best price is not achieved.

(b) Establish negotiation objectives based on a review of relevant data and determine price reasonableness.

(c) When establishing negotiation objectives and determining price reasonableness, compare the terms and conditions of the MAS solicitation with the terms and conditions of agreements with the offeror’s commercial customers. When determining the Government’s price negotiation objectives, consider the following factors:

(1) Aggregate volume of anticipated purchases.

(2) The purchase of a minimum quantity or a pattern of historic purchases.

(3) Prices taking into consideration any combination of discounts and concessions offered to commercial customers.

(4) Length of the contract period.

(5) Warranties, training, and/or maintenance included in the purchase price or provided at additional cost to the product prices.

(6) Ordering and delivery practices.

(7) Any other relevant information, including differences between the MAS solicitation and commercial terms and conditions that may warrant differentials between the offer and the discounts offered to the most favored commercial customer(s). For example, an offeror may incur more expense selling to the Government than to the customer who receives the offeror’s best price, or the customer (e.g., dealer, distributor, original equipment manufacturer, other reseller) who receives the best price may perform certain value-added functions for the offeror that the Government does not perform. In such cases, some reduction in the discount given to the Government may be appropriate. If the best price is not offered to the Government, you should ask the offeror to identify and explain the reason for any differences. Do not require offerors to provide detailed cost breakdowns.

(d) You may award a contract containing pricing which is less favorable than the best price the offeror extends to any commercial customer for similar purchases if you make a determination that both of the following conditions exist:

(1) The prices offered to the Government are fair and reasonable, even though comparable discounts were not negotiated.

(2) Award is otherwise in the best interest of the Government.

538.271 MAS contract awards.

(a) MAS awards will be for commercial items as defined in FAR 2.101. Negotiate contracts as a discount from established catalog prices.

(b) Before awarding any MAS contract, determine that the offered prices are fair and reasonable (see FAR subpart 15.4 and 538.270). Document the negotiation and your determination using FAR 15.406–3 as guidance.

(c) State clearly in the award document the price/discount relationship between the Government and the identified commercial customer (or category of customers) on which the award is predicated.

538.272 MAS price reductions.

(a) Section 552.238–75, Price Reductions, requires the contractor to maintain during the contract period the negotiated price/discount relationship (and/or term and condition relationship) between the Government and the offeror’s customer or category of customers on which the contract award was predicated (see 538.271(c)). If a change occurs in the contractor’s commercial pricing or discount arrangement applicable to the identified commercial customer (or category of customers) that results in a less advantageous relationship between the Government and this customer or category of customers, the change constitutes a “price reduction.”

(b) Make sure that the contractor understands the requirements of section 552.238–75 and agrees to report to you all price reductions as provided for in the clause.

538.273 Contract clauses.

(a) *Multiple award schedules.* Insert in solicitations and contracts:

(1) 552.238–70, Identification of Electronic Office Equipment Providing Accessibility for the Handicapped, if you include electronic office equipment items.

(2) 552.238–71, Submission and Distribution of Authorized FSS Schedule Pricelists. If GSA is not prepared to accept electronic submissions for a particular schedule delete:

(i) Subparagraphs (c)(1)(ii) and (c)(3).
(ii) The subparagraph identifier “(i)” in (c)(1) and the word “and” at the end of subparagraph (i).

(3) 552.238–72, Identification of Energy-Efficient Office Equipment and Supplies Containing Recovered Materials or Other Environmental Attributes.

- (4) 552.238-73, Cancellation.
 (b) *Multiple and single award schedules*. Insert in solicitations and contracts:
 (1) 552.238-74, Contractor's Report of Sales.
 (2) 552.238-75, Price Reductions.
 (3) 552.238-76, Industrial Funding Fee.

SUBCHAPTER G—CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

PART 542—CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION AND AUDIT SERVICES

Subpart 542.11—Production Surveillance and Reporting

Sec.
 542.1107 Contract clause.

Subpart 542.15—Contractor Performance Information

542.1503 Procedures.
 542.1503-71 Information to collect.
Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 542.11—Production Surveillance and Reporting

542.1107 Contract clause.

FSS Stock or Special Order Program

Insert 552.242-70, Status Report of Orders and Shipments, in solicitations and indefinite quantity and requirements contracts for stock or special order program items. You also may use the clause in indefinite delivery definite quantity contracts for stock or special order program items when close monitoring is necessary because numerous shipments are involved.

Subpart 542.15—Contractor Performance Information

542.1503 Procedures.

542.1503-71 Information to collect.

The system for collecting contractor performance data should include, as appropriate:

- (a) Timeliness of delivery or performance, for example:
 (1) Adherence to contract delivery schedules.
 (2) Resolution of delays
 (3) Number of "show cause" letters and "cure notices" issued.
 (4) Number of delinquent deliveries.
 (5) Number of contract extensions resulting from contractor-caused delays.
 (6) Timely submission or performance or required tests.
 (b) Conformance of product or service to contract requirements, for example:
 (1) Quality of workmanship.
 (2) Reliability.
 (3) Adequacy of correction of defects.

- (4) Number of safety defects.
 (5) Number of product rejections.
 (6) Results of laboratory tests.
 (7) Number and extent of warranty problems.
 (c) Customer comments, for example:
 (1) Number and quality of positive comments.
 (2) Number and nature of complaints.
 (3) Adequacy of resolving customer complaints.
 (d) Terminations for default.
 (e) On-the-job safety performance record, including the number of lost or restricted workdays due to occupational injuries in comparison to the national average.
 (f) Adequacy of contractor's quality assurance system.
 (g) Compliance with other key contract provisions, for example:
 (1) Subcontracting program.
 (2) Labor standards.
 (3) Safety standards.
 (4) Reporting requirements.
 (h) Exhibiting customer-oriented behavior.
 (i) Other performance elements identified by the Service.

PART 543—CONTRACT MODIFICATIONS

Subpart 543.2—Change Orders

Sec.
 543.205 Contract clauses
Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 543.2—Change Orders

543.205 Contract clauses.

- (a) *Construction*.
 (1) Insert 552.243-70, Pricing of Adjustments, in solicitations and contracts if the contract:
 (i) Amount is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.
 (ii) Will be other than a cost type.
 (2) Insert 552.243-71, Equitable Adjustments, in solicitations and contracts containing FAR 52.243-4.
 (b) *Multiple award schedules (MAS)*. Insert 552.243-72, Modifications (Multiple Award Schedule), in MAS solicitations and contracts issued by GSA. For solicitations and contracts issued under Federal Supply Classification (FSC) 65 you may use the clause with its Alternate I for products ordered from authorized Prime Vendors.

PART 546—QUALITY ASSURANCE

Subpart 546.3—Contract Clauses

Sec.
 546.302 Fixed-price supply contracts
 546.302-70 Source inspection by Quality Approved Manufacturer
 546.302-71 Source inspection
 546.312 Construction contracts

Subpart 546.4—Government Contract Quality Assurance

546.470-2 Certification testing

Subpart 546.7—Warranties

546.708 Warranties of Data
 546.710 Contract clauses
Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 546.3—Contract Clauses

546.302 Fixed-price supply contracts.

546.302-70 Source inspection by Quality Approved Manufacturer.

For contracts and solicitations issued by FSS:

(a) Insert the clause at 552.246-70, Source Inspection by Quality Approved Manufacturer, in solicitations and contracts that provide for source inspection, except:

(1) Multiple award schedule contracts.

(2) Motor vehicle contracts.

(3) Contracts awarded by the FSS Services Acquisition Center, unless you decide, together with the Central Office Quality Assurance Division (FQA), that inspection by Government personnel is necessary.

(b) You may authorize inspection and testing at manufacturing plants or other facilities located outside the United States, Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands, under paragraph (a)(1) of the clause at 552.246-70 under any of the circumstances listed in this paragraph. Coordinate the authorization with FQA and document it in the file.

(1) Inspection services are available from another Federal agency with primary inspection responsibility in the geographic area.

(2) An inspection interchange agreement exists with another agency for inspection at a contractor's plant.

(3) The procurement is for the Agency for International Development and specifies the area of source.

(4) Other considerations will ensure more economical and effective inspection consistent with the Government's interest.

546.302-71 Source inspection.

For solicitations and contracts issued by FSS, if Government personnel at the source will perform inspection, insert 552.246-71, Source Inspection by Government.

546.312 Construction contracts.

Insert the clause at 552.246-72, Final Inspection and Tests, in solicitations and contracts for construction that include FAR 52.246-12, Inspection of Construction.

Subpart 546.4—Government Contract Quality Assurance**546.470-2 Certification testing.**

Certification testing determines whether an item conforms with a specification for the purpose of executing a certificate of compliance required by the specification. The contractor has responsibility for certification testing.

Subpart 546.7—Warranties**546.708 Warranties of data.**

(a) Use warranties of data only when you meet both of the following conditions:

- (1) You decide the use of a warranty is in the Government's interest.
- (2) The contracting director concurs in your decision.

(b) The technical or specification manager has responsibility for developing any warranties of data.

546.710 Contract clauses.

(a) Insert the clause at 552.246-17, Warranty of Supplies of a Noncomplex Nature, instead of FAR 52.246-17 in solicitations and contracts. Use the following alternates as applicable:

(1) *Commercial item acquisitions other than multiple award schedules.* Use the clause at 552.246-17 with its Alternate I.

(2) *Other than commercial items in Class 8010.* Use the clause at 552.246-17 with its Alternate II.

(3) *Other than commercial items in Class 8030 or 8040.* Use the clause at 552.246-17 with its Alternate III. In addition, specify in the solicitation whether the items are "noncritical end use items" or "critical end use items".

(b) *Multiple award schedules, except international schedules.* Insert the clause at 552.246-73, Warranty—Multiple Award Schedule, in solicitations and contracts.

(c) *International multiple award schedules.* Insert the clause at 552.246-74, Warranty—International Multiple Award Schedule, in solicitations and contracts.

(d) *Construction contracts expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold.* Insert the clause at 552.246-75, Guarantees, in solicitations and contracts.

(e) *Pesticides.* Insert the clause at 552.246-76, Warranty of Pesticides, in solicitations and contracts involving the procurement of pesticides.

PART 547—TRANSPORTATION**Subpart 547.3—Transportation in Supply Contracts**

Sec.

547.300 Scope of subpart

547.303 Standard delivery terms and contract clauses

547.303-1 F.o.b origin

547.304 Determination of delivery terms

547.304-5 Exceptions

547.305 Solicitation provisions, contract clauses, and transportation factors

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 547.3—Transportation in Supply Contracts**547.300 Scope of subpart.**

This subpart applies to FSS acquisitions.

547.303 Standard delivery terms and contract clauses.**547.303-1 F.o.b origin.****Contractor Responsibilities**

The contractor must both:

(a) Request a carrier routing from the applicable transportation zone office on all shipments weighing 10,000 pounds or more.

(b) Mail the original of the commercial bill of lading (CBL), to the office that authorized the CBL (applies to shipment on a CBL). Ensure that the signature of the carrier's agent and the annotation required by FAR 52.247-1 appear on the original and all copies of the CBL.

547.304 Determination of delivery terms.**547.304-5 Exceptions.**

(a) *Solicitations that provide for delivery to Alaska, Hawaii, or Puerto Rico.* Include notice that the offeror may specify delivery f.o.b. origin; f.o.b. vessel, part of shipment; f.o.b. destination; or any combination of these. If appropriate, provide for other delivery terms.

(b) *Federal Supply Schedules.* If f.o.b. destination is offered for delivery within CONUS, attempt to obtain the same delivery term for shipment to Alaska, Hawaii, or Puerto Rico.

547.305 Solicitation provisions, contract clauses, and transportation factors.

(a) Insert 552.247-70, Placarding Railcar Shipments, in solicitations and contracts if it is essential that the railcar doors be especially positioned next to the unloading dock, platform, or warehouse door.

(b) Insert 552.247-71, Diversion of Shipment Under f.o.b. Destination Contracts, in Stock, Special Order Program (SOP), and Single Award Schedule solicitations and contracts

which provide for f.o.b. destination shipment.

PART 549—TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS**Subpart 549.5—Contract Termination Clauses**

Sec.

549.502 Termination for convenience of the Government

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 549.5—Contract Termination Clauses**549.502 Termination for convenience of the Government.****Acquisitions Funded Through the Information Technology (IT) Fund**

(a) You may use the clause at 552.249-70, Termination for Convenience of the Government (Fixed-Price) (Short Form), when appropriate, in solicitations and contracts for the acquisition and maintenance of telephone systems funded through the Information Technology (IT) Fund. Use this clause with FAR 52.249-1 or FAR 52.249-3 and 52.249-4.

(b) If you use the clause at 552.249-70, you must also insert 552.249-71, Submission of Termination Liability Schedule, in the solicitation and contract.

SUBCHAPTER H CLAUSES AND FORMS**PART 552 SOLICITATION PROVISIONS AND CONTRACT CLAUSES**

552.000 Scope of part

Subpart 552.1—Instructions for Using Provisions and Clauses

552.101-70 Using Part 552

552.102 Incorporating provisions and clauses

552.103 Identification of provisions and clauses

552.104 Procedures for modifying and completing provisions and clauses

552.105 Procedures for using alternates

552.107-70 Provisions and clauses prescribed in subpart 552.1

Subpart 552.2—Text of Provisions and Clauses

552.200 Scope of subpart

552.203-5 Covenant Against Contingent Fees

552.203-70 Price Adjustment for Illegal or Improper Activity

552.203-71 Restriction on Advertising

552.209-70 Product Removal from Qualified Products List

552.209-71 Waiver of First Article Testing and Approval Requirement

552.209-72 Supplemental Requirements for First Article Approval—Contractor Testing

552.209-73 Supplemental Requirements for First Article Approval—Government Testing

- 552.211-8 Time of Delivery
552.211-70 Brand Name or Equal
552.211-71 Standard References
552.211-72 Reference to Specifications in Drawings
552.211-73 Marking
552.211-74 Charges for Marking
552.211-75 Preservation, Packaging and Packing
552.211-76 Charges for Packaging and Packing
552.211-77 Packing List
552.211-78 Commercial Delivery Schedule (Multiple Award Schedule)
552.211-79 Acceptable Age of Supplies
552.211-80 Age on Delivery
552.211-81 Time of Shipment
552.211-82 Notice of Shipment
552.211-83 Availability for Inspection, Testing, and Shipment/Delivery
552.211-84 Non-Compliance with Contract Requirements
552.212-70 Preparation of Offer (Multiple Award Schedule)
552.212-71 Contract Terms and Conditions Applicable to GSA Acquisition of Commercial Items
552.212-72 Contract Terms and Conditions Required to Implement Statutes or Executive Orders Applicable to GSA Acquisition of Commercial Items
552.212-73 Evaluation—Commercial Items (Multiple Award Schedule)
552.214-70 "All or None" Offers
552.214-71 Progressive Awards and Monthly Quantity Allocations
552.214-72 Bid Sample Requirements
552.215-70 Examination of Records by GSA
552.215-71 Examination of Records by GSA (Multiple Award Schedule)
552.215-72 Price Adjustment—Failure to Provide Accurate Information
552.216-70 Economic Price Adjustment—FSS Multiple Award Schedule Contracts
552.216-71 Economic Price Adjustment—Stock and Special Order Program Contracts
552.216-72 Placement of Orders
552.216-73 Ordering Information
552.217-70 Evaluation of Options
552.217-71 Notice Regarding Option(s)
552.219-70 Allocation of Orders—Partially Set-aside Items
552.219-71 Notice to Offerors of Subcontracting Plan Requirements
552.219-72 Preparation, Submission, and Negotiation of Subcontracting Plans
552.219-73 Goals for Subcontracting Plan
552.219-74 Section 8(a) Direct Award
552.223-70 Hazardous Substances
552.223-71 Nonconforming Hazardous Materials
552.223-72 Hazardous Material Information
552.225-8 Buy American Act—Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program Certificate
552.225-9 Buy American Act—Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program
552.225-70 Notice of Procurement Restriction—Hand or Measuring Tools or Stainless Steel Flatware
552.227-70 Government Rights (Unlimited)
552.227-71 Drawings and Other Data to Become Property of Government
552.228-70 Workers' Compensation Laws
552.229-70 Federal, State, and Local Taxes
552.229-71 Federal Excise Tax—DC Government
552.232-1 Payments
552.232-8 Discounts for Prompt Payment
552.232-23 Assignment of Claims
552.232-25 Prompt Payment
552.232-70 Invoice Requirements
552.232-71 Adjusting Payments
552.232-72 Final Payment
552.232-73 Availability of Funds
552.232-74 Invoice Payments
552.232-75 Prompt Payment
552.232-76 Electronic Funds Transfer Payment
552.232-77 Payment By Credit Card
552.233-70 Protests Filed Directly with the General Services Administration
552.236-70 Definitions
552.236-71 Authorities and Limitations
552.236-72 Specialist
552.236-73 Basis of Award—Construction Contract
552.236-74 Working Hours
552.236-75 Use of Premises
552.236-76 Measurements
552.236-77 Specifications and Drawings
552.236-78 Shop Drawings, Coordination Drawings, and Schedules
552.236-79 Samples
552.236-80 Heat
552.236-81 Use of Equipment by the Government
552.236-82 Subcontracts
552.236-83 Requirement for a Project Labor Agreement
552.237-70 Qualifications of Offerors
552.237-71 Qualifications of Employees
552.237-72 Prohibition Regarding "Quasi-Military Armed forces."
552.237-73 Restriction on Disclosure of Information
552.238-70 Identification of Electronic Office Equipment Providing Accessibility for the Handicapped
552.238-71 Submission and Distribution of Authorized FSS Schedule Pricelists
552.238-72 Identification of Energy-Efficient Office Equipment and Supplies Containing Recovered Materials or Other Environmental Attributes
552.238-73 Cancellation
552.238-74 Contractor's Report of Sales
552.238-75 Price Reductions
552.238-76 Industrial Funding Fee
552.242-70 Status Report of Orders and Shipments
552.243-70 Price of Adjustments
552.243-71 Equitable Adjustments
552.243-72 Modifications (Multiple Award Schedule)
552.246-17 Warranty of Supplies of a Noncomplex Nature
552.246-70 Source Inspection by Quality Approved Manufacturer
552.246-71 Source Inspection by Government
552.246-72 Final Inspection and Tests
552.246-73 Warranty—Multiple Award Schedule
552.246-74 Warranty—International Multiple Award Schedule
552.246-75 Guarantees
552.246-76 Warranty of Pesticides
552.247-70 Placarding Railcar Shipments
552.247-71 Diversion of Shipment Under f.o.b. Destination Contracts
552.249-70 Termination for Convenience of the Government (Fixed Price) (Short Form)
552.249-71 Submission of Termination Liability Schedule
552.252-5 Authorized Deviations in Provisions
552.252-6 Authorized Deviations in Clauses
552.270-1 Instructions to Offerors—Acquisition of Leasehold Interest in Real Property
552.270-2 Historic Preference
552.270-3 Parties to Execute Lease
552.270-4 Definitions
552.270-5 Subletting and Assignment
552.270-6 Maintenance of Building and Premises—Right of Entry
552.270-7 Fire and Casualty Damage
552.270-8 Compliance with Applicable Law
552.270-9 Inspection—Right of Entry
552.270-10 Failure in Performance
552.270-11 Successors Bound
552.270-12 Alterations
552.270-13 Proposals for Adjustment
552.270-14 Changes
552.270-15 Liquidated Damages
552.270-16 Adjustment for Vacant Premises
552.270-17 Delivery and Condition
552.270-18 Default in Delivery—Time Extensions
552.270-19 Progressive Occupancy
552.270-20 Payment
552.270-21 Effect of Acceptance and Occupancy
552.270-22 Default by Lessor During the Term
552.270-23 Subordination, Nondisturbance and Attornment
552.270-24 Statement of Lease
552.270-25 Substitution of Tenant Agency
552.270-26 No Waiver
552.270-27 Integrated Agreement
552.270-28 Mutuality of Obligation
552.270-29 Acceptance of Space
- 552.000 Scope of part.**
This part provides the text of provisions and clauses which are unique to GSA or supplement the FAR.
- Subpart 552.1—Instructions for Using Provisions and Clauses**
- 552.101-70 Using Part 552.**
(a) *Definition.* "Clause," as used in this subpart, means provision or clause as defined in FAR 52.101(a).
(b) *Numbering.*
(1) Clauses which are "substantially" the same as FAR clauses and clauses to be used instead of FAR clauses are identified as follows:
(i) The clause has the same title as a clause in the FAR.
(ii) The number 5 precedes the clause.
(iii) The clause appears under the same subsection number and caption as in the FAR.

(2) Supplemental clauses are numbered in the same manner as the FAR, except:

(i) The chapter number precedes the clause.

(ii) The subsection numbers begin with 70.

(iii) The clauses are sequentially numbered, e.g., 552.232-70, 552.232-71, etc.

552.102 Incorporating provisions and clauses.

You may incorporate clauses prescribed in the GSAR for solicitations and contracts by reference.

552.103 Identification of provisions and clauses.

Deviations. If the GSAR prescribes a class deviation from a FAR clause, identify the clause by the GSAR citation (e.g., 552.232-8 PROMPT PAYMENT DISCOUNT (NOV 1987) (DEVIATION FAR 552.232-8)).

552.104 Procedures for modifying and completing provisions and clauses.

(a) The procedures in FAR 52.104 apply when you modify or complete a GSAR provision or clause. Provisions and clauses shall not be modified unless the GSAR authorizes their modification.

(b) You do not need to identify modifications of clauses which result from negotiations unless you issue an amendment to the solicitation.

(c) In general, you should modify FAR or GSAR clauses only for individual cases. If a contracting activity develops a modification for repeated use, furnish a copy to the Office of GSA Acquisition Policy (MV) for potential inclusion in the GSAR.

552.105 Procedures for using alternates.

The procedures in FAR 52.105 apply to GSAR part 552.

552.107-70 Provisions and clauses prescribed in subpart 552.1.

(a) Insert the provision at 552.252-5, Authorized Deviations in Provisions, in solicitation that include any FAR or GSAR clause with an authorized deviation. You must use this provision in lieu of the FAR provision at 552.252-5.

(b) Insert the clause at 552.252-6, Authorized Deviations in Clauses, in solicitations and contracts that include any FAR or GSAR clause with an authorized deviation. You must use this clause in lieu of the FAR clause at 52.252-6.

Subpart 552.2—Text of Provisions and Clauses

552.200 Scope of subpart.

This subpart sets forth the text of all GSAR provisions and clauses. It also cross-references the location in the GSAR that prescribes the use of each provision and clause.

552.203-5 Covenant Against Contingent Fees.

As prescribed in 502.404, insert the following clause:

Covenant Against Contingent Fees (Feb 1990)

(a) The Contractor warrants that no person or agency has been employed or retained to solicit or obtain this contract upon an agreement or understanding for a contingent fee, except a bona fide employee or agency. For breach or violation of this warrant, the Government shall have the right to annul this contract without liability or, in its discretion, to deduct from the contract price or consideration, or otherwise recover the full amount of the contingent fee.

(b) "Bona fide agency," as used in this clause, means an established commercial or selling agency (including licensed real estate agents or brokers), maintained by a Contractor for the purpose of securing business, that neither exerts nor proposes to exert improper influence to solicit or obtain Government contracts nor holds itself out as being able to obtain any Government contract or contracts through improper influence.

"Bona fide employee," as used in this clause, means a person, employed by a Contractor and subject to the Contractor's supervision and control as to time, place, and manner of performance, who neither exerts nor proposes to exert improper influence to solicit or obtain Government contracts nor holds out as being able to obtain any Government contract or contracts through improper influence.

"Contingent fee," as used in this clause, means any commission, percentage, brokerage, or other fee that is contingent upon the success that a person or concern has in securing a Government contract.

"Improper influence," as used in this clause, means any influence that induces or tends to induce a Government employee or officer to give consideration or to act regarding a Government contract on any basis other than the merits of the matter.

(End of clause)

552.203-70 Price Adjustment for Illegal or Improper Activity.

As prescribed in 503.104-9, insert the following clause:

Price Adjustment for Illegal or Improper Activity (Sep 1999)

(a) If the head of the contracting activity (HCA) or his or her designee determines that there was a violation of subsection 27(a) of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act, as amended (41 U.S.C. 423), as implemented in the Federal Acquisition Regulation, the Government, at its election, may—

(1) Reduce the monthly rental under this lease by 5 percent of the amount of the rental for each month of the remaining term of the lease, including any option periods, and recover 5 percent of the rental already paid;

(2) Reduce payments for alterations not included in monthly rental payments by 5 percent of the amount of the alterations agreement; or

(3) Reduce the payments for violations by a Lessor's subcontractor by an amount not to exceed the amount of profit or fee reflected in the subcontract at the time the subcontract was placed.

(b) Prior to making a determination as set forth above, the HCA or designee shall provide to the Lessor a written notice of the action being considered and the basis therefor. The Lessor shall have a period determined by the agency head or designee, but not less than 30 calendar days after receipt of such notice, to submit in person, in writing, or through a representative, information and argument in opposition to the proposed reduction. The agency head or designee may, upon good cause shown, determine to deduct less than the above amounts from payments.

(c) The rights and remedies of the Government specified herein are not exclusive, and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this lease.

(End of clause)

552.203-71 Restriction on Advertising.

As prescribed in 503.570-2, insert the following clause:

Restriction on Advertising (Sep 1999)

The Contractor shall not refer to this contract in commercial advertising or similar promotions in such a manner as to state or imply that the product or service provided is endorsed or preferred by the White House, the Executive Office of the President, or any other element of the Federal Government, or is considered by these entities to be superior to other products or services. Any advertisement by the Contractor, including price-off coupons, that refers to a military resale activity shall contain the following statement: "This advertisement is neither paid for nor sponsored, in whole or in part, by any element of the United States Government."

(End of clause)

552.209-70 Produce Removal from Qualified Products List.

As prescribed in 509.206-2, insert the following clause:

Product Removal From Qualified Products List (Sep 1999)

If, during the performance of this contract, the product being furnished is for any reason (except those outlined in paragraph 3.1.1 of the applicable Federal or Interim Federal Specification for security cabinets, security vault doors and changeable combination padlocks) removed from the Qualified Products List, the Government may terminate this contract for default.

(End of clause)

552.209-71 Waiver of First Article Testing and Approval Requirement.

As prescribed in 509.306, insert the following provision:

Waiver of First Article Testing and Approval Requirement (Sep 1999)

(a) Offerors must submit an offer including testing and approval, however, an offeror may submit an alternate offer excluding testing and approval, provided the offeror satisfies the requirements for the waiving of first article testing.

(b) Before a waiver of the first article testing requirement of this solicitation will be considered, the offeror is requested to identify the procurement under which the product offered was previously approved and accepted:

(Offeror to insert both contract number and applicable national stock number.)

(End of provision)

552.209-72 Supplemental Requirements for First Article Approval—Contractor Testing.

As prescribed in 509.308-1, insert the following clause:

Supplemental Requirements for First Article Approval—Contractor Testing (Sep 1999)

(a) The term "Contracting Officer" as used in FAR 52.209-3, First Article Approval—Contractor Testing, means the Administrative Contracting Officer (ACO).

(b) The Contractor shall have either (1) the necessary inspection and test equipment at the Contractor's plant to perform first article testing, or (2) if the inspection and test equipment is not available, a letter of commitment from a laboratory acceptable to the Government to perform the inspection and testing.

(c) When the Government elects to witness the first article testing, the Contractor shall conduct the testing between the hours of 7:00 AM and 5:00 PM, Monday thru Friday, unless a different time is agreed to by the ACO.

(d) The first article test report shall contain:

- (1) The complete test data, the test method(s) used and date of test;
- (2) Signature and printed name of the individual who performed the inspection;
- (3) Applicable specification/CID and/or drawing numbers;
- (4) Name and type of test equipment used; and
- (5) All numerical values as a result of testing with each noted as to whether it passes or fails the contract test requirements.

(e) The first article shall be retained by the Contractor as the manufacturing standard and will be kept in a secure area, under control of the Quality Assurance Specialist (QAS), to protest against possible changes or alterations for the life of the contract. If the first article sample is destroyed during testing or damaged to a point making it unusable as a standard, the Contractor, upon Government request, shall provide a second sample.

(f) If the Contractor delivers the approved first article as part of the contract quantity, it shall be in the last scheduled delivery under the contract.

(End of clause)

552.209-73 Supplemental Requirements for First Article Approval—Government Testing.

As prescribed in 509.308-2, insert the following clause:

Supplemental Requirements for First Article Approval—Government Testing (Sep 1999)

(a) The term "Contracting Officer" as used in FAR 52.209-4, First Article Approval—Government Testing, means the Administrative Contracting Officer (ACO).

(b) The first article shall be retained by the Contractor as the manufacturing standard and will be kept in a secure area, under the control of the Quality Assurance Specialist (QAS) to protect against possible changes or alterations for the life of the contract. If the first article sample is destroyed during testing or damaged to a point making it unusable as a standard, the Contractor, upon Government request, shall provide a second sample.

(c) If the Contractor deliver the approved first article as part of the contract quantity, it shall be in the last scheduled delivery under the contract.

(End of clause)

552.211-8 Time of Delivery.

As prescribed in 511.404(a)(1) insert the following clause:

Time of Delivery (Sep 1999)

(a) The time of delivery for each item means the time required after receipt of an order (1) to make delivery to a destination in the case of delivered prices, or (2) to place shipment in transit in the case of f.o.b. origin prices.

(b) Delivery is required to be made at the point(s) specified within ____ days after receipt of order.

(End of clause)

Alternate 1 (SEP 1999). It is necessary to show different delivery times for different items or groups of items, the Contracting Officer may substitute the following paragraph (b) for paragraph (b) of the basis clause.

(b) Delivery is required to be made at the point(s) specified within the number of calendar days after receipt of order as indicated below:

Items or groups of items (Special Item Numbers or Nomenclature)	Required delivery time (DAYS ARO)

552.211-70 Brand Name or Equal.

As prescribed in 511.170-3(c), insert the following provision:

Brand Name or Equal (Feb 1996)

(As used in this clause, the term "brand name" includes identification of products by make and model.)

(a) Identification of items in this solicitation by a "brand name or equal" description is intended to indicate the quality and characteristics of products that will be satisfactory and is not intended to be restrictive. Offers of "equal" products (including products of the brand name manufacturer other than the one described by brand name) will be considered for award if such products are clearly identified in the offers and are determined by the Government to meet fully the salient characteristics requirements listed in the solicitation.

(b) Unless clearly indicated in the offer than an "equal" product is offered, the offer shall be considered as offering a referenced brand name product.

(c)(1) An offeror proposing to furnish an "equal" product shall insert the name of the product in the space provided in the solicitation or otherwise clearly the product. The Government's determination as to the acceptability of the "equal" product shall be based on information furnished or otherwise identified in the offer as well as other information reasonably available to the purchasing activity. CAUTION TO OFFERORS. The purchasing activity is not responsible for locating or securing any information not identified in the offer and reasonably available to the purchasing activity. Accordingly, to ensure that sufficient information is available, the offeror must furnish with its offer all descriptive material (such as cuts, illustrations, drawings, or other information) necessary for the purchasing activity to (i) determine whether the product offered meets the special salient characteristics, and (ii) establish exactly what the offeror proposes to furnish. The information furnished may include specific references to information previously furnished or otherwise reasonably available to the purchasing activity.

(2) An offeror proposing to modify a product to make it conform to the requirements of the solicitation shall (i) include in its offer a clear description of the proposed modifications and (ii) clearly mark any descriptive material to show the proposed modifications.

(3) In sealed bidding, modifications proposed after bid opening to make a product conform to a brand name product referenced in the solicitation will not be considered. (End of provision)

552.211-71 Standard References.

As prescribed in 511.204(a), insert the following clause:

Standard References (Sep 1999)

(a) All documents and publications (such as, but not limited to, manuals, handbooks, codes, standards and specifications) cited in this contract for the purpose of establishing requirements applicable to equipment, materials, or workmanship under this contract, shall be deemed to be incorporated herein as fully as if printed and bound with the specifications of this contract, in accordance with the following:

(1) Wherever reference is made to Standard Specifications of the Public Buildings Service, Interim Federal Specifications, Interim Amendments to Federal Specifications, Interim Federal Standards, or Interim Amendments to Federal Standards, the Contractor shall comply with the requirements set out in the issue or edition identified in this contract.

(2) Wherever reference is made to any such document other than those specified in subparagraph (1) above, the Contractor shall comply with the requirements set out in the edition specified in this contract, or if not specified, the latest edition or revision thereof, as well as the latest amendment or supplement thereto, in effect on the date of the solicitation on this project, except as modified by, as otherwise provided in, or as limited to type, class or grade, by the specifications of this contract.

(b) Upon request the Contractor shall make available at the job site within a reasonable time, a copy of each trade manual and standard which is incorporated by reference in this contract and which governs quality and workmanship.

(End of clause)

552.211-72 Reference to Specifications in Drawings.

As prescribed in 511.204(b), insert the following clause:

References to Specifications in Drawings (Feb 1996)

If military or other drawings are made a part of this contract, any reference in the drawings to Federal specifications or standards will be considered to be a reference to the date of such Federal specification or standard identified in the contract. If the date of the Federal specification or standard is not identified in the contract, the edition, including revisions thereto, in effect on the date the solicitation is issued will apply.

(End of clause)

552.211-73 Marking.

As prescribed in 511.204(c)(1), insert the following clause:

Marking (Feb 1996)

(a) *General requirements.* Interior packages, if any, and exterior shipping containers shall be marked as specified elsewhere in the contract. Additional marking requirements may be specified on delivery orders issued under the contract. If not otherwise specified, interior packages and exterior shipping containers shall be marked in accordance with the following standards:

(1) *Deliveries to civilian activities.* Supplies shall be marked in accordance with Federal Standard 123, edition in effect on the date of issuance of the solicitation.

(2) *Deliveries to military activities.* Supplies shall be marked in accordance with

Military Standard 129, edition in effect on the date of issuance of the solicitation.

(b) *Improperly marked material.* When Government inspection and acceptance are at destination, and delivered supplies are not marked in accordance with contract requirements, the Government has the right, without prior notice to the Contractor, to perform the required marking, by contract or otherwise, and charge the Contractor therefor at the rate specified elsewhere in this contract. This right is not exclusive, and is in addition to other rights or remedies provided for in this contract.

(End of clause)

552.211-74 Charges for Marking.

As prescribed in 511.204(c)(2), insert a clause substantially as follows:

Charges for Marking (Feb 1996)

The rate provided for in paragraph (b) of 552.211-73, Marking, is \$_____ * per man-hour or fraction thereof.

(End of clause)

* *The rate to be inserted in the above clause shall be determined and published by the Commissioner, Federal Supply Service, or a designee.*

552.211-75 Preservation, Packaging and Packing.

As prescribed in 511.204(c)(3), insert the following clause:

Preservation, Packaging, and Packing (Feb 1996)

Unless otherwise specified, all items shall be preserved, packaged, and packed in accordance with normal commercial practices, as defined in the applicable commodity specification. Packaging and packing shall comply with the requirements of the Uniform Freight Classification and the National Motor Freight Classification (issue in effect at time of shipment) and each shipping container of each item in a shipment shall be of uniform size and content, except for residual quantities. Where special or unusual packing is specified in an order, but not specifically provided for by the contract, such packing details must be the subject of an agreement independently arrived at between the ordering agency and the Contractor.

(End of clause)

552.211-76 Charges for Packaging and Packing.

As prescribed in 511.204(c)(4), insert a clause substantially as follows:

Charges for Packaging and Packing (Feb. 1996)

If supplies shipped to a GSA wholesale distribution center are not packaged and packed in accordance with contract requirements, the Government has the right, without prior notice to the Contractor, to

perform the required repackaging/repacking, by contract or otherwise, and charge the Contractor therefor at the rate of \$_____ * per man-hour or fraction thereof. The Contractor will also be charged for material costs, if incurred. This right is not exclusive, and is in addition to other rights or remedies provided for in this contract.

(End of clause)

* *The rate to be inserted in the above clause shall be determined by the Commissioner, Federal Supply Service, or a designee.*

552.211-77 Packing List.

As prescribed in 511.204(d), insert the following clause:

Packing List (Feb. 1996)

(a) A packing list or other suitable shipping document shall accompany each shipment and shall indicate:

- (1) Name and address of the consignor;
- (2) Name and complete address of the consignee;
- (3) Government order or requisition number;
- (4) Government bill of lading number covering the shipment (if any); and
- (5) Description of the material shipped, including item number, quantity, number of containers, and package number (if any).

(b) When payment will be made by Government commercial credit card, in addition to the information in (a) above, the packing list or shipping document shall include:

- (1) Cardholder name and telephone number and
- (2) The term "Credit Card."

(End of clause)

552.211-78 Commercial Delivery Schedule (Multiple Award Schedule).

As prescribed in 511.404(a)(2), insert the following clause:

Commercial Delivery Schedule (Multiple Award Schedule) (Feb. 1996)

(a) *Time of Delivery.* The Contractor shall deliver to destination within the number of calendar days after receipt of order (ARO) in the case of F.O.B. Destination prices, or to place of shipment in transit in the case of F.O.B. Origin prices, as set forth below. Offerors shall insert in the "Time of Delivery (days ARO)" column in the schedule of Items a definite number of calendar days within which delivery will be made. In no case shall the offered delivery time exceed the Contractor's normal commercial practice. The Government requires the Contractor's normal commercial delivery time, as long as it is less than the "STATED" delivery time(s) shown below. If the Offeror does not insert a delivery time in the schedule of items, the Offeror will be deemed to offer delivery in accordance with the Government's stated delivery time as stated below:

Items or group of items (Special Item Number or Nomenclature)	Government's stated delivery time (days ARO)	Contractor's normal com- mercial deliv- ery time

(b) *Expedited Delivery Times.* For those items that can be delivered quicker than the delivery times in paragraph (a), above, the Offeror is requested to insert below, a time (hours/days ARO) that delivery can be made when expedited delivery is requested.

Item or group of items (Special Item Number or Nomenclature)	Expedited delivery time (HOURS/ DAYS ARO)

(c) *Overnight and 2-Day Delivery Times.* Ordering activities may require overnight or 2-day delivery. The Offeror is requested to annotate its price list or by separate attachment identify the items that can be delivered overnight or within 2 days. Contractors offering such delivery services will be required to state in the cover sheet to its FSS price list details concerning this service.

(End of clause)

552.211-79 Acceptable Age of Supplies.

As prescribed in 511.404(a)(3)(i), insert the following clause:

Acceptable Age of Supplies (Feb. 1996)

The supplies furnished under this contract shall not be more than ___ months old, beginning with the first full month after the date of manufacture marked on the container. For the purpose of this clause, supplies shall be considered to be furnished (1) when they are offered to the Government for inspection and testing, or (2) on the date of shipment if shipment is authorized to be made without prior inspection by the Government. If the age of the supplies furnished under this contract is greater than the specified period, the Government may exercise its right to reject the supplies.

(End of clause)

Alternate I (FEB 1996). For items having a limited shelf-life, the sentence below should be substituted for the first sentence of the basic clause when authorized:

The supplies furnished under this contract shall not be more than ___ days old, beginning with the date of manufacture (month, day, year) marked on the container.

552.211-80 Age on Delivery.

As prescribed in 511.404(a)(3)(ii) insert the following clause:

Age on Delivery (Feb. 1996)

Included in the description of each shelf-life item is a statement regarding the "age on

delivery." The age of the item(s) shall not exceed the number of months shown in the item description, counted from the first day of the month after the month of manufacture to the date of delivery to the specified delivery point(s). If the age of the supplies delivered under this contract is greater than the number of months shown, the Government may exercise its right to reject the supplies.

(End of clause)

552.211-81 Time of Shipment.

As prescribed in 511.404(a)(4), insert the following clause:

Time of Shipment (Feb. 1996)

Shipment is required within ___ calendar days after receipt of order.

(End of clause)

Alternate I (FEB 1996). If the contract will require shipment more than 45 calendar days after receipt of the order, the following paragraph should be added to the basic clause.

Each delivery order will specify that shipment is required no later than the number of days shown above. If such order also states that "Early Shipment is Precluded," the Contractor agrees to make shipment no sooner than ___ calendar days after receipt of order. Earlier shipments may result in nonacceptance of the supplies at the delivery point at the time of arrival.

(The second number to be inserted should be 15 calendar days less than the first number.)

552.211-82 Notice of Shipment.

As prescribed in 511.404(a)(5), insert the following clause:

Notice of Shipment (Feb 1996)

If specified in an order placed under this contract, the Contractor shall, at the time each shipment is made on such order, furnish a notice of shipment to either the consignee or the ordering office or both, as specified. This requirement may be satisfied by completion and return of appropriate forms furnished by the ordering office or by the furnishing of copies of bills of lading, freight bills, or similar documents in accordance with normal commercial practice if such document clearly identifies the order number, items and quantities shipped, date of shipment, point of origin, method of shipment and routing, and the name of initial carrier.

(End of clause)

552.211-83 Availability for Inspection, Testing, and Shipment/Delivery.

As prescribed in 511.404(a)(6), insert the following clause:

Availability for Inspection, Testing, and Shipment/Delivery (Feb 1996)

(a) The Government requires that the supplies be made available for inspection and testing within ___*___ calendar days after receipt of [Insert "Notice of Award" or "order"], and be [Insert "shipped" or "delivered"] within ___*___ calendar days after receipt of (1) notice of approval and release by the Government inspector or (2) authorization to ship without Government inspection.

(b) Failure to make supplies available for inspection and testing or to [Insert "ship" or "deliver"] as required by this clause may result in termination of this contract for default.

(End of clause)

Alternate I (Feb. 1996). If the contract is for stock items, the Contracting Officer shall insert "shipped" or "ship" in the basic clause, add the following paragraph (b) and redesignate paragraph (b) of the basic clause as paragraph (c).

(b) If notice of approval and release by the Government inspector or authorization to ship without Government inspection is received before ___*___ calendar days after receipt of the [Insert "Notice of Award" or "order"], receipt of such notice shall be deemed to be received on the ___*___ calendar day after receipt of [Insert "Notice of Award" or "order"]. Shipments shall not be made before the ___*___ calendar day after receipt of the [Insert "Notice of Award" or "order"] unless authorized in writing by the Contracting Officer.

*Entries are normally the same number of days specified for availability.

552.211-84 Non-Compliance With Contract Requirements.

As prescribed in 511.404(b), insert the following clause:

Non-Compliance With Contract Requirements (Feb 1996)

In the event the Contractor, after receiving written notice from the Contracting Officer of non-compliance with any requirement of this contract, fails to initiate promptly such action as may be appropriate to comply with the specified requirement within a reasonable period of time, the Contracting Officer shall have the right to order the Contractor to stop any or all work under the contract until the Contractor has complied or has initiated such action as may be appropriate to comply within a reasonable period of time. The Contractor will not be

entitled to any extension of contract time or payment for any costs incurred as a result of being ordered to stop work for such cause.

(End of clause)

552.212-70 Preparation of Offer (Multiple Award Schedule).

As prescribed in 512.301(a)(1), insert the following clause:

Preparation of Offer (Multiple Award Schedule) (Aug 1997)

(a) Definitions. *Concession*, as used in this solicitation, means a benefit, enhancement or privilege (other than a discount), which either reduces the overall cost of a customer's acquisition or encourages a customer to consummate a purchase. Concessions include, but are not limited to freight allowance, extended warranty, extended price guarantees, free installation and bonus goods.

Discount, as used in this solicitation, means a reduction to catalog prices (published or unpublished). Discounts include, but are not limited to, rebates, quantity discounts, purchase option credits, and any other terms or conditions other than concessions which reduce the amount of money a customer ultimately pays for goods or services ordered or received. Any net price lower than the list price is considered a "discount" by the percentage difference from the list price to the net price.

(b) For each Special Item Number (SIN) included in an offer, the Offeror shall provide the information outlined in paragraph (c). Offerors may provide a single response covering more than one SIN, if the information disclosed is the same for all products under each SIN. If discounts and concessions vary by model or product line, offerors shall ensure that information is clearly annotated as to item or items referenced.

(c) Provide information described below for each SIN:

(1) Two copies of the offeror's current published (dated or otherwise identified) commercial descriptive catalogs and/or price list(s) from which discounts are offered. If special catalogs or price lists are printed for the purpose of this offer, such descriptive catalogs or price lists shall include a statement indicating the special catalog or price list represent a verbatim extract from the Offeror's commercial catalog and/or price list and identify the descriptive catalog and/or price list from which the information has been extracted.

(2) Next to each offered item in the commercial catalog and/or price list, the Offeror shall write the special item number (SIN) under which the item is being offered. Unless a special catalog or price list is submitted, all other items shall be marked "excluded," lined out, and initiated by the offeror.

(3) The discount(s) offered under this solicitation. The description of discounts offered shall include all discounts, such as prompt payment discounts, quantity/dollar volume discounts (indicate whether models/products can be combined within the SIN or whether SINs can be combined to earn discounts), blanket purchase agreement

discounts, or purchase option credits. If the terms of sale appearing in the commercial catalogs or price list on which an offer is based are in conflict with the terms of this solicitation, the latter shall govern.

(4) A description of concessions offered under this solicitation which are not granted to other customers. Such concessions may include, but are not limited to, an extended warranty, a return/exchange goods policy, or enhanced or additional services.

(5) If the Offeror is a dealer/reseller or the Offeror will use dealers to perform any aspect of contract awarded under this solicitation, describe the functions, if any, that the dealer/reseller will perform.

(End of clause)

552.212-71 Contract Terms and Conditions Applicable to GSA Acquisition of Commercial Items.

As prescribed in 512.301(a)(2), insert the following clause:

Contract Terms and Conditions Applicable to GSA Acquisition of Commercial Items (Sep 1999)

The Contractor agrees to comply with any provision or clause that is incorporated herein by reference to implement agency policy applicable to acquisition of commercial items or components. The provision or clause in effect based on the applicable regulation cited on the date the solicitation is issued applies unless otherwise stated herein. The following provisions and clauses are incorporated by reference:

[The contracting officer should either check the provisions and clauses that apply or delete the provisions and clauses that do not apply from the list. The contracting officer may add the date of the provision or clause if desired for clarity.]

(a) Provisions.

___ 552.237-70 Qualifications of Offerors

(b) Clauses.

___ 552.203-71 Restriction on Advertising
 ___ 552.211-73 Marking
 ___ 552.2215-70 Examination of Records by GSA
 ___ 552.215-71 Examination of Records by GSA (Multiple Award Schedule)
 ___ 552.215-72 Price Adjustment—Failure to Provide Accurate Information
 ___ 552.219-70 Allocation of Orders—Partially Set-Aside Items
 ___ 552.228-70 Workers' Compensation Laws
 ___ 552.229-70 Federal, State, and Local Taxes
 ___ 552.232-8 Discounts for Prompt Payment
 ___ 552.232-23 Assignment of Claims
 ___ 552.232-71 Adjusting Payments
 ___ 552.232-72 Final Payment
 ___ 552.232-73 Availability of Funds
 ___ 552.237-71 Qualifications of Employees
 ___ 552.238-71 Submission and Distribution of Authorized FSS Schedule Price List
 ___ 552.238-74 Contractor's Report of Sales
 ___ 552.238-75 Price Reductions

___ 552.242-70 Status Report of Orders and Shipments

___ 552.243-72 Modifications (Multiple Award Schedule)

___ 552.246-73 Warranty—Multiple Award Schedule

___ 552.246-76 Warranty of Pesticides

(End of clause)

552.212-72 Contract Terms and Conditions Required To Implement Statutes or Executive Orders Applicable to GSA Acquisition of Commercial Items.

As prescribed in 512.301(a)(3), insert the following clause:

Contract Terms and Conditions Required To Implement Statutes or Executive Orders Applicable to GSA Acquisition of Commercial Items (Sep 1999)

The Contractor agrees to comply with any provision or clause that is incorporated herein by reference to implement provisions of law or Executive Orders applicable to acquisition of commercial items or components. The provision or clause in effect based on the applicable regulation cited on the date the solicitation is issued applies unless otherwise stated herein. The following provisions and clauses are incorporated by reference:

[The contracting officer should either check the provisions and clauses that apply or delete the provisions and clauses that do not apply from the list. The contracting officer may add the date of the provision or clause if desired for clarity.]

(a) Provisions.

___ 552.223-72 Hazardous Material Information
 ___ 552.225-8 Buy American Act—Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program Certificate

(b) Clauses.

___ 552.223-70 Hazardous Substances
 ___ 552.223-71 Nonconforming Hazardous Material
 ___ 552.225-9 Buy American Act—Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program
 ___ 552.238-70 Identification of Electronic Office Equipment Providing Accessibility for the Handicapped
 ___ 552.238-72 Identification of Energy-Efficient Office Equipment and Supplies Containing Recovered Materials or Other Environmental Attributes
 ___ 552.238-76 Industrial Funding Fee
 (End of clause)

552.212-73 Evaluation—Commercial Items (Multiple Award Schedule).

As prescribed in 512.301(a)(4), insert the following provision:

Evaluation—Commercial Items (Multiple Award Schedule) (Aug 1997)

(a) The Government may make multiple awards for the supplies or services offered in response to this solicitation that meet the definition of a "commercial item" in FAR 52.202-1. Awards may be made to those responsible offerors that offer reasonable pricing, conforming to the solicitation, and will be most advantageous to the

Government, taking into consideration the multiplicity and complexity of items of various manufacturers and the differences in performance required to accomplish or produce required end results, production and distribution facilities, price, compliance with delivery requirements, and other pertinent factors. By providing a selection of comparable supplies or services, ordering activities are afforded the opportunity to fulfill their requirements with the item(s) that constitute the best value and that meet their needs at the lowest overall cost.

(b) A written notice of award or acceptance of an offer, mailed or otherwise furnished to the offeror within the time for acceptance specified in the offer, shall result in a binding contract without further action by either party. Before the offer's specified expiration time, the Government may accept an offer (or part of an offer), whether or not there are negotiations after its receipt, unless a written notice of withdrawal is received before award.

(End of provision)

Alternate I (AUG 1997). When anticipating competition of identical items, add the following paragraph after paragraph (b) of the basic provision.

(c) The Government reserves the right to award only one contract for all or a part of a manufacturer's product line. When two or more offerors (e.g., dealers/resellers) offer the identical product, award may be made competitively to only one offeror on the basis of the lowest price. (Discounts for early payment will not be considered as an evaluation factor in determining the low offeror). During initial open season for an option period, any offers that are equal to or

lower than the current contract price received for identical items will be considered. Current contractors will also be allowed to submit offers for identical items during this initial open season. The current contractor which has the identical item on contract will be included in the evaluation process. The Government will evaluate all offers and may award only one contract for each specified product or aggregate group.

552.214-70 "All or None" Offers.

As prescribed in 514.201-6, insert the following provision:

"All or None" Offers (Sep 1999)

(a) Unless awards in the aggregate are specifically precluded in this solicitation, the Government reserves the right to evaluate offers and make awards on all "all or none" basis as provided below.

(b) An offer submitted on an "all or none" or similar basis will be evaluated as follows: The lowest acceptable offer exclusive of the "all or none" offer will be selected with respect to each item (or group of items when the solicitation provides for aggregate awards) and the total cost of all items thus determined shall be compared with the total of the lowest acceptable "all or none" offer. Award will be made to result in the lowest total cost to the Government.

(End of provision)

Alternate I (SEP 1999). For a requirements or indefinite quantity contract, the following paragraph (b) shall be substituted in the basic provision:

(b) An offer submitted on an "all or none" or similar basis will not be considered unless the offer is low on each item to which the

"all or none" offer is made applicable. The term "each item" as used in this provision refers either to an item that under the terms of the solicitation may be independently awarded, or to a group of items on which an award is to be made in the aggregate.

552.214-71 Progressive Awards and Monthly Quantity Allocations.

As prescribed in 514.201-7(a), insert the following clause:

Progressive Awards and Monthly Quantity Allocations (Sep 1999)

(a) *Monthly quantity allocation.*

(1) Set forth below are the Government's estimated annual and monthly requirements for each stock item covered by this solicitation. Offerors shall indicate, in the spaces provided, the monthly quantity which they are willing to furnish of any item or group of items involving the use of the same production facilities. In making monthly allocations, offerors are urged to group as many items as possible. Such groupings will make it possible for the Government to make fullest use of the production capabilities of each offeror.

(2) Offerors need not limit their monthly allocations to the Government's estimated monthly requirements, since additional unanticipated needs may occur during the period of the contract. If an offeror does not insert monthly allocation quantities, it will be deemed to offer to furnish all of the Government's requirements, even though they may exceed the stated estimated requirements.

National stock number	Estimated annual requirements	Estimated monthly requirements

BIDDERS MONTHLY QUANTITY ALLOCATIONS

Items or groups of items	Monthly allocation quantity

(b) *Progressive awards.* If the low responsive offeror's monthly quantity allocation is less than the Government's estimated requirements, the Government may make progressive awards beginning with the low responsive offeror and including each next low responsive offeror to the extent necessary to meet the estimated requirements.

(c) *Ordering procedures.* If progressive awards are made, orders will be placed first with the Contractor offering the lowest price on each item normally up to that Contractor's maximum quantity allocation and then, in the same manner, successively to other Contractors. When cumulative orders during any month, placed with a lower priced

Contractor, equal or exceed 95 percent of its monthly quantity allocation, to avoid the placement of unduly small orders or the splitting of a subsequent order, the Government reserves the right to award the full quantity of the subsequent order to the next lower priced Contractor. In no case will orders be placed with any Contractor in excess of its monthly quantity allocation.

(End of clause)

552.214-72 Bid Sample Requirements.

As prescribed in 514.202-4(a)(3), insert the following provision:

Bid Sample Requirements (Sep 1999)

This provision supplements FAR 52.214-20, which is incorporated by reference. Samples shall be from the production of the manufacturer whose products will be supplied under resultant contracts.

(a) Two bid samples are required for each of the following items in this solicitation:

(b) Two representative samples shall be submitted for each of the following items upon which a bid is submitted:

Items	Acceptable representative samples

Note:

(1) Bidders are or are not authorized to re-apply samples being retained by GSA in connection with previous solicitations and/or resultant contracts. When the block "are" is marked by the government, FAR 52.214-20, Alternate II, shall apply.

(2) Bidders who propose to furnish an item or group of items from more than one manufacturer or production point must submit two samples from the production of each manufacturer or production point.

(c) Samples will be evaluated to determine compliance with all characteristics listed below:

Subjective characteristics	Objective characteristics

(d) Forward samples addressed to the Sample Room indicated below. Except for samples delivered by U.S. Mail, deliveries will be accepted between the hours of _____ Mondays through Fridays, official holidays excluded.

Caution: Use proper address for method of shipment selected.

Mail and Parcel Post

(Insert Address of Bid Sample Room)

Freight or Express

(Insert address of Bid Sample Room)

(End of provision)

552.215-70 Examination of Records by GSA.

As prescribed in 514.201-7(b) and 515.209-70(a) insert the following clause:

Examination of Records by GSA (Feb 1996)

The Contractor agrees that the Administrator of General Services or any duly authorized representatives shall, until the expiration of 3 years after final payment under this contract, or of the time periods for the particular records specified in Subpart 4.7 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR 4.7), whichever expires earlier, have access to and the right to examine any books, documents, papers, and records of the Contractor involving transactions related to this contract or compliance with any clauses thereunder. The Contractor further agrees to include in all its subcontracts hereunder a provision to the effect that the subcontractor agrees that the Administrator of General Services or any authorized representatives shall, until the expiration of 3 years after final payment under the subcontract, or of the time periods for the particular records specified in Subpart 4.7 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR 4.7), whichever expires earlier, have access to and the right to examine any books, documents, papers, and records of such subcontractor involving transactions related to the

subcontract or compliance with any clauses thereunder. The term "subcontract" as used in this clause excludes (a) purchase orders not exceeding \$100,000 and (b) subcontracts or purchase orders for public utility services at rates established for uniform applicability to the general public.

(End of clause)

552.215-71 Examination of Records by GSA (Multiple Award Schedule).

As prescribed in 515.209-70(c), insert the following clause:

Examination of Records by GSA (Multiple Award Schedule) (Aug 1997)

The Contractor agrees that the Administrator of General Services or any duly authorized representative shall have access to and the right to examine any books, documents, papers and records of the contractor involving transactions related to this contract for overbillings, billing errors, compliance with the Price Reduction clause and compliance with the Industrial Funding Fee clause of this contract. This authority shall expire 3 years after final payment. The basic contract and each option shall be treated as separate contracts for purposes of applying this clause.

(End of clause)

552.215-72 Price Adjustment—Failure to Provide Accurate Information.

As prescribed in 515.408(d), insert the following clause:

Price Adjustment—Failure To Provide Accurate Information (Aug 1997)

(a) The Government, at its election, may reduce the price of this contract or contract modification if the Contracting Officer determines after award of this contract or contract modification that the price negotiated was increased by a significant amount because the Contractor failed to:

(1) Provide information required by this solicitation/contract or otherwise requested by the Government; or

(2) Submit information that was current, accurate, and complete; or

(3) Disclose changes in the Contractor's commercial pricelist(s), discounts or discounting policies which occurred after the original submission and prior to the completion of negotiations.

(b) The Government will consider information submitted to be current, accurate and complete if the data is current, accurate and complete as of 14 calendar days prior to the date it is submitted.

(c) If any reduction in the contract price under this clause reduces the price for items for which payment was made prior to the date of the modification reflecting the price reduction, the Contractor shall be liable to and shall pay the United States—

(1) The amount of the overpayment; and

(2) Simple interest on the amount of such overpayment to be computed from the date(s) of overpayment to the Contractor to the date the Government is repaid by the Contractor at the applicable underpayment rate effective each quarter prescribed by the Secretary of Treasury under 26 U.S.C. 6621(a)(2).

(d) Failure to agree on the amount of the decrease shall be resolved as a dispute.

(e) In addition to the remedy in paragraph (a) of this clause, the Government may terminate this contract for default. The rights and remedies of the Government specified herein are not exclusive, and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law or under this contract.

(End of Clause)

552.216-70 Economic Price Adjustment—FSS Multiple Award Schedule Contracts.

As prescribed in 516.203-4(a), insert the following clause:

Economic Price Adjustment—FSS Multiple Award Schedule Contracts (Sep 1999)

Price adjustments include price increases and price decreases. Adjustments will be considered as follows:

(a) Contractors shall submit price decreases anytime during the contract period in which they occur. Price decreases will be handled in accordance with the provisions of the Price Reduction Clause.

(b) Contractors may request price increases under the following conditions:

(1) Increases resulting from a reissue or other modification of the Contractor's commercial catalog/pricelist that was used as the basis for the contract award.

(2) Only three increases will be considered during the contract period.

(3) Increases are requested after the first 30 days of the contract period and prior to the last 60 days of the contract period.

(4) At least 30 days elapse between requested increases.

(c) The aggregate of the increases in any contract unit price under this clause shall not exceed _____* percent of the original contract unit price. The Government reserves the right to raise this ceiling where changes in market conditions during the contract period support an increase.

*Insert the percent appropriate at the time the solicitation is issued. This percentage should normally be 10 percent, unless based on a trend established by an appropriate index such as the Producer Prices and Price Index during the most recent 6-month period indicates that a different percentage is more appropriate. Any ceiling other than 10 percent must be approved by the contracting director.

(d) The following material shall be submitted with the request for a price increase:

(1) A copy of the commercial catalog/pricelist showing the price increase and the effective date for commercial customers.

(2) Commercial Sales Practice format regarding the Contractor's commercial pricing practice relating to the reissued or modified catalog/price-list, or a certification that no change has occurred in the data since completion of the initial negotiation or a subsequent submission.

(3) Documentation supporting the reasonableness of the price increase.

(e) The Government reserves the right to exercise one of the following options:

(1) Accept the Contractor's price increases as requested when all conditions of (b), (c), and (d) of this clause are satisfied;

(2) Negotiate more favorable discounts from the new commercial prices when the total increase requested is not supported; or,

(3) Remove the product(s) from contract involved pursuant to the Cancellation Clause of this contract, when the increase requested is not supported.

(f) The contract modification reflecting the price adjustment shall be signed by the Government and made effective upon receipt of notification from the Contractor that the new catalog/pricelist has been mailed to the addresses previously furnished by the Contracting Officer, provided that in no event shall such price adjustment be effective prior to the effective date of the commercial price increases. The increased contract prices shall apply to delivery orders issued to the Contractor on or after the effective date of the contract modification.

(End of clause)

**Insert the percent appropriate at the time the solicitation is issued. This percentage should normally be 10 percent, unless based on a trend established by an appropriate index such as the Producer Prices and Price Index during the most recent 6-month period indicates that a different percentage is more appropriate. Any ceiling other than 10 percent must be approved by the contracting director.*

Alternate I (SEP 1999). The following is substituted for paragraphs (b) and (c) of the clause:

(b) Contractors may request price increases to be effective on or after the first 12 months of the contract period providing all of the following conditions are met:

(1) Increases resulting from a reissue or other modification of the Contractor's commercial catalog/pricelist that was used as the basis for the contract award.

(2) No more than three increases will be considered during each succeeding 12-month period of the contract. (For succeeding contract periods of less than 12 months, up to three increases will be considered subject

to the other conditions of this subparagraph (b)).

(3) Increases are requested before the last 60 days of the contract period.

(4) At least 30 days elapse between requested increases.

(c) In any contract period during which price increases will be considered, the aggregate of the increases during any 12-month period shall not exceed * _____ percent of the contract unit price in effect at the end of the preceding 12-month period. The Government reserves the right to raise the ceiling when market conditions during the contract period support such a change.

**Insert the percentage appropriate at the time the solicitation is issued. This percentage should be determined based on the trend established by an appropriate index such as the Producer Prices and Price Index. A ceiling of more than 10 percent must be approved by the Contracting Director.*

552.216-71 Economic Price Adjustment—Stock and Special Order Program Contracts.

As prescribed in 516.203-4(b), insert the following clause:

Economic Price Adjustment-Stock and Special Order Program Contracts (Sep 1999)

(a) "Producer Price Index" (PPI), as used in this clause, means the originally released index, not seasonally adjusted, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor (Labor) for product code _____ found under Table _____.

(b) During the term of the contract, the award price may be adjusted once upward or downward a maximum of * _____ percent. Any price adjustment for the product code shall be based upon the percentage change in the PPI released in the month prior to the initial month of the contract period specified in the solicitation for sealed bidding or the month prior to award in negotiation (the base index) and the PPI released 12 months later (the updated index). The formula for determining the Adjusted Contract Price (ACP) applicable to shipments for the balance of the contract period is—

$$ACP = \frac{\text{Updated Index}}{\text{Base Index}} \times \text{Award Price}$$

(c) If the PPI is not available for the month of the base index or the updated index, the month with the most recently published PPI prior to the month determining the base index or updated index shall be used.

(d) If a product code is discontinued, the Government and the Contractor will

$$ACP = \frac{\text{Most Recent Updated Index}}{\text{New Base Index}} \times \text{CCP}$$

mutually agree to substitute a similar product code. If Labor designates an index with a new title and/or code number as continuous with the product code specified above, the new index shall be used.

(e) Unless the Contractor's written request for a price adjustment resulting from the application of the formula in (b) above is received by the Contracting Officer within 30 calendar days of the release of the updated index, the Contractor shall have waived its right to an upward price adjustment for the balance of the contract. Alternatively, the Contracting Officer will unilaterally adjust the award price downward when appropriate using the updated index defined in (b) above.

(f) Price adjustments shall be effective upon execution of a contract modification by the Government or on the 31st day following the release of the updated index, whichever is later, shall indicate the updated index and percent of change as well as the ACP, and shall not apply to delivery orders issued before the effective date.

(End of clause)

Alternate I (SEP 1999). As prescribed in 516.203-4(b) (1) and (2), substitute the following paragraphs (b), (e) and (f) for paragraphs (b), (e) and (f) of the basic clause:

(b) In any option period, the contract price may be adjusted upward or downward a maximum of * _____ percent.

(1) For the first option period, any price adjustment for the product code shall be based upon the percentage change in the PPI released in the month prior to the initial month of the contract period specified in the solicitation for sealed bidding or the month prior to award in negotiation (the base index) and the PPI released in the third month before completion of the initial contract period stated in the solicitation (the updated index). This initial contract period may be less than 12 months. The formula for determining the Adjusted Contract Price (ACP) applicable to shipments during the first option period is—

$$ACP = \frac{\text{Updated Index}}{\text{Base Index}} \times \text{Award Price}$$

(2) For any subsequent option period, the price adjustment shall be the percentage change between the previously updated index (the new base index) and the PPI released 12 months later (the most recent updated index). This percentage shall be applied to the Current Contract Price (CCP). The formula for determining the ACP applicable to shipments for the subsequent option period(s) is—

(e) Unless the Contractor's written request for a price adjustment resulting from the application of the formulas in (b) (1) or (2) above is received by the Contracting Officer within 30 calendar days of the date of the Government's preliminary written notice of its intent to exercise the option, the

Contractors shall have waived its right to an upward price adjustment for that option period. Alternatively, the Contracting Officer in its written notice shall exercise the option at the CCP or at a reduced price when appropriate using the formulas in (b) (1) or (2) above.

(f) Price adjustments shall be effected by execution of a contract modification by the Government indicating the most recent updated index and percent of change and shall apply to delivery orders placed on or after the first day of the option period.

Alternate II (SEP 1999). As prescribed in 516.203-4(b)(2), add the following paragraph (g) to the basic clause.

(g) No price adjustment will be made unless the percentage in the PPI is at least percent.

***The appropriate percentage should be determined based upon the historical trend in the PPI for the product code. A ceiling of more than 10 percent must be approved by the Contracting Director.*

***The Contracting Officer should insert a lower percent than the maximum percentage stated in paragraph (b) of the clause.*

552.216-72 Placement of Orders.

As prescribed in 516.506, inset the following clause:

Placement of Orders (Sep 1999)

(a) Delivery orders (orders) will be placed by:

[Contracting Officer insert names of Federal agencies]

(b) Orders may be placed through Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) or mailed in paper form. EDI orders shall be placed using the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) X12 Standard for Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) format.

(c) If the Contractor agrees, GSA's Federal Supply Service (FSS) will place all orders by EDI using computer-to-computer EDI. If computer-to-computer EDI is not possible, FSS will use an alternative EDI method allowing the Contractor to receive orders by facsimile transmission. Subject to the Contractor's agreement, other agencies may place orders by EDI.

(d) When computer-to-computer EDI procedures will be used to place orders, the Contractor shall enter into one or more Trading Partner Agreements (TPA) with each Federal agency placing orders electronically in order to ensure mutual understanding by the parties of certain electronic transaction conventions and to recognize the rights and responsibilities of the parties as they apply to this method of placing orders. The TPA must identify, among other things, the third party provider(s) through which electronic orders are placed, the transaction sets used, security procedures, and guidelines for implementation. Federal agencies may obtain a sample format to customize as needed from the office specified in (g) below.

(e) The Contractor shall be responsible for providing its own hardware and software necessary to transmit and receive data electronically. Additionally, each party to the TPA shall be responsible for the costs associated with its use of third party provider services.

(f) Nothing in the TPA will invalidate any part of this contract between the Contractor and the General Services Administration. All terms and conditions of this contract that otherwise would be applicable to a mailed order shall apply to the electronic order.

(g) The basic content and format of the TPA will be provided by:

General Services Administration,
Acquisition Operations and Electronic
Commerce Center (FCS), Washington, DC
20406

Telephone: [Contracting officer insert appropriate telephone numbers]

FAX:

(End of clause)

Alternate I (SEP 1999). As prescribed in 516.506, substitute the following paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d) for paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d) of the basic clause:

(a) All delivery orders (orders) under this contract will be placed by the General Services Administration's Federal Supply Service (FSS). The Contractor is not authorized to accept orders from any other agency. Violation of this restriction may result in termination of the contract pursuant to the default clause of this contract.

(b) All orders shall be placed by Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) using the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) X12 Standard for Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) format.

(c) If the Contractor agrees, transmission will be computer-to-computer EDI. If computer-to-computer EDI is not possible, FSS will use an alternative EDI method allowing the Contractor to receive orders by facsimile transmission.

(d) When computer-to-computer EDI procedures will be used to place orders, the Contractor shall enter into a Trading Partner Agreement (TPA) with FSS in order to ensure mutual understanding by the parties of certain electronic transaction conventions and to recognize the rights and responsibilities of the parties as they apply to this method of placing orders. The TPA must identify among other things, the third party provider(s) through which electronic orders are placed, the transaction sets used, security procedures, and guidelines for implementation.

Alternate II (SEP 1999). As prescribed in 516.506(c), substitute the following paragraph (a) for paragraph (a) of the basic clause:

(a) The organizations listed below may place orders under this contract. Questions regarding organizations authorized to use this schedule should be directed to the Contracting Officer.

(1) Executive agencies.

(2) Other Federal agencies.

(3) Mixed-ownership Government corporations.

(4) The District of Columbia.

(5) Government contractors authorized in writing by a Federal agency pursuant to 48 CFR 51.1.

(6) Other activities and organizations authorized by statute or regulation to use GSA as a source of supply.

552.216-73 Ordering Information.

As prescribed in 516.506(c), insert the following provision:

Ordering Information (Sep 1999)

(a) In accordance with the Placement of Orders clause of this solicitation, the offeror elects to receive orders placed by GSA's Federal Supply Service (FSS) by either facsimile transmission or computer-to-computer Electronic Data Interchange (EDI).

(b) An offeror electing to receive computer-to-computer EDI is requested to indicate below the name, address, and telephone number of the representative to be contacted regarding establishment of an EDI interface.

(c) An offeror electing to receive orders by facsimile transmission is requested to indicate below the telephone number(s) for facsimile transmission equipment where orders should be forwarded.

(d) For mailed orders, the offeror is requested to include the postal mailing address(es) where paper form orders should be mailed.

(End of provision)

Alternate I (SEP 1999). As prescribed in 516.506(b), delete paragraph (d) of the basic provision.

Alternate II (SEP 1999). As prescribed in 516.506(b), add paragraph (e) to the basic provision.

(e) Offerors marketing through dealers are requested to indicate below whether those dealers will be participating in the proposed contract.

Yes () No ()

If "yes" is checked, ordering information to be inserted above shall reflect that in addition to offeror's name, address, and facsimile transmission telephone number, orders can be addressed to the offeror's name, c/o nearest local dealer. In this event, two copies of a list of participating dealers shall accompany this offer, and shall also be included in Contractor's Federal Supply Schedule pricelist.

552.217-70 Evaluation of Options.

As prescribed in 517.208(a), insert the following provision:

Evaluation of Options (Aug 1990)

(a) The Government will evaluate offers for award purposes by determining the lowest base period price. When option year pricing is based on a formula (e.g., changes in the Producer Price Index or other common standard); option year pricing is automatically considered when evaluating the base year price, as any change in price will be uniformly related to changes in market conditions. All options are therefore considered to be evaluated. Evaluation of options will not obligate the Government to exercise the option(s).

(b) The Government will reject the offer if exceptions are taken to the price provisions of the Economic Price Adjustment clause, unless the exception results in a lower maximum option year price. Such offers will be evaluated without regard to the lower option year(s) maximum. However, if the offeror offering a lower maximum is awarded a contract, the award will reflect the lower maximum.

552.217-71 Notice Regarding Option(s).

As prescribed in 517.208(b), insert the following provision:

Notice Regarding Option(s) (Nov 1992)

The General Services Administration (GSA) has included an option to [Insert "purchase additional quantities of supplies or services" or "extend the term of this contract" or "purchase additional quantities of supplies or services and to extend the term of this contract"] in order to demonstrate the value it places on quality performance by providing a mechanism for continuing a contractual relationship with a successful Offeror that performs at a level which meets or exceeds GSA's quality performance expectations as communicated to the Contractor, in writing, by the Contracting Officer or designated representative. When deciding whether to exercise the option, the Contracting Officer will consider the quality of the Contractor's past performance under this contract in accordance with 48 CFR 517.207.

(End of provision)

552.219-70 Allocation of Orders—Partially Set-aside Items.

As prescribed in 519.508, insert the following clause:

Allocation of Orders—Partially Set-Aside Items (Sep 1999)

Where the set-aside portion of an item or group of items is awarded to a Contractor other than the one receiving the award on the corresponding non-set-aside portion, the Government will divide the requirements to be ordered between the two Contractors with the objective of achieving, as nearly as possible, a 50/50 division of the total value of orders placed after the award of the set-aside portion. In no case will this division vary by more than a 60/40 division (with either the non-set-aside or set-aside Contractor receiving the larger portion) from the time of the award of the set-aside portion.

(End of clause)

552.219-71 Notice to Offerors of Subcontracting Plan Requirements.

As prescribed in 519.708, insert the following provision:

Notice to Offerors of Subcontracting Plan Requirements (Sep 1999)

The General Services Administration (GSA) is committed to assuring that maximum practicable opportunity is provided to small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns to participate in the performance of this contract consistent with its efficient performance. GSA expects any subcontracting plan submitted pursuant to FAR 52.219-9, Small Business Subcontracting Plan, to reflect this commitment. Consequently, an offeror, other than a small business concern, before being awarded a contract exceeding \$500,000 (\$1,000,000 for construction), must demonstrate that its subcontracting plan represents a creative and innovative program for involving small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns as subcontractors in the performance of this contract.

(End of provision)

552.219-72 Preparation, Submission, and negotiation of Subcontracting Plans.

As prescribed in 519.708(b), insert the following provision:

Preparation, Submission, and Negotiation of Subcontracting Plans (Sep 1999)

(a) An offeror, other than a small business concern, submitting an offer that exceeds \$500,000 (\$1,000,000 for construction) shall submit a subcontracting plan with its initial offer. The subcontracting plan will be negotiated concurrently with price and any required technical and management proposals, unless the offeror submits a previously-approved commercial products plan.

(b) Maximum practicable utilization of small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns as subcontractors is a matter of national interest with both social and economic benefits. The General Services Administration (GSA) expects that an offeror's subcontracting plan will reflect a commitment to assuring that small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns are provided the maximum practicable opportunity, consistent with efficient contract performance, to participate as subcontractors in the performance of the resulting contract. An offeror submitting a commercial products plan can reflect this commitment through subcontracting opportunities it provides that relate to the offeror's production generally; i.e., for both its commercial and Government business.

(c) GSA believes that this potential contract provides significant opportunities for the use of small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns as subcontractors. Consequently, in addressing the eleven elements described at FAR 52.219-9(d) of the clause in this contract entitled Small Business Subcontracting Plan, the offeror shall:

(1) Demonstrate that its subcontracting plan represents a creative and innovative program for involving small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns in performing the contract.

(2) Include a description of the offeror's subcontracting strategies used in any previous contracts, significant achievements, and how this plan will build upon those earlier achievements.

(3) Demonstrate through its plan that it understands the small business subcontracting program's objectives and GSA's expectations, and it is committed to taking those actions necessary to meet these goals or objectives.

(d) In determining the acceptability of any subcontracting plan, the Contracting Officer will take each of the following actions:

(1) Review the plan to verify that the offeror demonstrates an understanding of the small business subcontracting program's objectives and GSA's expectations with respect to the program and has included all the information, goals, and assurances required by FAR 52.219-9.

(2) Consider previous goals and achievements of contractors in the small industry.

(3) Consider information and potential sources obtained from agencies administering national and local preference programs and other advocacy groups in evaluating whether the goals stated in the plan adequately reflect the anticipated potential for subcontracting to small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns.

(4) Review the offeror's description of its strategies, historical performance and significant achievements in placing subcontracts for the same or similar products or services with small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns. The offeror's description can apply to commercial as well as previous Government contracts.

(e) Failure to submit an acceptable subcontracting plan and/or correct deficiencies in a plan within the time specified by the Contracting Officer shall make the offeror ineligible for award.

(End of provision)

552.219-73 Goals for Subcontracting Plan.

As prescribed in 519.708(c), insert the following provision:

Goals for Subcontracting Plan (Sep 1999)

(a) Maximum practicable utilization of small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns as subcontractors is a matter of national interest with both social and economic benefits.

(1) The General Service Administration's (GSA's) commitment to ensuring that maximum practicable opportunity is provided to small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns to participate as subcontractors in the performance of this contract, consistent with its efficient performance, must be reflected in the offeror's subcontracting plan submitted pursuant to the clause of this contract at FAR 52.219-9, Small Business Subcontracting Plan.

(2) In addressing the eleven elements described at FAR 52.219-9(d), the offeror shall demonstrate that its subcontracting plan represents a creative and innovative program for involving small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns in performing this contract. An offeror submitting a commercial products plan can demonstrate its commitment in providing maximum practicable opportunities through subcontracting opportunities it provides to small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns that relate to the offeror's production generally; i.e., for both its commercial and Government business.

(3) The subcontracting plan shall include a description of the offeror's subcontracting strategies used in previous contracts and significant achievements, with an explanation of how this plan will build upon those earlier achievements. Additionally, the offeror shall demonstrate through its plan

that it understands the small business subcontracting program's objectives, GSA's expectations, and is committed to taking those actions necessary to meet these goals or objectives.

(b) GSA believes that this contract provides significant opportunities for the use of small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns as subcontractors. Accordingly, it is anticipated that an acceptable subcontracting plan will contain at least the following goals:

Small Business	_____	per-
		cent.
HUBZone Small Business	_____	per-
		cent.
Small Disadvantaged Business	_____	per-
		cent.
Women-Owned Small Business	_____	per-
		cent.

Note: Target goals are expressed as a percentage of planned subcontracting dollars.

(c) In determining the acceptability of any subcontracting plan, the Contracting Officer will—

(1) Review the plan to verify that the offeror has demonstrated an understanding of the small business subcontracting program's objectives and GSA's expectations with respect to the programs and has included all the information, goals, and assurances required by FAR 52.219-9;

(2) Consider previous goals and achievements of contractors in the same industry;

(3) Consider information and potential sources obtained from agencies administering national and local preference programs and other advocacy groups in evaluating whether the goals stated in the plan adequately reflect the anticipated potential for subcontracting to small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns; and

(4) Review the offeror's description of its strategies, historical performance and significant achievements in placing subcontracts for the same or similar products or services with small, HUBZone small, small disadvantaged, and women-owned small business concerns. The offeror's description can apply to commercial as well as previous Government contracts.

(d) Failure to submit an acceptable subcontracting plan and/or correct deficiencies in a plan within the time specified by the Contracting Officer shall make the offeror ineligible for award. (End of provision)

Alternate I (SEP 1999). As prescribed in 519.708(c)(2), delete paragraph (b) of the basic provision and redesignate paragraphs (c) and (d) as paragraphs (b) and (c).

552.219-74 Section 8(a) Direct Award.

As prescribed in 519.870-8, insert the following clause:

Section 8(a) Direct Award (Sep 1999)

(a) This contract is issued as a direct award between the contracting activity and the 8(a) Contractor pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Small Business Administration (SBA) and the General Services Administration. SBA retains the responsibility for 8(a) certifications, 8(a) eligibility determinations, and related issues, and will provide counseling and assistance to the 8(a) contractor under the 8(a) program. The cognizant SBA district office is:

[Complete at time of award]

(b) The contracting activity is responsible for administering the contract and taking any action on behalf of the Government under the terms and conditions of the contract. However, the contracting activity shall give advance notice to SBA before it issues a final notice terminating performance, either in whole or in part, under the contract. The contracting activity shall also coordinate with SBA prior to processing any advance payments or novation agreements. The contracting activity may assign contract administration functions to a contract administration office.

(c) The Contractor agrees:

(1) To notify the Contracting Officer, simultaneous with its notification to SBA (as required by SBA's 8(a) regulations), when the owner or owners upon whom 8(a) eligibility is based plan to relinquish ownership or control of the concern. Consistent with 15 U.S.C. 637(a)(21), transfer of ownership or control shall result in termination of the contract for convenience, unless SBA waives the requirement for termination prior to the actual relinquishing of ownership and control.

(2) To the requirements of 52.219-14, Limitations on Subcontracting. (End of clause)

552.223-70 Hazardous Substances.

As prescribed in 523.303(a), insert the following clause:

Hazardous Substances (May 1989)

(a) If the packaged items to be delivered under this contract are of a hazardous substance and ordinarily are intended or considered to be for use as a household item, this contract is subject to the Federal Hazardous Materials Act, as amended (15 U.S.C. 1261-1276), implementing regulations thereof (16 CFR Chapter II), and Federal Standard No. 123, Marking for Shipment (Civil Agencies), issue in effect on the date of this solicitation.

(b) The packaged items to be delivered under this contract are subject to the preparation of shipping documents, the

preparation of items for transportation, shipping container construction, package making, package labeling, when required, shipper's certification of compliance, and transport vehicle placarding in accordance with Parts 171 through 178 of 49 CFR and the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act.

(c) The minimum packaging acceptable for packaging Department of Transportation regulated hazardous materials shall be those in 49 CFR 173.

(End of clause)

552.223-71 Nonconforming Hazardous Materials.

As prescribed in 523.303(b), insert the following clause:

Nonconforming Hazardous Materials (Sep 1999)

(a) Nonconforming supplies that contain hazardous material or that may expose persons who handle or transport the supplies to hazardous material and which require replacement under the inspection and/or warranty clauses of this contract shall be reshipped to the Contractor at the Contractor's expense. The Contractor agrees to accept return of these nonconforming supplies and to pay all costs occasioned by their return.

(b) "Hazardous materials," as used in this clause, includes any material defined as hazardous under the latest version of Federal Standard No. 313 (including revisions adopted during the term of the contract).

(c) If the Contractor fails to provide acceptable disposition instructions for the nonconforming supplies within 10 days from the date of the Government's request (or such longer period as may be agreed to between the Contracting Officer and the Contractor), or fails to accept return of the reshipped nonconforming supplies, such failure:

(1) may be interpreted as a willful failure to perform,

(2) may result in termination of the contract for default and

(3) shall be considered by the Contracting Officer in determining the responsibility of the Contractor for any future award (see FAR 9.104-3(b) and 9.406-2).

(d) Pending final resolution of any dispute, the Contractor shall promptly comply with the decision of the Contracting Officer.

(End of clause)

552.223-72 Hazardous Material Information.

As prescribed in 523.370, insert the following provision:

Hazardous Material Information (Sep 1999)

Offeror shall indicate for each national stock number (NSN) the following information:

NSN	DOT shipping name	DOT hazard class	DOT label required
			Yes [] No []
			Yes [] No []
			Yes [] No []

(End of provision)

552.225-8 Buy American Act—Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program Certificate.

As prescribed in 525.408, insert the following provision:

Buy American Act—Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program Certificate (Sep 1999) (Deviation FAR 52.225-8)

(a) The Offeror, by signing this offer, certifies that each end product to be delivered under this contract is a U.S. made end product, a designated country end product, a Caribbean Basin country end product, a Canadian end product or a Mexican end product as defined in the clause entitled "Buy American Act—Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program" at 48 CFR 552.225-9.

(b) Offers will be evaluated in accordance with Subpart 25.4 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation except that offers of U.S. made end products, designated country end products, Caribbean Basin end products, Canadian end products, or Mexican end products shall be evaluated without the restrictions of the Buy American Act or the Balance of Payments Program.

(End of provision)

552.225-9 Buy American Act—Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program.

As prescribed in 525.408, insert the following clause.

Buy American Act—Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program (SEP 1999) (Deviation FAR 52.225-9)

(a) This clause implements the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (19 U.S.C. 2501-2582) by providing a preference for U.S. made end products, designated country end products, Caribbean Basin country end products, Canadian end products or Mexican end products over other products.

"Caribbean Basin country end products," as used in this clause, means an article that: (1) is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of a Caribbean Basin country (as defined in section 25.401 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR)), or (2) in the case of an article which consists in whole or in part of materials from another country or instrumentality, has been substantially transformed into a new and different article of commerce with a name, character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was so transformed. The term includes services (except transportation services) incidental to its supply; provided that the value of those incidental services does not exceed that of the product itself. It does not include service contracts as such. The term excludes products that are excluded from duty free treatment from Caribbean countries under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (19 U.S.C. 2703(b)). These exclusions presently consist of (i) textiles and apparel articles that are subject to textile agreements; (ii) footwear, handbags, luggage, flat goods, work gloves, and leather wearing apparel not designated as eligible articles for the purpose of the

Generalized System of Preference under title V of the Trade Act of 1974; (iii) tuna, prepared or preserved in any manner in airtight containers, (iv) petroleum, or any product derived from petroleum; and (v) watches and watch parts (including cases, bracelets and straps) of whatever type including, but not limited to, mechanical, quartz digital or quartz analog, if such watches or watch parts contain any material that is the product of any country to which the Tariff Schedule of the United States (TSUS) column 2 rates of duty apply.

"Designated country end product," as used in this clause, means an article that (1) is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of the designated country (as defined in section 25.401 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR)), or (2) in the case of an article which consists in whole or in part of materials from another country or instrumentality, has been substantially transformed into a new and different article of commerce with a name, character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was so transformed. The term includes services (except transportation services) incidental to its supply, provided that the value of those incidental services does not exceed that of the product itself. It does not include service contracts as such.

"Canadian end product," as used in this clause, means an article that (1) is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of Canada, or (2) in the case of an article which consists in whole or in part of materials from another country or instrumentality, has been substantially transformed in Canada into a new and different article of commerce with a name, character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was so transformed. The term includes services (except transportation services) incidental to its supply; provided, that the value of those incidental services does not exceed that of the product itself. It does not include service contracts as such.

"Mexican end product," as used in this clause, means an article that (1) is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of Mexico, or (2) in the case of an article which consists in whole or in part of materials from another country or instrumentality, has been substantially transformed in Mexico into a new and different article of commerce with a name, character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was so transformed. The term includes services (except transportation services) incidental to its supply, provided that the value of those incidental services does not exceed that of the product itself. It does not include service contracts as such.

"End products," as used in this clause, means those articles, materials, and supplies to be acquired under this contract for public use.

"U.S. made end product," as used in this clause, means an article which (1) is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of the United States, or (2) in the case of an article which consists in whole or in part of materials from another country or instrumentality, has been substantially transformed in the United States into a new and different article of commerce with a

name, character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was so transformed.

"Nondesignated country end products," as used in this clause, means any end product which is not a U.S. made end product, designated country end product, Caribbean Basin Country end product, Canadian end product or Mexican end product.

"United States," as used in this clause, means the United States, its possessions, Puerto Rico, and any other place which is subject to its jurisdiction, but does not include leased bases or trust territories.

(b) The Contractor agrees to deliver under this contract only U.S. made end products, designated country end products, Caribbean Basin country end products, Canadian end products or Mexican end products or, if a national interest waiver is granted under section 302 of the Trade Agreements Act of 1979, nondesignated country end products. Only if such waiver is granted may a nondesignated country end product be delivered under the contract(s).

(c) Offers will be evaluated in accordance with the policies and procedures of Part 25 of the FAR except that offers of U.S. made end products, designated country end products, Caribbean Basin end products, Canadian end products or Mexican end products shall be evaluated without the restrictions of the Buy American Act or the Balance of Payments Program.

(End of clause)

552.225-70 Notice of Procurement Restriction—Hand or Measuring Tools or Stainless Steel Flatware.

As prescribed in 525.109, insert the following clause:

Notice of Procurement Restriction—Hand or Measuring Tools or Stainless Steel Flatware (Sep 1999)

(a) Awards under this solicitation will only be made to offerors that will furnish hand or measuring tools or stainless steel flatware that are domestic end products. Pursuant to the requirements of the current Department of Defense Appropriations Act, GSA has determined, in accordance with Section 6-104.4 of the Armed Services Procurement Regulation (6/15/70)(32 CFR 6-104.4), that it is in the national interest to reject foreign products.

As used in this clause, a "domestic end product" is—

(1) Any hand or measuring tool, except for an electric or air-motor driven hand tool, or stainless steel flatware, wholly produced or manufactured, including all components, in the United States or its possessions; or

(2) Any electric or air-motor driven hand tool if the cost of its components produced or manufactured in the United States exceeds 75 percent of the cost of all its components.

(b) Tool kits or sets, being procured under this solicitation, will not be considered domestic end products if any individual tool classified in FSC Group 51 or 52 and included in a tool kit or set is not a domestic end product as defined in paragraph (a) of this clause. The restrictions of this clause do not apply to individual hand or measuring tools that are contained in the tool kit or set but are not classified in FSC Group 51 or 52.

(End of clause)

552.227-70 Government Rights (Unlimited).

As prescribed in 527.409, insert the following clause:

Government Rights (Unlimited) (May 1989)

The Government shall have unlimited rights in all drawings, designs, specifications, notes and other works developed in the performance of this contract, including the right to use same on any other Government design or construction without additional compensation to the Contractor. The Contractor hereby grants to the Government a paid-up license throughout the world to all such works to which he may assert or establish any claim under design patent or copyright laws. The Contractor for a period of three years after completion of the project agrees to furnish the original or copies of all such works on the request of the Contracting Officer.

(End of clause)

552.227-71 Drawings and Other Data to Become Property of Government.

As prescribed in 527.409(b), substitute the following clause:

Drawings and Other Data to Become Property of Government (May 1989)

All designs, drawings, specifications, notes and other works developed in the performance of this contract shall become the sole property of the Government and may be used on any other design or construction without additional compensation to the Contractor. The Government shall be considered the "person for whom the work was prepared" for the purpose of authorship in any copyrightable work under Section 201(b) of Title 17, United States Code. With respect thereto, the Contractor agrees not to assert or authorize others to assert any rights nor establish any claim under the design patent or copyright laws. The Contractor for a period of three years after completion of the project agrees to furnish all retained works on the request of the Contracting Officer. Unless otherwise provided in this contract, the Contractor shall have the right to retain copies of works beyond such period.

(End of clause)

552.228-70 Workers' Compensation Laws.

As prescribed in 528.310(a), insert the following clause:

Workers' Compensation Laws (Sep. 1999)

The Act of June 25, 1936, 49 Stat. 1938 (40 U.S.C. 290) authorizes the constituted authority of the several States to apply their workers' compensation laws to all lands and premises owned or held by the United States.

(End of clause)

552.229-70 Federal, State, and Local Taxes.

As prescribed in 529.401-70, insert the following clause:

Federal, State, and Local Taxes (Apr 1984)

The contract price includes all applicable Federal, State, and local taxes. No adjustment

will be made to cover taxes which may subsequently be imposed on this transaction or changes in the rates of currently applicable taxes. However, the Government will, upon the request of the Contractor, furnish evidence appropriate to establish exemption from any tax from which the Government is exempt and which was not included in the contract price.

(End of clause)

552.229-71 Federal Excise Tax—DC Government.

As prescribed in 529.401-71, insert the following clause:

Federal Excise Tax—DC Government (Sep 1999)

If the District of Columbia cites an Internal Revenue Tax Exempt Certificate Number on orders placed under this contract, the Contractor shall bill shipments to the District of Columbia at prices exclusive of Federal excise tax and show the amount of such tax on the invoice.

(End of clause)

552.232-1 Payments.

As prescribed in 532.7104, insert the following clause:

Payments (Apr 1984) (Deviation FAR 52.232-1)

(a) The Government shall pay the Contractor, without submission of invoices or vouchers, 30 days after the service period, the prices stipulated in this contract for supplies delivered and accepted or services rendered and accepted, less any deductions provided in this contract.

(b) Unless otherwise specified in this contract, the Government will make payment on partial deliveries accepted by the Government if either:

(1) The amount due on the deliveries warrants it.

(2) The Contractor requests it and the amount due on the deliveries is at least \$1,000 or 50 percent of the total contract price.

(c) When processing payment, GSA's Finance Office will automatically generate the 12 digit invoice number using the ACT number assigned to the contract, followed by an abbreviated month and year of service (e.g., 84261554JUN7, for June 1997). The ACT number appears on the contract award document.

(End of clause)

552.232-8 Discounts for Prompt Payment.

As prescribed in 532.206, insert the following clause:

Discounts for Prompt Payment (Apr 1989) (Deviation FAR 52.232-8)

(a) Discounts for early payment (hereinafter referred to as "discounts" or "the discount") will be considered in evaluating the relationship of the offeror's concessions to the Government vis-a-vis the offeror's concessions to its commercial customers, but only to the extent indicated in this clause.

(b) Discounts will not be considered to determine the low offeror in the situation

described in the "Offers on Identical Products" provision of this solicitation.

(c) Uneconomical discounts will not be considered as meeting the criteria for award established by the Government. In this connection, a discount will be considered uneconomical if the annualized rate of return for earning the discount is lower than the "value of funds" rate established by the Department of the Treasury and published quarterly in the **Federal Register**. The "value of funds" rate applied will be the rate in effect on the date specified for the receipt of offers.

(d) Agencies required to use the resultant schedule will not apply the discount in determining the lowest delivered price pursuant to the FPMR, 41 CFR 101-26.408, if the agency determines that payment will probably not be made within the discount period offered. The same is true if the discount is considered uneconomical at the time of placement of the order.

(e) Discounts for early payment may be offered either in the original offer or on individual invoices submitted under the resulting contract. Discounts offered will be taken by the Government if payment is made within the discount period specified.

(f) Discounts that are included in offers become a part of the resulting contracts and are binding on the Contractor for all orders placed under the contract. Discounts offered only on individual invoices will be binding on the Contractor only for the particular invoice on which the discount is offered.

(g) In connection with any discount offered for prompt payment, time shall be computed from the date of the invoice. For the purpose of computing the discount earned, payment shall be considered to have been made on the date which appears on the payment check or the date on which an electronic funds transfer was made.

(End of clause)

552.232-23 Assignment of Claims.

As prescribed in 532.806, insert the following clause:

Assignment of Claims (Sep 1999)

Because this is a requirements or indefinite quantity contract under which more than one agency may place orders, paragraph (a) of the Assignment of Claims clause (FAR 52.232-23) is inapplicable and the following is substituted therefor:

In order to prevent confusion and delay in making payment, the Contractor shall not assign any claim(s) for amounts due or to become due under this contract. However, the Contractor is permitted to assign separately to a bank, trust company, or other financial institution, including any Federal lending agency, under the provisions of the Assignment of Claims Act, as amended, 31 U.S.C. 3727, 41 U.S.C. 15 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"), all amounts due or to become due under any order amounting to \$1,000 or more issued by any Government agency under this contract. Any such assignment takes effect only if and when the assignee files written notice of the assignment together with a true copy of the instrument of assignment with the contracting officer issuing the order and the

finance office designated in the order to make payment. Unless otherwise stated in the order, payments to an assignee of any amounts due or to become due under any order assigned may, to the extent specified in the Act, be subject to reduction or set-off. (End of clause)

552.232-25 Prompt Payment.

As prescribed in 532.908(a)(2), insert the following clause:

Prompt Payment (Jul 1998) (Deviation FAR 52.232-25)

Notwithstanding any other payment clause in this contract, the Government will make invoice payments and contract financing payments under the terms and conditions specified in this clause. Payment shall be considered as being made on the day a check is dated or the date of an electronic funds transfer. Definitions of pertinent terms are set forth in section 32.902 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation. All days referred to in this clause are calendar days, unless otherwise specified. (However, see subparagraph (a)(4) of this clause concerning payments due on Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays.)

(a) Invoice payments.

(1) The due date for making invoice payments by the designated payment office is:

(i) For orders placed electronically by the General Services Administration (GSA) Federal Supply Service (FSS), and to be paid by GSA through electronic funds transfer (EFT), the later of the following two events:

(A) The 10th day after the designated billing office receives a proper invoice from the Contractor. If the designated billing office fails to annotate the invoice with the date of receipt at the time of receipt, the invoice payment due date shall be the 10th day after the date of the Contractor's invoice; provided the Contractor submitted a proper invoice and no disagreement exists over quantity, quality, or Contractor compliance with contract requirements.

(B) The 10th day after Government acceptance of supplies delivered or services performed by the Contractor.

(ii) For all other orders, the later of the following two events:

(A) The 30th day after the designated billing office receives a proper invoice from the Contractor. If the designated billing office fails to annotate the invoice with the date of receipt at the time of receipt, the invoice payment due date shall be the 30th day after the date of the Contractor's invoice; provided the Contractor submitted a proper invoice and no disagreement exists over quantity, quality, or Contractor compliance with contract requirements.

(B) The 30th day after Government acceptance of supplies delivered or services performed by the Contractor.

(iii) On a final invoice, if the payment amount is subject to contract settlement actions, acceptance occurs on the effective date of the contract settlement.

(2) The General Services Administration will issue payment on the due date in (a)(1)(i) above if the Contractor complies with full cycle electronic commerce. Full cycle

electronic commerce includes all the following elements:

(i) The Contractor must receive and fulfill electronic data interchange (EDI) purchase orders (transaction set 850).

(ii) The Contractor must generate and submit to the Government valid EDI invoices (transaction set 810) or submit invoices through the GSA Finance Center Internet-based invoice process. Internet-based invoices must be submitted using procedures provided by GSA.

(iii) The Contractor's financial institution must receive and process, on behalf of the Contractor, EFT payments through the Automated Clearing House (ACH) system.

(iv) The EDI transaction sets in (i) through (iii) above must adhere to implementation conventions provided by GSA.

(3) If any of the conditions in (a)(2) above do not occur, the 10 day payment due dates in (a)(1) become 30 day payment due dates.

(4) Certain food products and other payments.

(i) Due dates on Contractor invoices for meat, meat food products, or fish; perishable agricultural commodities; and dairy products, edible fats or oils, and food products prepared from edible fats or oils are—

(A) For meat or meat food products, as defined in section 2(a)(3) of the Packers and Stockyard Act of 1921 (7 U.S.C. 182 (3)), and as further defined in Pub. L. 98-181, including any edible fresh or frozen poultry meat, any perishable poultry meat food product, fresh eggs, an any perishable egg product, as close as possible to, but not later than, the 7th day after product delivery.

(B) For fresh or frozen fish, as defined in section 204(3) of the Fish and Seafood Promotion Act of 1986 (16 U.S.C. 4003(3)), as close as possible to, but not later than, the 7th day after product delivery.

(C) For perishable agricultural commodities, as defined in section 1(4) of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act of 1930 (7 U.S.C. 499a(4)), as close as possible to, but not later than, the 10th day after product delivery, unless another date is specified in the contract.

(D) For daily products, as defined in section 111(e) of the Dairy Production Stabilization Act of 1983 (7 U.S.C. 4502(e)), edible fats or oils, and food products prepared from edible fats or oils, as close as possible to, but not later than, the 10th day after the date on which a proper invoice has been received. Liquid milk, cheese, certain processed cheese products, butter, yogurt, ice cream, mayonnaise, salad dressing, and other similar products, fall within this classification. Nothing in the Act limits this classification to refrigerated products. When questions arise regarding the proper classification of a specific product, prevailing industry practices will be followed in specifying a contract payment due date. The burden of proof that a classification of a specific product is, in fact, prevailing industry practice is upon the Contractor making the representation.

(ii) If the contract does not require submission of an invoice for payment (e.g., periodic lease payments), the due date will be as specified in the contract.

(5) Contractor's invoice. The Contractor shall prepare and submit invoices to the designated billing office specified in the contract. Notwithstanding paragraph (g) of the clause at FAR 52.212-4, Contract Terms and Conditions—Commercial Items, if the Contractor submits hard-copy invoices, submit only an original invoice. No copies of the invoice are required. A proper invoice must include the items listed in subdivisions (a)(5)(i) through (a)(5)(viii) of this clause. If the invoice does not comply with these requirements, it shall be returned within 7 days after the date the designated billing office received the invoice (3 days for meat, meat food products, or fish; 5 days for perishable agricultural commodities, edible fats or oils, and food products prepared from edible fats or oils), with a statement of the reasons why it is not a proper invoice. Untimely notification will be taken into account in computing any interest penalty owed the Contractor in the manner described in subparagraph (a)(5) of this clause.

(i) Name and address of the Contractor.

(ii) Invoice date. (The Contractor is encouraged to date invoices as close as possible to the date of the mailing or transmission.)

(iii) Contract number or other authorization for supplies delivered or services performed (including order number and contract line item number).

(iv) Description, quantity, unit of measure, unit price, an extended prices of supplies delivered or services performed.

(v) Shipping and payment terms (e.g., shipment number and date of shipment, prompt payment discount terms). Bill of lading number and weight of shipment will be shown for shipments on Government bills or lading.

(vi) Name and address of Contractor official to whom payment is to be sent (must be the same as that in the contract or in a proper notice of assignment).

(vii) Name (where practicable), title, phone number, and mailing address of person to be notified in the event of a defective invoice.

(viii) Any other information or documentation required by the contract (such as evidence of shipment).

(ix) While not required, the Contractor is strongly encouraged to assign an identification number to each invoice.

(6) Interest penalty. An interest penalty shall be paid automatically by the designated payment office, without request from the Contractor, if payment is not made by the due date and the conditions listed in subdivisions (a)(6)(i) through (a)(6)(iii) of this clause are met, if applicable. However, when the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday when Federal Government offices are closed and Government business is not expected to be conducted, payment may be made on the following business day without incurring a late payment interest penalty.

(i) A proper invoice was received by the designated billing office.

(ii) A receiving report or other Government documentation authorizing payment was processed, and there was no disagreement over quantity, quality, or Contractor compliance with any contract term or condition.

(iii) In the case of a final invoice for any balance of funds due the Contractor for supplies delivered or services performed, the amount was not subject to further contract settlement actions between the Government and the Contractor.

(7) Computing penalty amount. The interest penalty shall be at the rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury under section 12 of the Contract Disputes Act of 1978 (41 U.S.C. 611) that is in effect on the day after the due date, except where the interest penalty is prescribed by other governmental authority (e.g., tariffs). This rate is referred to as the "Renegotiation Board Interest Rate," and it is published in the Federal Register semiannually on or about January 1 and July 1. The interest penalty shall accrue daily on the invoice principal payment amount approved by the Government until the payment date of such approved principal amount; and will be compounded in 30-day increments inclusive from the first day after the due date through the payment date. That is, interest accrued at the end of any 30-day period will be added to the approved invoice principal payment amount and will be subject to interest penalties if not paid in the succeeding 30-day period. If the designated billing office failed to notify the Contractor of a defective invoice within the periods prescribed in subparagraph (a)(5) of this clause, the due date on the corrected invoice will be adjusted by subtracting from such date the number of days taken beyond the prescribed notification of defects period. Any interest penalty owed the Contractor will be based on this adjusted due date. Adjustments will be made by the designated payment office for errors in calculating interest penalties.

(i) For the sole purpose of computing an interest penalty that might be due the Contractor, Government acceptance shall be deemed to have occurred constructively on the 7th day (unless otherwise specified in this contract) after the Contractor delivered the supplies or performed the services in accordance with the terms and conditions of the contract, unless there is a disagreement over quantity, quality or Contractor compliance with a contract provision. In the event that actual acceptance occurs within the constructive acceptance period, the determination of an interest penalty shall be based on the actual date of acceptance. The constructive acceptance requirement does, not however, compel Government officials to accept supplies or services, perform contract administration functions, or make payment prior to fulfilling their responsibilities.

(ii) The following periods of time will not be included in the determination of an interest penalty:

(A) The period taken to notify the Contractor of defects in invoices submitted to the Government, but this may not exceed 7 days (3 days for meat, meat food products, or fish; 5 days for perishable agricultural commodities, dairy products, edible fats or oils, and food products prepared from edible fats or oils).

(B) The period between the defects notice and resubmission of the corrected invoice by the Contractor.

(C) For incorrect electronic funds transfer (EFT) information, in accordance with the EFT clause of this contract.

(iii) Interest penalties will not continue to accrue after the filing of a claim for such penalties under the clause at 52.233-1, Disputes, or for more than 1 year. Interest penalties of less than \$1 need not be paid.

(iv) Interest penalties are not required on payment delays due to disagreement between the Government and the Contractor over the payment amount or other issues involving contract compliance or on amounts temporarily withheld or retained in accordance with the terms of the contract. Claims involving disputes, and any interest that may be payable, will be resolved in accordance with the clause at 52.233-1, Disputes.

(8) Prompt payment discounts. An interest penalty also shall be paid automatically by the designated payment office, without request from the Contractor, if a discount for prompt payment is taken improperly. The interest penalty will be calculated as described in subparagraph (a)(7) of this clause on the amount of discount taken for the period beginning with the first day after the end of the discount period through the date when the Contractor is paid.

(9) Additional interest penalty.

(i) If this contract was awarded on or October 1, 1989, a penalty amount, calculated in accordance with subdivision (a)(9)(iii) of this clause, shall be paid in addition to the interest penalty amount if the Contractor—

(A) Is owed an interest penalty of \$1 or more;

(B) Is not paid the interest penalty within 10 days after the date the invoice amount is paid; and

(C) Makes a written demand to the designated payment office for additional penalty payment, in accordance with subdivision (a)(9)(ii) of this clause, postmarked not later than 40 days after the invoice amount is paid.

(ii)(A) Contractors shall support written demands for additional penalty payments with the following data. No additional data shall be required. Contractors shall—

(1) Specifically assert that late payment interest is due under a specific invoice, and request payment of all overdue late payment interest penalty and such additional penalty as may be required;

(2) Attach a copy of the invoice on which the unpaid late payment interest was due; and

(3) State that payment of the principal has been received, including the date of receipt.

(B) Demands must be postmarked on or before the 40th day after payment was made, except that—

(1) If the postmark is illegible or nonexistent, the demand must have been received and annotated with the date of receipt by the designated payment office on or before the 40th day after payment was made; or

(2) If the postmark is illegible or nonexistent and the designated payment office fails to make the required annotation, the demand's validity will be determined by the date the Contractor has placed on the

demand; provided such date is no later than the 40th day after payment was made.

(iii)(A) The additional penalty shall be equal to 100 percent of any original late payment interest penalty, except—

(1) The additional penalty shall not exceed \$5,000;

(2) The additional penalty shall never be less than \$25; and

(3) No additional penalty is owed if the amount of the underlying interest penalty is less than \$1.

(B) If the interest penalty ceases to accrue in accordance with the limits stated in subdivision (a)(5)(iii) of this clause, the amount of the additional penalty shall be calculated on the amount of interest penalty that would have accrued in the absence of these limits, subject to the overall limits on the additional penalty specified in subdivision (a)(7)(iii)(A) of this clause.

(C) For determining the maximum and minimum additional penalties, the test shall be the interest penalty due on each separate payment made for each separate contract. The maximum and minimum additional penalty shall not be based upon individual invoices unless the invoices are paid separately. Where payments are consolidated for disbursing purposes, the maximum and minimum additional penalty determination shall be made separately for each contract therein.

(D) The additional penalty does not apply to payments regulated by other Government regulations (e.g., payments under utility contracts subject to tariffs and regulation).

(b) Contract financing payments.

(1) Due dates for recurring financing payments. If this contract provides for contract financing, requests for payment shall be submitted to the designated billing office as specified in this contract or as directed by the Contracting Officer. Contract financing payments shall be made on the [insert day as prescribed by Agency head; if not prescribed, insert 30th day] day after receipt of a proper contract financing request by the designated billing office. In the event that an audit or other review of a specific financing request is required to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the contract, the designated payment office is not compelled to make payment by the due date specified.

(2) Due dates for other contract financing. For advance payments, loans, or other arrangements that do not involve recurring submissions of contract financing requests, payment shall be in accordance with the corresponding contract terms or as directed by the Contracting Officer.

(3) Interest penalty not applicable. Contract financing payments shall not be assessed an interest penalty for payment delays.

(c) Fast payment procedure due dates. If this contract contains the clause at 52.213-1, Fast Payment Procedure, payments will be made within 15 days after the date of receipt of the invoice.

(End of clause)

552.232-70 Invoice Requirements.

As prescribed in 532.111(a), insert the following clause:

Invoice Requirements (Sep 1999)

(a) Invoices shall be submitted in an original only, unless otherwise specified, to the designated billing office specified in this contract or order.

(b) Invoices must include the Accounting Control Transaction (ACT) number provided below or on the order.

ACT Number (Contracting Officer insert number)

(c) In addition to the requirements for a proper invoice specified in the Prompt Payment clause on this contract or order, the following information or documentation must be submitted with each invoice:

(Contracting Officer list additional requirements.)

(End of clause)

552.232-71 Adjusting Payments.

As prescribed in 532.111(b), insert the following clause:

Adjusting Payments (Sep 1999)

(a) Under the Inspection of Services clause of this contract, payments may be adjusted if any services do not conform with contract requirements. The Contracting Officer or a designated representative will inform the Contractor, in writing, of the type and dollar amount of proposed deductions by the 10th workday of the month following the performance period for which the deductions are to be made.

(b) The Contractor may, within 10 working days of receipt of the notification of the proposed deductions, present to the Contracting Officer specific reasons why any or all of the proposed deductions are not justified. Reasons must be solidly based and must provide specific facts that justify reconsideration and/or adjustment of the amount to be deducted. Failure to respond within the 10-day period will be interpreted to mean that the Contractor accepts the deductions proposed.

(c) All or a portion of the final payment may be delayed or withheld until the Contracting Officer makes a final decision on the proposed deduction. If the Contracting Officer determines that any or all of the proposed deductions are warranted, the Contracting Officer shall so notify the Contractor, and adjust payments under the contract accordingly.

(End of clause)

552.232-72 Final Payment.

As prescribed in 532.111(c), insert the following clause:

Final Payment (Sep 1999)

Before final payment is made, the Contractor shall furnish the Contracting Officer with a release of all claims against the Government relating to this contract, other than claims in stated amounts that are specifically excepted by the Contractor from the release. If the Contractor's claim to amounts payable under the contract has been assigned under Assignment of Claims Act of 1940, as amended (31 U.S. 3727, 41 U.S.C. 15), a release may also be required of the assignee.

(End of clause)

552.232-73 Availability of Funds.

As prescribed in 532.705-1, insert the following clause:

Availability of Funds (Sep 1999)

The authorization of performance of work under this contract during the initial contract period and any option or extension period(s) is contingent upon the appropriation of funds to procure this service. If the contract is awarded, extended, or option(s) exercised, the Government's obligation beyond the end of the fiscal year (September 30), in which the award or extension is made or option(s) exercised, is contingent upon the availability of funds from which payment for the contract services can be made. No legal liability on the part of the Government for payment of any money beyond the end of the each fiscal year (September 30) shall arise unless or until funds are made available to the Contracting Officer for this procurement and written notice of such availability is given to the Contractor.

(End of clause)

552.232-74 Invoice Payments.

As prescribed in 532.908 (a)(1), insert the following clause:

Invoice Payments (Sep 1999)

(a) The due date for making invoice payments by the designated payment office is:

(1) For orders placed electronically by the General Services Administration (GSA) Federal Supply Service (FSS), and to be paid by GSA through electronic funds transfer (EFT), the later of the following two events:

(i) The 10th day after the designated billing office receives a proper invoice from the Contractor. If the designated billing office fails to annotate the invoice with the date of receipt at the time of receipt, the invoice payment due date shall be the 10th day after the date of the Contractor's invoice; provided the Contractor submitted a proper invoice and no disagreement exists over quantity, quality, or Contractor compliance with contract requirements.

(ii) The 10th day after Government acceptance of supplies delivered or services performed by the Contractor.

(2) For all other orders, the later of the following two events:

(i) The 30th day after the designated billing office receives a proper invoice from the Contractor. If the designated billing office fails to annotate the invoice with the date of receipt at the time of receipt, the invoice payment due date shall be the 30th day after the date of the Contractor's invoice; provided the Contractor submitted a proper invoice and no disagreement exists over quantity, quality, or Contractor compliance with contract requirements.

(ii) The 30th day after Government acceptance of supplies delivered or services performed by the Contractor.

(3) On a final invoice, if the payment amount is subject to contract settlement actions, acceptance occurs on the effective date of the contract settlement.

(b) The General Services Administration will issue payment on the due date in (a)(1)

above if the Contractor complies with full cycle electronic commerce. Full cycle electronic commerce includes all the following elements:

(1) The Contractor must receive and fulfill electronic data interchange (EDI) purchase orders (transaction set 850).

(2) The Contractor must generate and submit to the Government valid EDI invoices (transaction set 810) of submit invoices through the GSA Finance Center Internet-based invoice process. Internet-based invoices must be submitted using procedures provided by GSA.

(3) The Contractor's financial institution must receive and process, on behalf of the Contractor, EFT payments through the Automated Clearing House (ACH) system.

(4) The EDI transaction sets in (b)(1) through (b)(3) above must adhere to implementation conventions provided by GSA.

(c) If any of the conditions in (b) above do not occur, the 10-day payment due dates in (a)(1) become 30-day payment due dates.

(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (g) of the clause at FAR 52.212-4, Contract Terms and Conditions—Commercial Items, if the Contractor submits hard-copy invoices, submit only an original invoice. No copies of the invoice are required.

(e) All other provisions of the Prompt Payment Act (31 U.S.C. 3901 et seq.) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-125, Prompt Payment, apply. (End of clause)

552.232-75

As prescribed in 532.908 (b)(1), insert the following clause:

Prompt Payment (Sep 1999)

The Government will make payments under the terms and conditions specified in this clause. Payment shall be considered as being made on the day a check is dated or an electronic funds transfer is made. All days referred to in this clause are calendar days, unless otherwise specified.

(a) *Payment due date.*

(1) *Rental Payments.* Rent shall be paid monthly in arrears and will be due on the first workday of each month, and only as provided for by the lease.

(i) When the date for commencement of rent falls on the 15th day of the month or earlier, the initial monthly rental payment under this contract shall become due on the first workday of the month following the month in which the commencement of the rent is effective.

(ii) When the date for commencement of rent falls after the 15th day of the month, the initial monthly rental payment under this contract shall become due on the first workday of the second month following the month in which the commencement of the rent is effective.

(2) *Other payments.* The due date for making payments other than rent shall be the later of the following two events:

(i) The 30th day after the designated billing office has received a proper invoice from the Contractor.

(ii) The 30th day after Government acceptance of the work or service. However,

if the designated billing office fails to annotate the invoice with the actual date of receipt, the invoice payment due date shall be deemed to be the 30th day after the Contractor's invoice is dated, provided a proper invoice is received and there is no disagreement over quantity, quality, or Contractor compliance with contract requirements.

(b) *Invoice and inspection requirements for payments other than rent.*

(1) The Contractor shall prepare and submit an invoice to the designated billing office after completion of the work. A proper invoice shall include the following items:

- (i) Names and address of the Contractor.
- (ii) Invoice date.
- (iii) Lease number.
- (iv) Government's order number or other authorization.

(v) Description, price, and quantity of work or services delivered.

(vi) Name and address of Contractor official to whom payment is to be sent (must be the same as that in the remittance address in the lease or the order).

(vii) Name (where practicable), title, phone number, and mailing address of person to be notified in the event of a defective invoice.

(2) The Government will inspect and determine the acceptability of the work performed or services delivered within 7 days after the receipt of a proper invoice or notification of completion of the work or services unless a different period is specified at the time the order is placed. If actual acceptance occurs later, for the purpose of determining the payment due date and calculation of interest, acceptance will be deemed to occur on the last day of the 7 day inspection period. If the work or service is rejected for failure to conform to the technical requirements of the contract, the 7 days will be counted beginning with receipt of a new invoice or notification. In either case, the Contractor is not entitled to any payment or interest unless actual acceptance by the Government occurs.

(c) *Interest Penalty.*

(1) An interest penalty shall be paid automatically by the Government, without request from the Contractor, if payment is not made by the due date.

(2) The interest penalty shall be at the rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury under Section 12 of the Contract Disputes Act of 1978 (41 U.S.C. 611) that is in effect on the day after the due date. This rate is referred to as the "Renegotiation Board Interest Rate," and it is published in the **Federal Register** semiannually on or about January 1 and July 1. The interest penalty shall accrue daily on the payment amount approved by the Government and be compounded in 30-day increments inclusive from the first day after the due date through the payment date.

(3) Interest penalties will not continue to accrue after the filing of a claim for such penalties under the clause at 52.233-1, Disputes, or for more than 1 year. Interest rates penalties of less than \$1.00 need not be paid.

(4) Interest penalties are not required on payment delays due to disagreement between the Government and Contractor over the

payment amount or other issues involving contract compliance or on amounts temporarily withheld or retained in accordance with the terms of the contract. Claims involving disputes, and any interest that may be payable, will be resolved in accordance with the clause at 52.233-1, Disputes.

(End of clause)

Alternate I (SEP 1999). If Alternate I is used, subparagraph (a)(1) of the basic clause should be designated as paragraph (a) and subparagraph (a)(2) and paragraph (b) should be deleted. Paragraph (c) of the basic clause should be redesignated (b).

552.232-76 Electronic Funds Transfer Payment.

As prescribed in 532.908(b)(2), insert the following clause:

Electronic Funds Transfer Payment (Sep 1999)

(a) The Government will make payments under this lease by electronic funds transfer (EFT). The Lessor must, no later than 30 days before the first payment:

(1) Designate a financial institution for receipt of EFT payments.

(2) Submit this designation to the Contracting Officer or other Government official, as directed.

(b) The Lessor must provide the following information:

(1) The American Bankers Association 9-digit identifying number for wire transfers of the financing institution receiving payment if the institution has access to the Federal Reserve Communications System.

(2) Number of account to which funds are to be deposited.

(3) Type of depositor account ("C" for checking, "S" for savings).

(4) If the Lessor is a new enrollee to the EFT system, the Lessor must complete and submit a "Payment Information Form," SF 3881, before payment can be processed.

(c) If the Lessor, during the performance of this contract, elects to designate a different financial institution for the receipt of any payment, the appropriate Government official must receive notice of such change and the required information specified above no later than 30 days before the date such change is to become effective.

(d) The documents furnishing the information required in this clause must be dated and contain the:

(1) Signature, title, and telephone number of the Lessor or the Lessor's authorized representative.

(2) Lessor's name.

(3) Lease number.

(e) Lessor's failure to properly designate a financial institution or to provide appropriate payee bank account information may delay payments of amounts otherwise properly due.

(End of clause)

552.232-77 Payment By Credit Card.

As prescribed in 532.7003, insert the following clause:

Payment By Credit Card (Sep. 1999)

(a) Definitions. "Government commercial credit card" means the uniquely numbered credit card issued by a contractor under GSA's Governmentwide Contract for Fleet, Travel, and Purchase Card Services to named individual Government employees to pay for official Government purchases.

"Oral order" means an order placed orally either in person or by telephone.

(b) At the option of the Government and if agreeable to the Contractor, payments of _____* or less for oral or written orders may be made using the Government commercial credit card.

(c) The Contractor shall not process a transaction for payment through the credit card clearinghouse until the purchased supplies have been shipped or services performed. Unless the cardholder requests correction or replacement of a defective or faulty item in accordance with other contract requirements, the Contractor shall immediately credit a cardholder's account for items returned as defective or faulty.

(d) Payments made using the Government Commercial Credit Card are not eligible for any negotiated prompt payment discount. Payment made using a Government debit card will receive the applicable prompt payment discount.

(End of clause)

* Enter amount not to exceed \$100,000.

Alternate I (SEP 1999). For solicitations and contracts under which other agencies may place orders directly, replace paragraph (b) of the basic clause with the following:

(b) At the option of the Government and if agreeable to the Contractor, payments for oral or written orders may be made using the Government commercial purchase card. The dollar value of a purchase card action must not exceed the ordering agency's established limit.

552.233-70 Protests Filed Directly with the General Services Administration.

As prescribed in 533.103-72, insert the following provisions:

Protests Filed Directly With the General Services Administration (Sep. 1999)

(a) The following definitions apply in this provision:

"Agency Protest Official for GSA" means the official in the Office of Acquisition Policy designated to review and decide procurement protests filed with GSA.

"Deciding official" means the person chosen by the protester to decide the agency protest. The deciding official may be either the Contracting Officer or the Agency Protest Official.

(b) The filing time frames in FAR 33.103(e) apply. An agency protest is filed when the protest complaint is received at the location the solicitation designates for serving protests. GSA's hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Protests delivered after 4:30 p.m. will be considered received and filed the following business day.

(c) A protest filed directly with the General Services Administration (GSA) must:

(1) Indicate that it is a protest to the agency.

(2) Be filed with the Contracting Officer.

(3) State whether the protester chooses to have the Contracting Officer or the Agency Protest Official for GSA decide the protest. If the protest is silent on this matter, the Contracting Officer will decide the protest.

(4) Indicate whether the protester prefers to make an oral presentation, a written presentation, or an oral presentation confirmed in writing, of arguments in support of the protest to the deciding official.

(5) Include the information required by FAR 33.103(d)(2):

(i) Name, address, fax number, and telephone number of the protester.

(ii) Solicitation or contract number.

(iii) Detailed statement of the legal and factual grounds for the protest, to include a description of resulting prejudice to the protester.

(iv) Copies of relevant documents.

(v) Request for a ruling by the agency.

(vi) Statement as to the form of relief requested.

(vii) All information establishing that the protester is an interested party for the purpose of filing a protest.

(viii) All information establishing the timeliness of the protest (see paragraph (b) of this provision).

(d) An interested party filing a protest with GSA has the choice of requesting either that the Contracting Officer or the Agency Protest Official for GSA decide the protest.

(e) The decision by the Agency Protest Official for GSA is an alternative to a decision by the Contracting Officer. The Agency Protest Official for GSA will not consider appeals from the Contracting Officer's decision on an agency protest.

(f) The deciding Official must conduct a scheduling conference with the protester within three (3) days after the protest is filed. The scheduling conference will establish deadlines for oral or written arguments in support of the agency protest and for agency officials to present information in response to the protest issues. The deciding official may hear oral arguments in support of the agency protest at the same time as the scheduling conference, depending on availability of the necessary parties.

(g) Oral conferences may take place either by telephone or in person. Other parties (e.g., representatives of the program office) may attend at the discretion of the deciding official.

(h) The following procedures apply to information submitted in support of or in response to an agency protest:

(1) The protester and the agency have only one opportunity to support or explain the substance of the protest (either orally, in writing, or orally confirmed in writing).

(2) GSA procedures do not provide for any discovery.

(3) The deciding official has discretion to request additional information from either the agency or the protester. However, the deciding official will normally decide protests on the basis of information provided by the protester and the agency.

(4) The parties are encouraged, but not required, to exchange information submitted to the Agency Protest Official for GSA.

(5) Any written response by the agency to the protest must be filed with the deciding

official within five (5) days after the filing of the protest.

(6) Any additional information that either party wants to submit in writing after one-time oral arguments in support of the agency protest, must be received by the deciding official within two (2) days after the date of the oral arguments.

(i) The deciding official will resolve the protest through informal presentations or meetings to the maximum extent practicable.

(j) An interested party may represent itself or be represented by legal counsel. GSA will not reimburse the party for any legal fees related to the agency protest.

(k) GSA will stay award or suspend contract performance in accordance with FAR 33.103(f). The stay or suspension, unless over-ridden, remains in effect until the protest is decided, dismissed, or withdrawn.

(l) The deciding official will make a best effort to issue a decision on the protest within twenty-eight (28) days after the filing date. The decision may be oral or written. If the decision is communicated orally to the protester, the deciding official will confirm in writing within three (3) days after the decision.

(m) GSA may dismiss or stay proceedings on an agency protest if a protest on the same or similar basis is filed with a protest forum outside of GSA.

(End of provision)

552.236-70 Definitions.

As prescribed in 536.570-1, insert the following clause:

Definitions (Apr 1984)

The terms "Administration" and "Service" as used in this contract shall mean the General Services Administration (GSA) and the Public Buildings Service (PBS), respectively.

(End of clause)

552.236-71 Authorities and Limitations.

As prescribed in 536.570-2, insert the following clause:

Authorities and Limitations (Apr 1984)

(a) All work shall be performed under the general direction of the Contracting Officer, who alone shall have the power to bind the Government and to exercise the rights, responsibilities, authorities and functions vested in him by the contract documents, except that he shall have the right to designate authorized representatives to act for him. Wherever any provision in this contract specifies an individual (such as, but not limited to, Construction Engineer, Resident Engineer, Inspector or Custodian) or organization, whether governmental or private, to perform any act on behalf of or in the interests of the Government, that individual or organization shall be deemed to be the Contracting Officer's authorized representative under this contract but only to the extent so specified. The Contracting Officer may, at any time during the performance of this contract, vest in any such authorized representatives additional power and authority to act for him or designate additional representatives, specifying the extent of their authority to act for him; a copy

of each document vesting additional authority in an authorized representative or designating an additional authorized representative shall be furnished to the Contractor.

(b) The Contractor shall perform the contract in accordance with any order (including but not limited to instruction, direction, interpretation, or determination) issued by an authorized representative in accordance with his authority to act for the Contracting Officer; but the Contractor assumes all the risk and consequences of performing the contract in accordance with any order (including but not limited to instruction, direction, interpretation, or determination) of anyone not authorized to issue such order.

(End of clause)

552.236-72 Specialist.

As prescribed in 536.570-3, insert the following clause:

Specialist (Apr 1984)

The term "Specialist," as used in the contract specification, shall mean an individual or firm of established reputation (or, if newly organized, whose personnel have previously established a reputation in the same field), which is regularly engaged in, and which maintains a regular force of workmen skilled in either (as applicable) manufacturing or fabricating items required by the contract, installing items required by the contract, or otherwise performing work required by the contract. Where the contract specification requires installation by a specialist, that term shall also be deemed to mean either the manufacturer of the item, an individual or firm licensed by the manufacturer, or an individual or firm who will perform the work under the manufacturer's direct supervision.

(End of clause)

552.236-73 Basis of Award—Construction Contract.

As prescribed in 536.570-4, insert the following provision or the appropriate Alternate:

Basis of Award—Construction Contract (Apr 1985)

(a) The low bidder for purposes of award is the responsible bidder offering the lowest price for the base bid (consisting of the lump sum bid and any associated unit price bids extended by the applicable number of units shown on the bid form). See Standard Form 1442, Solicitation, Offer, and Award and the provision entitled "Contract Award—Sealed Bidding."

(b) A bid may be rejected as nonresponsive if the bid is materially unbalanced as to bid prices. A bid is unbalanced when the bid is based on prices significantly less than cost for some work and significantly overstated for other work.

(End of provision)

Alternate I (APR 1985). if the solicitation includes a base bid and options, the Contracting Officer shall delete paragraph (a) of the basic provision and insert paragraph (a) substantially as follows:

(a) The low bidder for purposes of award is the responsible bidder offering the lowest aggregate price for (1) the base bid (consisting of the lump sum bid and any associated unit price bids extended by the applicable number of units shown on the bid form) plus (2) all options designated to be evaluated. The evaluation of options will not obligate the Government to exercise the options. See Standard Form 1442, Solicitation, Offer, and Award and the provision entitled "Contract Award—Sealed Bidding."

Alternate II (APR 1985). If the solicitation includes a base bid and alternates, the Contracting Officer shall delete paragraph (a) of the basic provision and insert paragraphs (a), (c), and (d) substantially as follows:

(a) The low bidder for purposes of award is the responsible bidder offering the lowest aggregate price for (1) the base bid (consisting of the lump sum bid and any associated unit price bids extended by the applicable number of units shown on the bid form) plus (2) those alternates in the order of priority listed in the solicitation that provide the most features of work within the funds available at bid opening. See the provision entitled "Contract Award—Sealed Bidding."

(c) Alternates will be added to the base bid in the order listed in the solicitation (see Standard Form 1442, Solicitation, Offer, and Award). If the addition of an alternate would make all bids exceed the funds available at bid opening, that alternate shall be skipped and the next subsequent alternate in a lower amount shall be added, provided that the aggregate of base bid and the selected alternates do not exceed the funds available at bid opening. For example, when the amount available is \$100,000 and a bidder's base bid is \$85,000, with its separate bids on four successive alternatives being \$10,000, \$8,000, \$6,000, and \$4,000, the aggregate amount of the bid for purposes of selecting the alternates would be \$99,000 (base bid plus the first and four alternates). The second and third alternates are skipped because each of them would cause the aggregate of the base bid and alternates to exceed the \$100,000 amount available when considered with the first alternate. All bids shall be evaluated on the basis of the same alternates.

(d) After the low bidder has been determined in accordance with paragraph (a), an award may be made to that low bidder on the base bid, plus any combination of alternates for which funds are available at the time of award, but only if the award amount does not exceed the amount offered by any other responsible bidder. If the base bid plus the proposed combination of alternates exceed the amount offered by any other responsible bidder for the same combination of alternates, the award cannot be made on that combination of alternates.

Alternate III (APR 1985). If the solicitation includes a base bid, alternates, and options, the Contracting Officer shall delete paragraph (a) of the basic provision and insert paragraphs (a), (c), and (d) substantially as follows:

(a) The low bidder for purposes of award is the responsible bidder offering the lowest aggregate price for (1) the base bid (consisting of the lump sum bid and any associated unit price bids extended by the applicable

number of units shown on the bid form) plus (2) those alternates in the order of priority listed in the solicitation that provide the most features of work within the funds available at bid opening plus (3) all options designated to be evaluated except those options associated with alternates which are skipped during the selection process outlined in paragraph (c) below. The evaluation of options will not obligate the Government to exercise the options. See the provision entitled "Contract Award—Sealed Bidding."

(c) Alternates will be added to the base bid in the order listed in the solicitation (see Standard Form 1442, Solicitation, Offer, or Award). If the addition of an alternate would make all bids exceed the funds available at bid opening, that alternate shall be skipped and the next subsequent alternate in a lower amount shall be added, provided that the aggregate of base bid and the selected alternates do not exceed the funds available at bid opening. For example, when the amount available is \$100,000 and a bidder's base bid is \$85,000, with its separate bids on four successive alternates being \$10,000, \$8,000, \$6,000, and \$4,000, the aggregate amount of the bid for purposes of selecting the alternates would be \$99,000 (base bid plus the first and fourth alternates). The second and third alternates are skipped because each of them would cause the aggregate of the base bid and alternates to exceed the \$100,000 amount available when considered with the first alternate. All bids shall be evaluated on the basis of the same alternates.

(d) After the low bidder has been determined in accordance with paragraph (a), award may be made to that low bidder on the base bid and evaluated options plus any combination of alternates for which funds are available at the time of award, but only if that low bidder is still low on the sum thereof plus any previously unevaluated options designated to be evaluated which are associated with proposed alternates that were skipped during the selection under paragraph (c). If that low bidder is not still low, award cannot be made on the proposed combination of alternates.

552.236-74 Working Hours.

As prescribed in 536.570-5, insert the following clause:

Working Hours (Apr 1984)

(a) It is contemplated that all work will be performed during the customary working hours of the trades involved unless otherwise specified in this contract. Work performed by the Contractor at his own volition outside such customary working hours shall be at no additional expense to the Government.

(b) Any requests received by the Contractor from occupants of existing buildings to change the hours of work shall be referred to the Contracting Officer for determination. (End of clause)

552.236-75 Use of Premises.

As prescribed in 536.570-6, insert the following clause:

Use of Premises (Apr 1984)

(a) If the premises are occupied, the Contractor, his subcontractors, and their

employees shall comply with the regulations governing access to, operation of, and conduct while in or on the premises and shall perform the work required under this contract in such a manner as not to unreasonably interrupt or interfere with the conduct of Government business.

(b) Any request received by the Contractor from occupants of existing buildings to change the sequence of work shall be referred to the Contracting Officer for determination.

(c) If the premises are occupied, the Contractor, his subcontractors and their employees shall not have access to or be admitted into any building outside the scope of this contract except with official permission.

(End of clause)

552.236-76 Measurements.

As prescribed in 536.570-7, insert the following clause:

Measurements (Apr 1984)

All dimensions shown of existing work and all dimensions required for work that is to connect with work now in place, shall be verified by the Contractor by actual measurement of the existing work. Any discrepancies between the contract requirements and the existing conditions shall be referred to the Contracting Officer before any work affected thereby has been performed.

(End of clause)

552.236-77 Specifications and Drawings

As prescribed in 536.570-8, insert the following clause:

Specifications and Drawings (Sep 1999)

The requirements of the clause entitled "Specifications and Drawings for Construction" at FAR 52.236-21, are supplemented as follows:

(a) In case of difference between small and large-scale drawings, the large-scale drawings shall govern. Schedules on any contract drawing shall take precedence over conflicting information on that or any other contract drawing. On any of the drawings where a portion of the work is detailed or drawn out and the remainder is shown in outline, the parts detailed or drawn out shall apply also to all other like portions of the work.

(b) Where the word "similar" occurs on the drawings, it shall have a general meaning and not be interpreted as being identical, and all details shall be worked out in relation to their location and their connection with other parts of the work.

(c) Standard Details or Specification Drawings are applicable when listed, bound with the specifications, noted on the drawings or referenced elsewhere in the specifications. Where the notes on the drawings indicate modifications, such modifications shall govern.

(d) In case of difference between Standard Details or Specification Drawings and the specifications, the specifications will govern. In case of difference between the Standard Details or Specification Drawings and their drawings prepared specifically for this contract, the later shall govern.

(End of clause)

552.236-78 Shop Drawings, Coordination Drawings, and Schedules.

As prescribed in 536.570-9, insert the following clause:

Shop Drawings, Coordination Drawings, and Schedules (Sep 1999)

The requirements, of the clause entitled "Specifications and Drawings for Construction" at FAR 52.236-21, are supplemented as follows:

(a) The Contractor shall submit shop drawings, coordination drawings, and schedules for approval as required by the specifications or requested by the Contracting Officer as follows:

(b) Show drawings shall include fabrication, erection and setting drawings, schedule drawings, manufacturers' scale drawings, wiring and control diagrams, cuts or entire catalogs, pamphlets, descriptive literature, and performance and test data.

(c) Drawings and schedules, other than catalogs, pamphlets and similar printed material, shall be submitted in reproducible form with two prints made by a process approved by the Contracting Officer. Upon approval, the reproducible form will be returned to the Contractor who shall then furnish the number of additional prints, not to exceed 10, required by the specifications. The Contractor shall submit shop drawings in catalog, pamphlet and similar printed form in a minimum of four copies plus as many additional copies as the Contractor may desire or need for his use or use by subcontractors.

(d) Before submitting shop drawings on the mechanical and electrical work, the Contractor shall submit and obtain the Contracting Officer's approval of such lists of mechanical and electrical equipment and materials as may be required by the specifications.

(e) Each shop drawing or coordination drawing shall have a blank area 5 by 5 inches, located adjacent to the title block. The title block shall display the following:
Number and title of drawing
Date of drawing or revision
Name of project building or facility
Name of Contractor and (if appropriate) name of subcontractor submitting drawing
Clear identify of contents and location on the work
Project title and contract number

(f) Unless otherwise provided in this contract, or otherwise directed by the Contracting Officer, shop drawings, coordination drawings and schedules shall be submitted to the Contracting Officer, with a letter in triplicate, sufficiently in advance of construction requirements to permit no less than 10 working days for checking and appropriate action.

(g) Approval of drawings and schedules will be general and shall not be construed as permitting any departure from the contract requirements, or as approving departures from full-size details furnished by the Contracting Officer.

(End of clause)

552.236-79 Samples.

As prescribed in 536.570-10, insert the following clause:

Samples (Apr 1984)

(a) After the award of the contract, the Contractor shall furnish for the approval of the Contracting Officer samples required by the specifications or by the Contracting Officer. Samples shall be delivered to the Contracting Officer or to the Architect as specified or as directed. The Contractor shall prepay all shipping charges on samples. Materials or equipment for which samples are required shall not be used in the work until approved in writing by the Contracting Officer.

(b) Each sample shall have a label indicating:

- (1) Name of project building or facility, project title and contract number.
- (2) Name of Contractor and, if appropriate, name of subcontractor.
- (3) Identification of material or equipment with specification requirement.
- (4) Place of origin.
- (5) Name of producer and brand (if any).

Samples of finished materials shall have additional markings that will identify them under the finish schedules.

(c) The Contractor shall mail under separate cover a letter in triplicate submitting each shipment of samples and containing the information required in paragraph (b) of this clause. He shall enclose a copy of this letter with the shipment and send a copy to the Government representative on the project. Approval of a sample shall be only for the characteristics or use named in such approval and shall not be construed to change or modify any contract requirement. Substitutions will not be permitted unless they are approved in writing by the Contracting Officer.

(d) Approved samples not destroyed in testing will be sent to the Government representative at the project. Approved samples of hardware in good condition will be marked for identification and may be used in the work. Materials and equipment, incorporated in the work shall match the approved samples. Other samples not destroyed in testing or not approved will be returned to the Contractor at his expense if so requested at time of submission.

(e) Failure of any material to pass the specified tests will be sufficient cause for refusal to consider, under this contract, any further samples of the same brand or make of that material or equipment which previously has proved unsatisfactory in service.

(f) Samples of various materials or equipment delivered on the site or in place may be taken by the Government representative for testing. Samples failing to meet contract requirements, or there shall be a proper adjustment of the contract price as determined by the Contracting Officer.

(g) Unless otherwise specified, when tests are required only one test of each sample proposed for use will be made at the expense of the Government. Samples which do not meet specification requirements will be rejected. Testing of additional samples will be made by the Government at the expense of the Contractor.

(End of clause)

552.236-80 Heat.

As prescribed in 536.570-11, insert the following clause:

Heat (Apr 1984)

Unless otherwise specified or unless already provided by the Government the Contractor shall:

(a) Provide heat, as necessary to protect all work, materials, and equipment against injury from dampness and cold;

(b) Protect, cover and/or heat as may be necessary, to provide and maintain a temperature of not less than 50 degrees Fahrenheit (1) in the concrete during the placing, setting and curing of concrete, and (2) in the plaster during the application, setting and curing of plaster; and

(c) Provide heat as necessary in the area where work is to be done to provide the minimum temperature recommended by the supplier or manufacturer of the material, but in no case less than 50 degrees Fahrenheit, for a period beginning 10 days before placing or interior finishes and finish materials and continuing until completion or beneficial occupancy of the area, whichever is earlier.
(End of clause)

552.236-81 Use of Equipment by the Government.

As prescribed in 536.570-12, insert the following clause:

Use of Equipment by the Government (Apr 1984)

(a) The Government may take over and operate, with Government employees, such equipment as is necessary for heating or cooling such areas of the building as require the service, as soon as the installation is sufficiently complete.

(b) The Contracting Officer will advise the Contractor by letter, prior to the use of equipment, which items of equipment will be operated, and the date and time such operation will begin.

(c) Government operation of equipment will not relieve the Contractor of the one-year guarantee on materials and workmanship elsewhere provided for in this contract.

(d) The guarantee period, elsewhere provided for in this contract, for each piece of equipment shall be in accordance with the "Guarantees" clause of this contract.

(End of clause)

552.236-82 Subcontracts.

As prescribed in 536.570-13, insert the following clause:

Subcontracts (Apr 1984)

(a) Nothing contained in the contract shall be construed as creating any contractual relationship between any subcontractor and the Government. The divisions or sections of the specifications are not intended to control the Contractor in dividing the work among subcontractors, or to limit the work performed by any trade.

(b) The Contractor shall be responsible to the Government for acts and omissions of his own employees and of subcontractors and

their employees. He shall also be responsible for the coordination of the work of the trades, subcontractors and suppliers.

(c) The Government will not undertake to settle any differences between or among the Contractor, subcontractors, or suppliers. (End of clause)

552.236-83 Requirement for a Project Labor Agreement.

As prescribed in 536.570-14, insert a clause substantially the same as the following:

Requirement for a Project Labor Agreement (Sep 1999)

(a) Definition. "Project Labor Agreement" (PLA) means an agreement between the contractor, subcontractors, and the union(s) representing workers. Under a PLA, the contractor and subcontractors on a project and the union(s) agree on terms and conditions of employment for the project, establishing a framework for labor-management cooperation to advance the Government's procurement interest in cost, efficiency, and quality.

(b) The Contractor shall, after contract award, enter into a PLA for performance of [Insert project or contract name]. The PLA binds the Contractor and subcontractors of whatever tier engaged in onsite construction work. The PLA shall include all the following terms:

- (1) Guarantees against strikes, lockouts, and similar work disruptions.
- (2) Effective, prompt and mutually binding procedures for resolving labor disputes arising during the project.
- (3) Other mechanisms for labor-management cooperation on matters of mutual interest and concern, including productivity, quality of work, safety, and health.
- (4) The PLA shall fully conform to all applicable statutes, regulations, and Executive Orders.

(c) Any PLA reached under this clause shall not change the terms of this contract or provide for any pricing adjustment by the Government.

(d) The Government shall not participate in the negotiations of any PLA.

(e) Nothing in this clause precludes contractors or subcontractors from competing for contracts or subcontracts on this project without discrimination based on union or non-union status. (End of clause)

552.237-70 Qualifications of Offerors.

As prescribed in 537.110(a), insert the following provision:

Qualifications of Offerors (May 1989)

(a) Offers will be considered only from responsible organizations or individuals now or recently engaged in the performance of building service contracts comparable to those described in this solicitation. In order to determine an Offeror's qualifications, the Offeror may be requested to furnish a narrative statement listing comparable contracts which it has performed; a general history of its operating organization; and its

complete experience. An Offeror may also be required to furnish a statement of its financial resources; show that it has the ability to maintain a staff of regular employees adequate to ensure continuous performance of the work; and, demonstrate that its equipment and/or plant capacity for the work contemplated is sufficient, adequate, and suitable.

(b) Competency in performing comparable building service contracts, demonstration of acceptable financial resources, personnel staffing, plant, equipment, and supply sources will be considered in determining whether an Offeror is responsible.

(c) Prospective Offerors are advised that in evaluating these areas involving any small business concern(s), any negative determinations are subject to the Certificate of Competency procedures set forth in the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

(End of provision)

552.237-71 Qualifications of Employees.

As prescribed in 537.110(b), insert the following clause:

Qualifications of Employees (May 1989)

(a) The contracting officer or a designated representative may require the Contractor to remove any employee(s) from GSA controlled buildings or other real property should it be determined that the individual(s) is either unsuitable for security reasons or otherwise unfit to work on GSA controlled property.

(b) The Contractor shall fill out and cause all of its employees performing work on the contract work to fill out, for submission to the Government, such forms as may be necessary for security or other reasons. Upon request of the Contracting Officer, the Contractor and its employees shall be fingerprinted.

(c) Each employee of the Contractor shall be a citizen of the United States of America, or an alien who has been lawfully admitted for permanent residence as evidenced by Alien Registration Receipt Card Form I-151, or, who presents other evidence from the Immigration and Naturalization Service that employment will not affect his immigration status.

(End of clause)

552.237-72 Prohibition Regarding "Quasi-Military Armed Forces."

As prescribed in 537.110(c), insert the following clause:

Prohibition Regarding "Quasi-Military Armed Forces" (Sep 1999)

The Contractor must not, during the term of this contract, offer for hire "Quasi-Military Armed Forces" within the meaning of the court decision in United States ex. rel. Weinberger v. Equifax, 557 F.2d 456 (5th Cir. 1977).

(End of clause)

552.237-73 Restriction on Disclosure of Information.

As prescribed in 537.270, insert the following clause:

Restriction on Disclosure of Information (Sep 1999)

(a) The Contractor shall, in the performance of this contract, keep all information contained in source documents or other media furnished by the Government in the strictest confidence. The Contractor shall not publish or otherwise divulge such information in whole or in part, in any manner or form, nor authorize or permit others to do so. The Contractor shall take such reasonable measures as are necessary to restrict access to such information, while in the Contractor's possession, to those employees needing such information to perform the work provided herein, i.e., on a "need to know" basis. The Contractor shall immediately notify, in writing, the Contracting Officer in the event that the Contractor determines or has reason to suspect a breach of this requirement.

(b) The Contractor shall not disclose any information concerning the work under this contract to any person or individual unless the Contractor obtains prior written approval from the Contracting Officer.

(c) The Contractor shall insert the substance of this clause in any consultant agreement or subcontract under this contract.

(d) Any unauthorized disclosure of information may result in termination of this contract for cause.

(End of clause)

552.238-70 Identification of Electronic Office Equipment Providing Accessibility for the Handicapped.

As prescribed in 538.273(a)(1), insert the following clause:

Identification of Electronic Office Equipment Providing Accessibility for the Handicapped (Sept 1991)

(a) *Definitions.* "Electronic office equipment accessibility" means the application/configuration of electronic office equipment (includes hardware, software and firmware) in a manner that accommodates the functional limitations of individuals with disabilities (i.e., handicapped individuals) so as to promote productivity and provide access to work related and/or public information resources.

"Handicapped individuals" mean qualified individuals with impairments as cited in 29 CFR 1613.702(f) who can benefit from electronic office equipment accessibility.

"Special peripheral" means a special needs aid that provides access to electronic equipment that is otherwise inaccessible to a handicapped individual.

(b) The offeror is encouraged to identify in its offer, and include in any commercial catalogs and pricelists accepted by the Contracting Officer, office equipment, including any special peripheral, that will facilitate electronic office equipment accessibility for handicapped individuals. Identification should include the type of disability accommodated and how the users with that disability would be helped. (End of clause)

552.238-71 Submission and Distribution of Authorized FSS Schedule Pricelists.

As prescribed in 538.273(a)(2), insert the following clause:

Submission and Distribution of Authorized FSS Schedule Pricelists (Sep 1999)

(a) Definition. For the purposes of this clause, the Mailing List is [Contracting officer shall insert either: "the list of addressees provided to the Contractor by the Contracting Officer" or "the Contractor's listing of its Federal Government customers"].

(b) The Contracting Officer will return one copy of the Authorized FSS Schedule Pricelist to the Contractor with the notification of contract award.

(c)(1) The Contractor shall provide to the GSA Contracting Officer:

(i) Two paper copies of Authorized FSS Schedule Pricelist; and

(ii) The Authorized FSS Schedule Pricelist on a common-use electronic medium.

The Contracting Officer will provide detailed instructions for the electronic submission with the award notification. Some structured data entry in a prescribed format may be required.

(2) The Contractor shall provide to each addressee on the mailing list either:

(i) One paper copy of the Authorized FSS Schedule Price List; or

(ii) A self-addressed, postage-paid envelope or postcard to be returned by addressee that want to receive a paper copy of the pricelist. The Contractor shall distribute price lists within 20 calendar days after receipt of returned requests.

(3) The Contractor shall advise each addressee of the availability of pricelist information through the on-line Multiple Award Schedule electronic data base.

(d) The Contractor shall make all of the distributions required in paragraph (c) at least 15 calendar days before the beginning of the contract period, or within 30 calendar days after receipt of the Contracting Officer's approval for printing, whichever is later.

(e) During the period of the contract, the Contractor shall provide one copy of its Authorized FSS Schedule Pricelist to any authorized schedule user, upon request. Use of the mailing list for any other purpose is not authorized.

(End of clause)

552.238-72 Identification of Energy-Efficient Office Equipment and Supplies Containing Recovered Materials or Other Environmental Attributes.

As prescribed in 538.273(a)(3), insert the following clause:

Identification of Energy-Efficient Office Equipment and Supplies Containing Recovered Materials or Other Environmental Attributes (Sep. 1999)

(a) Definitions. "Energy-efficient office equipment," as used in this clause, means office equipment that, in representative use, provides equivalent or better performance and value to users, but uses significantly less energy than most functionally equivalent models.

"Recovered materials," as used in this clause, means waste material and by-

products which have been recovered or diverted from solid waste, but such term does not include those materials and by-products generated from, and commonly reused, within an original manufacturing process (42 U.S.C. 6903(19)). For paper, it also includes postconsumer materials, and manufacturing and certain other wastes. (42 U.S.C. 6962(h)).

"Remanufactured products," as used in this clause, means equipment or parts that have been factory remanufactured or rebuilt to meet new equipment or part performance specifications and have had no use subsequent to their remanufacture.

(b) The offeror shall identify in its offer and include in any commercial catalogs and pricelists and any resultant Government catalogs or pricelists submitted to the Contracting Officer, energy-efficient office equipment and supplies that contain recovered material, remanufactured products, or other environmental attributes. Examples of energy-efficient office equipment are microcomputers and associated equipment that meet the requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Energy Star Computers Program. Supplies that contain recovered materials and other environmental attributes include, but are not limited to, products identified in EPA procurement guidelines (40 CFR Subchapter I) and products that are either degradable, ozone safe, recyclable, contain low volatile organic content compounds, contribute to source reduction, or otherwise are designed or manufactured to achieve environmental improvement. For example, an offeror can identify products that are safe or safer alternatives for more toxic or hazardous products and products that can be substituted for ones manufactured with toxic or hazardous materials. Such supplies shall satisfy the guidance contained in 16 CFR Part 260, Guides for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims.

(c) An offeror, in identifying an item with an environmental attribute, shall possess evidence or rely upon a reasonable basis to substantiate the claim (see 16 CFR 260.5). The Government will accept an offeror's claim of an item's environmental attribute on the basis of—

(1) Participation in a Federal agency sponsored program, e.g., EPA's Energy Star Computer program;

(2) Verification by an independent organization that specializes in certifying such claims; or

(3) Possession of competent and reliable evidence. For any test, analysis, research, study or other evidence to be "competent and reliable," it must have been conducted and evaluated in an objective manner by persons qualified to do so, using procedures generally accepted in the profession to yield accurate and reliable results.

(End of clause)

552.238-73 Cancellation.

As prescribed in 538.273(a)(4), insert the following clause:

Cancellation (Sep 1999)

Either party may cancel this contract in whole or in part by providing written notice. The cancellation will take effect 30 calendar

days after the other party receives the notice of cancellation. If the Contractor elects to cancel this contract, the Government will not reimburse the minimum guarantee.

(End of clause)

552.238-74 Contractor's Report of Sales.

As prescribed in 538.273(b)(1), insert the following clause:

Contractor's Report of Sales (Sep 1999)

(a) The Contractor must report the quarterly dollar value (in U.S. dollars and rounded to the nearest whole dollar) of all sales under this contract by calendar quarter (i.e., January–March, April–June, July–September, and October–December). The dollar value of a sale is the price paid by the schedule user for products and services on a schedule contract task or delivery order, as recorded by the Contractor. The reported contract sales value must include the industrial funding fee (see Clause 552.238-76).

(b) The Contractor must report the quarterly dollar value of sales on electronic GSA Form 72A, Contractor's Report of Sales, to the FSS Vendor Support Center (VSC) Website at Internet, <http://VSC.gsa.gov>. The Contractor must report sales separately for each National Stock Number (NSN), Special Item Number (SIN), or subitem. If no sales occur, the Contractor must show zero on the report for each separate NSN, SIN, or subitem.

(c) The Contractor must register with the VSC before using the automated reporting system. To register, the Contractor (or its authorized representative) must call the VSC at (703) 305-6235 and provide the necessary information regarding the company, contact name(s), and telephone number(s). The VSC will then issue a 72A specific password and provide other information needed to access the reporting system. Instructions for electronic reporting are available at the VSC Website or by calling the above phone number.

(d) The Contractor must convert the total value of sales made in foreign currency to U.S. dollars using the "Treasury Reporting Rates of Exchange," issued by the U.S. Department of Treasury, Financial Management Service. The Contractor must use the issue of the Treasury report in effect on the last day of the calendar quarter. The report is available from: Department of the Treasury, Financial Management Service, International Funds Branch, 3700 East-West Highway, PGCI, Room 5A19, Hyattsville, MD 20782, Telephone: (202) 874-7994, Internet: <http://www.fms.treas.gov/intn.html>.

(e) The report is due 30 days following the completion of the reporting period. The Contractor must also provide a close-out report within 120 days after the expiration of the contract. The contract expires upon physical completion of the last, outstanding task or delivery order of the contract. The close-out report must cover all sales not shown in the final quarterly report and reconcile all errors and credits. If the Contractor reported all contract sales and reconciled all errors and credits on the final quarterly report, then show zero sales in the close-out report.

(End of clause)

552.238-75 Price Reductions.

As prescribed in 538.273(b)(2), insert the following clause:

Price Reductions (Sep 1999)

(a) Before award of a contract, the Contracting Officer and the Offeror will agree upon (1) the customer (or category of customers) which will be the basis of award, and (2) the Government's price or discount relationship to the identified customer (or category of customers). This relationship shall be maintained through out the contract period. Any change in the Contractor's commercial pricing or discount arrangement applicable to the identified customer (or category of customers) which disturbs this relationship shall constitute a price reduction.

(b) During the contract period, the Contractor shall report to the Contracting Officer all price reductions to the customer (or category of customers) that was the basis of award. The Contractor's report shall include an explanation of the conditions under which the reductions were made.

(c)(1) A price reduction shall apply to purchases under this contract if, after the date negotiations conclude, the Contractor—

(i) Revises the commercial catalog, pricelist, schedule or other document upon which contract award was predicated to reduce prices;

(ii) Grants more favorable discounts or terms and conditions than those contained in the commercial catalog, pricelist, schedule or other documents upon which contract award was predicated; or

(iii) Grants special discounts to the customer (or category of customers) that formed the basis of award, and the change disturbs the price/discount relationship of the Government to the customer (or category of customers) that was the basis of award.

(2) The Contractor shall offer the price reduction to the Government with the same effective date, and for the same time period, as extended to the commercial customer (or category of customers).

(d) There shall be no price reduction for sales—

(1) To commercial customers under firm, fixed-price definite quantity contracts with specified delivery in excess of the maximum order threshold specified in this contract;

(2) To Federal agencies; or

(3) Caused by an error in quotation or billing, provided adequate documentation is furnished by the Contractor to the Contracting Officer.

(e) The Contractor may offer the Contracting Officer a voluntary Governmentwide price reduction at any time during the contract period.

(f) The Contractor shall notify the Contracting Officer of any price reduction subject to this clause as soon as possible, but not later than 15 calendar days after its effective date.

(g) The contractor will be modified to reflect any price reduction which becomes applicable in accordance with this clause.

(End of clause)

552.238-76 Industrial Funding Fee.

As prescribed in 538.273(b)(3), insert the following clause:

Industrial Funding Fee (Sep 1999)

(a) The Contractor must pay the Federal Supply Service, GSA, an industrial funding fee (IFF). The Contractor must remit the IFF in U.S. dollars within 30 days after the end of each quarterly reporting period as established in clause 552.238-74, Contractor's Report of Sales. The IFF equals $\frac{*}{\text{total quarterly sales}}$ of total quarterly sales reported. The IFF reimburses the GSA Federal Supply Service for the costs of operating the Federal Supply Schedules Program and recoups its operating costs from ordering activities. Offerors must include the IFF in their prices. The fee is included in the award price(s) and reflected in the total amount charged to ordering activities.

(b) The Contractor must remit any monies due as a result of the close-out report required by Clause 552.238-74 at the time the close-out report is submitted to GSA.

(c) The Contractor must pay the IFF amount due by check, or electronic funds transfer through the Automated Clearing House (ACH), to the "General Services Administration." If the payment involves multiple special item numbers or contracts, the Contractor may consolidate the IFFs into one payment. To ensure that the payment is credited properly, the Contractor must identify the check or electronic transmission as an "Industrial Funding Fee" and include the following information: contract number(s); report amount(s); and report period(s). If the Contractor makes payment by check, provide this information on either the check, check stub, or other remittance material.

(1) If paying the IFF by check, the Contractor must forward the check to the following address: General Services Administration, Accounts Receivable Branch, P.O. Box 70500, Chicago, IL 60673-0500.

(2) If paying by electronic funds transfer through the ACH, the Contractor must call GSA, Financial Information Control Branch, Receivables, Collections and Sales Section (6BCDR) at [Contracting Officer to insert phone number] to make arrangements.

(d) If the full amount of the IFF is not paid within 30 calendar days after the end of the applicable reporting period, it constitutes a contract debt to the United States Government under the terms of FAR 32.6. The Government may exercise all rights under the Debt Collection Act of 1982, including withholding or setting off payments and interest on the debt (see FAR 52.232-17, Interest).

(e) If the Contractor fails to submit sales reports, falsifies sales report, or fails to pay the IFF in a timely manner, the Government may terminate or cancel this contract. Willful failure or refusal to furnish the required reports, falsification of sales reports, or failure to pay the IFF timely constitutes sufficient cause for terminating the Contractor for cause under the termination provisions of this contract.

(End of clause)

*The Commissioner, Federal Supply Service or a designee determines and

provides to contracting officers the percentage amount of the fee to insert in the above clause.

552.242-70 Status Report of Orders and Shipments.

As prescribed in 542.1107, insert the following clause:

Status Report of Orders and Shipments (Apr 1992)

(a) The Contractor shall furnish to the Administrative Contracting Officer (ACO) a report covering orders received and shipments made during each calendar month of contract performance. The information required by the Government shall be reported on GSA Form 1678, Status Report of Orders and Shipments, in accordance with instructions on the form. The information required by the GSA Form 1678 may also be submitted in an automated printout form if authorized by the ACO. Alternatively, the required information may be reported by electronic data interchange using ANSI standards. For further information, contact GSA, Contract Administration Division [Insert appropriate telephone number of FQC] Reports shall be forwarded to the ACO no later than the seventh workday of the succeeding month.

(b) An initial supply of GSA Form 1678 will be forwarded to the Contractor with the contract. Additional copies of the form, if needed, may be obtained from the ACO, or reproduced by the Contractor.

(End of clause)

552.243-70 Pricing of Adjustments.

As prescribed in 543.205(a)(1), insert the following clause:

Pricing of Adjustments (Apr. 1989)

When costs are a factor in any determination of a contract price adjustment, such costs shall be in accordance with the contract cost principles and procedures in Part 31 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR Part 31) in effect on the date of this contract.

(End of clause)

552.243-71 Equitable Adjustments.

As prescribed in 543.205(a)(2), insert the following clause:

Equitable Adjustments (Apr 1984)

(a) The provisions of the "Changes" clause prescribed by FAR 52.243-4 are supplemented as follows:

(1) Upon written request, the Contractor shall submit a proposal, in accordance with the requirements and limitations set forth in the "Equitable Adjustments" clause, for work involving contemplated changes covered by the request. The proposal shall be submitted within the time limit indicated in the request or any extension of such time limit as may be subsequently granted. The Contractor's written statement of the monetary extent of a claim for equitable adjustment shall be submitted in the following form:

(i) Proposals totaling \$5,000 or less shall be submitted in the form of a lump sum proposal with supporting information to

clearly relate elements of cost with specific items of work involved to the satisfaction of the Contracting Officer, or his/her authorized representative.

(ii) For proposals in excess of \$5,000, the claim for equitable adjustment shall be submitted in the form of a lump sum proposal supported with an itemized breakdown of all increases and decreases in the contract in at least the following detail:

Direct Costs

Material quantities by trades and unit costs (Manufacturing burden associated with material fabrication performed will be

considered to be part of the material costs of the fabricated item delivered to the job site) Labor breakdown by trades and unit costs (Identified with specific item of material to be placed or operation to be performed) Construction equipment exclusively necessary for the change Costs of preparation and/or revision to shop drawings resulting from the change Workers' Compensation and Public Liability Insurance Employment taxes under FICA and FUTA Bond Costs—when size of change warrants revision

Overhead, Profit and Commission

(2) The allowable overhead shall be determined in accordance with the contract cost principles and procedures in Part 31 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR Part 31) in effect on the date of this contract. The percentages for profit and commission shall be negotiated and may vary according to the nature, extent and complexity of the work involved, but in no case shall exceed the following unless the Contractor demonstrates entitlement to a higher percentage:

	Overhead	Profit (percent)	Commission (percent)
To Contractor on work performed by other than his own forces	10
To first tier subcontractor on work performed by his subcontractors	10
To Contractor and/or the subcontractors for that portion of the work performed with their respective forces.	To be Negotiated	10

Not more than four percentages will be allowed regardless of the number of tier subcontractors. The Contractor shall not be allowed a commission on the commission received by a first tier subcontractor. Equitable adjustments for deleted work shall include credits for overhead, profit and commission. On proposals covering both increases and decreases in the amount of the contract, the application of overhead and profit shall be on the net change in direct costs for the Contractor or subcontractor performing the work.

(3) The Contractor shall submit with the proposal his request for time extension (if any), and shall include sufficient information and dates to demonstrate whether and to what extent the change will delay the contract in its entirety.

(4) In considering a proposal, the Government shall make check estimates in detail, utilizing unit prices where specified or agreed upon, with a view to arriving at an equitable adjustment.

(5) After receipt of a proposal the Contracting Officer shall act thereon, within 30 days; provided however, that when the necessity to proceed with a change does not allow time properly to check a proposal or in the event of failure to reach an agreement on a proposal, the Government may order the Contractor to proceed on the basis of price to be determined at the earliest practicable date. Such price shall not be more than the increase or less than the decrease proposed.

(6) If a mutually acceptable agreement cannot be reached, the Contracting Officer may determine the price unilaterally.

(b) The provisions of the "Differing Site Conditions" clause prescribed by FAR 52.236-2 are supplemented as follows: The Contractor shall submit all claims for equitable adjustment in accordance with, and subject to the requirements and limitations set out in paragraph (a) of this "Equitable Adjustments" clause.

(End of clause)

552.243-72 Modifications (Multiple Award Schedule).

As prescribed in 543.205(b), insert the following clause:

Modifications (Multiple Award Schedule (Sep 1999))

(a) *General.* The Contractor may request a contract modification by submitting a request to the Contracting Officer for approval, except as noted in paragraph (d) of this clause. At a minimum, every request shall describe the proposed change(s) and provide the rationale for the requested change(s).

(b) *Types of Modifications.*

(1) *Additional items/additional SINs.* When requesting additions, the following information must be submitted:

(i) Information requested in paragraphs (1) and (2) of the Commercial Sales Practice Format to add SINs.

(ii) Discount information for the new item(s) or new SIN(s). Specifically, submit the information requested in paragraphs 3 through 5 of the Commercial Sales Practice Format. This information is the same as the initial award, a statement to that effect may be submitted instead.

(iii) Information about the new item(s) or the item(s) under the new SIN(s) as described in 552.212-70, Preparation of Offer (Multiple Award Schedule) is required.

(iv) Delivery time(s) for the new item(s) or the items under the new SIN(s) must be submitted in accordance with 552.211-78, Commercial Delivery Schedule (Multiple Award Schedule).

(v) Production point(s) for the new item(s) or the item(s) under the new SIN(s) must be submitted if required by 52.215-6, Place of Performance.

(vi) Hazardous material information (if applicable) must be submitted as required by 52.223-3 (ALT I), Hazardous Material Identification and Material Safety Data.

(vii) Any information requested by 52.212-3(f), Offerors Representations and Certifications—Commercial Items, that may be necessary to assure compliance with 552.225-9, Buy American Act—Trade Agreement—Balance of Payments Program.

(2) *Deletions.* The Contractor shall provide an explanation for the deletion. The Government reserves the right to reject any subsequent offer of the same item or a substantially equal item at a higher price during the same contract period, if the contracting officer finds the higher price to be unreasonable when compared with the deleted item.

(3) *Price Reduction.* The Contractor shall indicate whether the price reduction falls under item (i), (ii), or (iii) of paragraph (c)(1) of the Price Reductions clause at 552.238-75. If the price reduction falls under item (i), the Contractor shall submit a copy of the dated commercial price list. If the price reduction falls under item (ii) or (iii), the Contractor shall submit a copy of the applicable price list(s), bulletins or letters or customer agreements which outline the effective date, duration, terms and conditions of the price reduction.

(c) *Effective Dates.* The effective date of any modification is the date specified in the modification, except as otherwise provided in the Price Reductions clause at 552.238-75.

(d) *Electronic File Updates.* The Contractor shall update electronic file submissions to reflect all modifications. For additional items or SINs, the Contractor shall obtain the contracting officer's approval before transmitting changes. Contract modifications will not be made effective until the Government receives the electronic file updates. The Contractor may transmit price reductions, item deletions, and corrections without prior approval. However, the Contractor shall notify the contracting officer as set forth in the Price Reductions clause at 552.238-75.

(e) *Amendments to Paper Supply Schedule Price Lists.*

(1) The Contractor must provide supplements to its paper price lists, reflecting the most current changes. The Contractor may either:

(i) Distribute a supplemental paper Federal Supply Schedule Price List within 15 workdays after the effective date of each modification.

(ii) Distribute quarterly cumulative supplements. The period covered by a cumulative supplement is at the discretion of the Contractor, but may not exceed three calendar months from the effective date of the earliest modification. For example, if the first modification occurs in February, the quarterly supplement must cover February—April, and every 3 month period after. The Contractor must distribute each quarterly cumulative supplement within 15 workdays from the last day of the calendar quarter.

(2) At a minimum, the Contractor shall distribute each supplement to those ordering activities that previously received the basic document. In addition, the Contractor shall submit two copies of each supplement to the contracting officer, and one copy to the FSS Schedule Information Center.

(End of clause)

Alternate I (Sep 1999). As prescribed in 543.205(b), substitute the following paragraph (d) for paragraph (d) of the basic clause:

(d) *Electronic File Updates.* The Contractor shall update electronic file submissions to reflect all modifications. For additional items or SINs, the Contractor shall obtain the contracting officer's approval before transmitting changes. Contract modifications will not be made effective until the Government receives the electronic file updates. The Contractor may transmit price reductions and corrections without prior approval. However, the Contractor shall notify the contracting officer as set forth in the Price Reductions clause at 552.238-75.

552.246-17 Warranty of Supplies of a Noncomplex Nature

As prescribed in 546.710(a), insert the following clause:

Warranty of Supplies of a Noncomplex Nature (Dec 1990) (Deviation FAR 52.246-17)

(a) *Definitions.* "Acceptance," as used in this clause, means the act of an authorized representative of the Government by which the Government assumes for itself, or as an agent of another, ownership of existing supplies, or approves specific services as partial or complete performance of the contract.

"Correction," as used in this clause, means the elimination of a defect.

"Supplies," as used in this clause, means the end item furnished by the Contractor and related services required under the contract. The word does not include "data."

(b) Contractor's obligations.

(1) Notwithstanding inspection and acceptance by the Government of supplies furnished under this contract, or any condition of this contract concerning the conclusiveness thereof, the Contractor warrants that for _____*

(i) All supplies furnished under this contract will be free from defects in material or workmanship and will conform with the requirements of this contract; and

(ii) The preservation, packaging, packing, and marking, and the preparation for, and method of, shipment of such supplies will conform with the requirements of this contract.

(2) When return, correction, or replacement is required, the Contractor shall be responsible for all costs attendant to the return, correction or replacement of the nonconforming supplies. Any removal in connection with the above shall be done by the Contractor at its expense. However, the Contractor's liability for the transportation charges shall not exceed an amount equal to the cost of transportation by the usual commercial method of shipment between the place of delivery specified in the contract and the Contractor's plant, and return.

(3) Any supplies or parts thereof, corrected or furnished in replacement under this clause, shall also be subject to the terms of this clause to the same extent as supplies initially delivered. The warranty, with respect to supplies or parts thereof, shall be equal in duration to that in paragraph (b)(1) of this clause and shall run from the date of delivery of the corrected or replaced supplies.

(4) All implied warranties of merchantability and "fitness for a particular purpose" are excluded from any obligation contained in this contract.

(c) Remedies available to the Government.

(1) The Contracting Officer shall give written notice to the Contractor of any breach of warranties in paragraph (b)(1) of this clause with _____*. This notice shall contain information concerning the deficiencies found, the location of the nonconforming supplies, and the quantity involved.

(2) Within a reasonable time after the notice, the Contracting Officer may either—

(i) Require, by written notice, the prompt correction or replacement of any supplies or parts thereof (including preservation, packaging, packing, and marking) that do not conform with the requirements of this contract within the meaning of paragraph (b)(1) of this clause; or

(ii) Retain such supplies and reduce the contract price by an amount equitable under the circumstances. When the nature of the defect in the nonconforming item is such that the defect affects an entire batch or lot of material, then the equitable price adjustment shall apply to the entire batch or lot of material from which the nonconforming item was taken.

(3)(i) If the contract provides for inspection of supplies by sampling procedures, conformance of supplies or components subject to warranty action shall be determined by the applicable sampling procedures in the contract. The Contracting Officer—

(A) May, for sampling purposes, group any supplies delivered under this contract;

(B) Shall require the size of the sample to be that required by sampling procedures specified in the contract for the quantity of supplies on which warranty action is proposed;

(C) May project warranty sampling results over supplies in the same shipment or other supplies contained in other shipments even though all of such supplies are not present at the point of reinspection; *provided*, that the supplies remaining are reasonably representative of the quantity on which warranty action is proposed; and

(D) Need not use the same lot size as on original inspection or reconstitute the original inspection lots.

(ii) Within a reasonable time after notice of any breach of the warranties specified in paragraph (b)(1) of this clause, the Contracting Officer may exercise one or more of the following options:

(A) Require an equitable adjustment in the contract price for any group of supplies.

(B) Screen the supplies grouped for warranty action under this clause at the Contractor's expense and return all nonconforming supplies to the Contractor for correction or replacement.

(C) Require the Contractor to screen the supplies at locations designated by the Government within the continental United States and to correct or replace all nonconforming supplies.

(D) Return the supplies grouped for warranty action under this clause to the Contractor (irrespective of the f.o.b. point or the point of acceptance) for screening and correction or replacement. All costs incurred by the Government in returning the nonconforming supplies, including costs to the freight carrier resulting from the Contractor's refusal to accept their return, shall be for the Contractor's account.

(4)(i) The Contracting Officer may, by contract or otherwise, correct or replace the nonconforming supplies with similar supplies from another source and charge to the Contractor the cost occasioned to the Government thereby if the Contractor—

(A) Fails to make redelivery of the corrected or replaced supplies within the time established for their return; or

(B) Fails either to accept return of the nonconforming supplies or fails to make progress after their return to correct or replace them so as to endanger performance of the delivery schedule, and in either of these circumstances does not cure such failure within a period of 10 days (or such longer period as the Contracting Officer may authorize in writing) after receipt of notice from the Contracting Officer specifying such failure.

(ii) Instead of correction or replacement by the Government, the Contracting Officer may require an equitable adjustment of the contract price for all nonconforming supplies, including batch or lot materials which either have been consumed or other disposition has been made. In addition, if the Contractor fails to furnish timely disposition instructions, the Contracting Officer may return the supplies for screening and correction or replacement under subparagraph (c)(3)(ii)(D) above; store the nonconforming supplies for the Contractor's account; sell the nonconforming supplies to the highest bidder on the open market and apply the proceeds against the accumulated storage and other costs, including the cost of the sale; or otherwise dispose of the nonconforming supplies for the Contractor's account in a reasonable manner. The Government is entitled to reimbursement from the Contractor, or from the proceeds of such disposal, for the reasonable expenses of the care and disposition of the

nonconforming supplies, as well as for excess costs incurred or to be incurred.

(5) The rights and remedies of the Government provided in this clause are in addition to and do not limit any rights afforded to the Government by any other clause of this contract.

(6) Unless otherwise provided, this warranty is applicable both within and outside the continental limits of the United States.

(7) In addition to other marking requirements of this contract, the Contractor shall stamp or mark the supplies delivered or otherwise furnish notice with the supplies of the existence of the warranty. The marking should briefly include (i) a statement that the warranty exists, (ii) the substance of the warranty, (iii) its duration, and (iv) whom to notify if the supplies are found to be defective.

(End of clause)

** State the specific period of time after delivery or the specified event whose occurrence will terminate the warranty period; e.g., the number of miles or hours of use, or combination of any applicable event or periods of time.*

*** Insert specific period of time; e.g., "45 days from the last delivery under this contract," or "45 days after discovery of the defect." The number of days specified shall be no less than 30.*

Alternate I (DEC 1990). As prescribed in 546.710(a)(1), substitute the following for paragraph (b)(1) of the basic clause and delete paragraph (b)(4) of the basic clause.

(1) Notwithstanding inspection and acceptance by the Government of supplies furnished under this contract, or any condition of this contract concerning the conclusiveness thereof, the Contractor warrants that for _____*_____ all supplies furnished—

(i) Are of a quality to pass without objection in the trade under the contract description;

(ii) Are fit for the ordinary purposes for which the supplies are used;

(iii) Are within the variations permitted by the contract, and are of an even kind, quality, and quantity within each unit and among all units;

(iv) Are adequately contained, packaged, and marked as the contract may require; and

(v) Conform to the promises or affirmations of fact made on the container.

Alternate II (DEC 1990). As prescribed in 546.710(a)(2), substitute the following paragraph for paragraph (b)(1) of the basic clause:

(1) Notwithstanding inspection and acceptance by the Government of supplies furnished under this contract, or any condition of this contract concerning the conclusiveness thereof, the Contractor warrants that for _____*_____ all supplies furnished—

(i) Conform to the specifications except that in the case of solvent systems, the viscosity may exceed the specified maximum by 10 Krebs Units, unless otherwise specified elsewhere in this contract; and

(ii) Are suitable for their intended purpose as stated in this contract.

Alternate III (DEC 1990). As prescribed in 546.710(a)(3), substitute the following for

paragraph (b)(1) of the basic clause, redesignate paragraph (c) of the basic clause as paragraph (d), and add the following as paragraph (c) in the basic clause:

(1) Notwithstanding inspection and acceptance by the Government of supplies furnished under this contract, or any condition of this contract concerning the conclusiveness thereof, the Contractor warrants that for _____*_____ beginning with the first day of the first full month following the month of manufacture marked on the container, all supplies furnished retain their original characteristics to the extent that the supplies remain suitable for the intended use as stated in this contract (i) under actual application conditions or (ii) when tested in accordance with requirements stated elsewhere in this contract.

(c) *Government surveillance and testing.*

(1) During this period, surveillance will be maintained on supplies warehoused in Government facilities; and the supplies will be tested periodically to determine their suitability for intended use. Sampling for surveillance testing will be in accordance with Military Standard No. 105, and such testing will be made after NORMAL MIXING, STIRRING, OR SHAKING, in accordance with directions either furnished with the supplies or as shown in the applicable specifications.

(2) Surveillance testing will be based on storage stability requirements set forth in the contract specification, or purchase description on the basis of salient characteristics (e.g., viscosity or sag flow, curing time, strip adhesion or tensile shear, etc.) established by GSA as appropriate to determine suitability for intended use. In the case of brand name items not covered by detailed purchase descriptions, surveillance testing may be based on salient characteristics included in the manufacturer's data sheets. If storage stability requirements showing allowable variations are not included in applicable specifications or elsewhere in the contract, material will be considered suitable for intended use if the salient characteristics vary not more than 20 percent from the originally specified values (i.e., those applicable to acceptance testing of the supplies) for noncritical end-use items, and not more than 10 percent for critical end-use items.

552.246-7-0 Source Inspection by Quality Approved Manufacturer.

As prescribed in 546.302-70, insert the following clause:

Source Inspection by Quality Approved Manufacturer (Sep 1999)

(a) *Inspection system and inspection facilities.*

(1) The inspection system maintained by the Contractor under the Inspection of Supplies—Fixed Price clause (FAR 52.246-2) of this contract shall be maintained throughout the contract period and shall comply with all requirements of editions in effect on the date of the solicitation of either Federal Standard 368 or the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Standard 9001 (ANSI/ASQC Q 91) (Quality

Systems—Model for Quality Assurance in Design/Development, Production, Installation and Servicing), or ISO Standard 9002 (ANSI/ASQC Q 92) (Quality Systems—Model for Quality Assurance in Production and Installation). The ISO 9000 family of standards is a set of worldwide standards used to document, implement and demonstrate quality assurance systems. When using the ISO option the Contractor's quality system must be registered by a third party registrar accredited by either the Registrar Accreditation Board (RAB) or an organization recognized as equivalent. A written description of the inspection system shall be made available to the Government before contract award. The Contractor shall immediately notify the Contracting Officer and the designated GSA quality assurance office of any changes made in the inspection system during the contract period. As used herein, the term "inspection system" means the Contractor's own facility or any other facility acceptable to the Government that will be used to perform inspections or tests of materials and components before incorporation into end articles and for inspection of such end articles before shipment. When the manufacturing plant is located outside of the United States, the Contractor shall arrange delivery of the items from a plant or warehouse located in the United States (including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands) equipped to perform all inspections and tests required by the contract or specifications to evidence conformance therewith, or shall arrange with a testing laboratory or other facility in the United States, acceptable to the Government, to perform the required inspections and tests.

(2) In addition to the requirements in Federal Standard 368, ISO 9001 or ISO 9002 records shall include the date when inspection and testing were performed. These records shall be available for (i) 3 years after final payment; or (ii) 4 years from the end of the Contractor's fiscal year in which the record was created, whichever period expires first.

(3) Offerors are required to specify, in the space provided elsewhere in this solicitation, the name and address of each manufacturing plant or other facility where supplies will be available for inspection, indicating the item number(s) to which each applies.

(4) Within 10 calendar days after receipt of the written notice of award, the Contractor shall provide the Administrative Contracting Officer with the name of the individual and an alternate that will be responsible for inspecting each shipment under this contract.

(b) *Inspection and receiving reports.*

(1) For each shipment released, one of the officials named by the Contractor under paragraph (a)(4) above shall sign a Quality Approved Manufacturer Certificate certifying that supplies have been inspected and found to comply with contract requirements. The certification shall read as follows:

"I certify that all items in this shipment have been listed herein, and have been inspected and found to comply with all requirements of the contract."

Signature of Certifying Official

(2) For shipments made to military facilities, the Contractor shall prepare and distribute the DD Form 250, Material Inspection and Receiving Report, or computer formatted equivalent of the form not later than the close of business the workday following shipment. The certification above shall be placed in block 16 on this form. The Contractor will be provided a supply of the DD Form 250 with complete instructions for preparation and distribution.

(3) For shipments made to civilian facilities *only*, the Contractor shall prepare and distribute not later than the close of business the workday following shipment a certification of inspection and conformance for the identified items, in accordance with instructions furnished at the time of award. The Contractor may furnish the requisite information on the DD Form 250 or computer formatted equivalent, company letterhead, or invoice document.

(c) *Inspection by Government personnel.*

(1) Although the Government will normally rely upon the Contractor's certification as to the quality of supplies shipped, it reserves the right under the Inspection of Supplies—Fixed Price clause to inspect and test all supplies called for by this contract, before acceptance, at all times and places, including the point of manufacture. When the Government notifies the Contractor of its intent to inspect supplies before shipment, the Contractor shall notify or arrange for subcontractors to notify the designated GSA quality assurance office 7 workdays before the date when supplies will be ready for inspection. Shipment shall not be made until inspection by the Government is completed and shipment is authorized by the Government.

(2) Government inspection responsibility will be assigned the GSA quality assurance office which has jurisdiction over the State in which the Contractor's or subcontractor's plant or other designated point for inspection is located.

(3) During the contract period, a Government representative may periodically select samples of supplies produced under this contract for verification inspection and testing. Samples sent to a Government testing facility will be disposed of as follows: Samples from an accepted lot, not damaged in the testing process, will be returned promptly to the Contractor after completion of tests. Samples damaged in the testing process will be disposed of as requested by the Contractor. Samples from a rejected lot will be returned to the Contractor or disposed of in a time and manner agreeable to both the Contractor and the Government.

(d) *Quality deficiencies.*

(1) Notwithstanding any other clause of this contract concerning the conclusiveness of acceptance by the Government, any supplies or production lots shipped under this contract found to be defective in material or workmanship, or otherwise not in conformity with the requirements of this contract within a period of _____*_____ months after acceptance shall, at the Government's option, be replaced, repaired or otherwise corrected by

the Contractor at no cost to the Government within 30 calendar days (or such longer period as the Government may authorize in writing) after receipt of notice to replace or correct. The Contractor shall remove, at its expense, supplies rejected or required to be replaced, repaired or corrected. When the nature of the defect affects an entire batch or lot of supplies, and the Contracting Officer determines that correction can best be accomplished by retaining the nonconforming supplies and reducing the contract price by an amount equitable under the circumstances, then the equitable price adjustment shall apply to the entire batch or lot of supplies from which the nonconforming item was taken.

(2) If supplies in process, shipped, or awaiting shipment to fill Government orders are found not to comply with contract requirements, or if deficiencies in either plant quality or process controls are found, the Contractor may be issued a Quality Deficiency Notice (QDN). Upon receipt of a QDN, the Contractor shall take immediate corrective action and shall suspend shipment of the supplies covered by the QDN until such time as corrective action has been completed. The Contractor shall notify the GSA quality assurance office, within 5 workdays, of corrective action taken or to be taken to permit on site verification by a Government representative. Shipments of nonconforming supplies will be returned at the Contractor's expense and may constitute cause for termination. Delays due to the insurance of a QDN do not constitute excusable delay under the Default clause. Failure to complete corrective action in a timely manner may result in termination of this contract.

(3) This contract may be terminated for default if subsequent Government inspection discloses that plant quality or process controls are not being maintained, supplies which do not meet the requirements of the specification are being shipped, or there is failure to comply with any other requirement of this clause.

(e) *Additional cost for inspection and testing.* The Contractor will be charged for any additional cost of inspection/testing or reinspecting/retesting supplies for the reasons stated in paragraph (e) of FAR 52.246-2, Inspection of Supplies—Fixed Price. When inspection or testing is performed by or under the direction of GSA, charges will be at the rate of \$ _____*_____ per man-hour or fraction thereof if the inspection is at a GSA distribution center; \$ _____*_____ per man-hour or fraction thereof, plus travel costs incurred, if the inspection is at any other location; and \$ _____*_____ per man-hour or fraction thereof for laboratory testing, except that when a testing facility other than a GSA laboratory performs all or part of the required tests, the Contractor shall be assessed the actual cost incurred by the Government as a result of testing at such facility. When inspection is performed by or under the direction of any agency other than GSA, the charges indicated above may be used, or the agency may assess the actual cost of performing the inspection and testing.

(F) *Responsibility for rejected supplies.*

When the Contractor fails to remove or

provide instructions for the removal of rejected supplies under paragraph (d) above, pursuant to the Contracting Officer's instructions, the Contractor shall be liable for all costs incurred by the Government in taking such measures as are expedient to avoid unnecessary loss to the Contractor. In addition to the remedies provided in FAR 52.246-2, supplies may be—

- (1) Stored for the Contractor's account;
- (2) Reshipped to the Contractor at its expense (any additional expense incurred by the Government or the freight carrier caused by the refusal of the Contractor to accept their return also shall be for the Contractor's account); or
- (3) Sold to the highest bidder on the open market and the proceeds applied against the accumulated storage and other costs, including the cost of the sale.

(g) *Subcontracting requirements.* The Contractor shall insert in any subcontracts the inspection or testing provisions set forth in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this clause and the Inspection of Supplies—Fixed Price clause of this contract. The Contractor shall be responsible for compliance by any subcontractor with the provisions set forth in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this clause and the Inspection of Supplies—Fixed Price clause.

(End of clause)

**Normally insert 12 months as the period during which defective or otherwise nonconforming supplies must be replaced. However, when the supplies being bought have a shelf life of less than 1 year, you should use the shelf-life period, or in the instance where you reasonably expect a longer period to be available, you should use the longer period.*

***The rates to be inserted are established by the Commissioner of the Federal Supply Service or a designee.*

552.246-71 Source Inspection by Government.

As prescribed in 546.302-71, insert the following clause:

Source Inspection by Government (SEP 1999)(a) *Inspection by Government personnel.*

(1) Supplies to be furnished under this contract will be inspected at source by the Government before shipment from the manufacturing plant or other facility designated by the Contractor, unless the Contractor is otherwise notified in writing by the Contracting Officer or a designated representative. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Government may perform any or all tests contained in the contract specifications at a Government facility without prior written notice by the Contracting Officer before release of the supplies for shipment. Samples sent to a Government testing facility will be disposed of as follows: Samples from an accepted lot, not damaged in the testing process, will be returned promptly to the Contractor after completion of tests. Samples damaged in the testing process will be disposed of as requested by the Contractor. Samples from a rejected lot will be returned to the Contractor or disposed of in a time and manner agreeable to both the Contractor and the Government.

(2) Government inspection responsibility will be assigned to the GSA quality assurance office which has jurisdiction over the State in which the Contractor's subcontractor's plant or other designated point for inspection is located. The Contractor shall notify or arrange for subcontractors to notify the designated GSA quality assurance office 7 workdays before the date when supplies will be ready for inspection. Shipment shall not be made until after inspection by the Government is completed and shipment is authorized by Government.

(b) *Inspection and receiving reports.* For each shipment, the Contractor shall be responsible for preparation and distribution of inspection documents as follows: (1) DD Form 250, Material Inspection and Receiving Report, or computer formatted equivalent for deliveries to military agencies; or (2) GSA Form 308, Notice of Inspection for deliveries to GSA or other civilian agencies. When required, the Contractor will be furnished a supply of GSA Form 308 and/or DD Form 250, and complete instructions for their reparation and distribution.

(c) *Inspection facilities.*

(1) The inspection system required to be maintained by the Contractor in accordance with FAR 52.246-2, Inspection of Supplies—Fixed Price, may be the Contractor's own facilities or any other facilities acceptable to the Government. The facilities shall be utilized to perform all inspections and tests of materials and components before incorporation into end articles, and for the inspection of such end articles before shipment. The Government reserves the right to evaluate the acceptability and effectiveness of the Contractor's inspection system before award and periodically during the contract period.

(2) Offerors are required to specify, in the spaces provided elsewhere in the solicitation, the name and address of each manufacturing plant or other facility where supplies will be available for inspection, indicating the item number(s) to which each applies.

(3) The Contractor shall deliver the items specified in this contract from a plant or warehouse located within the United States (including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands) that is equipped to perform all inspections and tests required by this contract or specifications to evidence conformance therewith, or shall arrange with a testing laboratory or other facility in the United States, acceptable to the Government, to perform the required inspections and tests.

(d) *Availability of records.*

(1) In addition to any other requirement of this contract, the Contractor shall maintain records showing the following information for each order received under the contract: (i) order number; (ii) date order received by the Contractor; (iii) quantity ordered; (iv) date scheduled into production; (v) batch or lot number, if applicable; (vi) date inspected and/or tested; (vii) date available for shipment; (viii) date shipped or date service completed; and (ix) National Stock Number (NSN), or if none is provided in the contract, the applicable item number or other contractual identification.

(2) These records should be maintained at the point of source inspection and shall be

available to the Contracting Officer, or an authorized representative, for (i) 3 years after final payment; or (ii) 4 years from the end of the Contractor's fiscal year in which the record was created, whichever period expires first.

(e) *Additional cost for inspection and testing.* The Contractor will be charged for any additional cost for inspecting/testing or reinspection/retesting supplies for the reasons stated in paragraph (e) of FAR 52.246-2, Inspection of Supplies—Fixed Price. When inspection or testing is performed by or under the direction of GSA, charges will be at the rate of \$ _____*_____ per man-hour or fraction thereof if the inspection is at a GSA distribution center; \$ _____*_____ per man-hour or fraction thereof, plus travel costs incurred, if the inspection is at any other location; and \$ _____*_____ per man-hour or fraction thereof for laboratory testing, except that when a testing facility other than a GSA laboratory performs all or part of the required tests, the Contractor shall be assessed the actual cost incurred by the Government as a result of testing at such facility. When inspection is performed by or under the direction of any agency other than GSA, the charges indicated above may be used, or the agency may assess the actual cost of performing the inspection and testing.

(f) *Responsibility for rejected supplies.* When the Contractor fails to remove or provide instructions for the removal of rejected supplies under FAR 52.246-2(h) pursuant to the Contracting Officer's instructions, the Contractor shall be liable for all costs incurred by the Government in taking such measures as are expedient to avoid unnecessary loss to the Contractor. In addition to the remedies provided in FAR 52.246-2, supplies may be—

- (1) Stored for the Contractor's account;
- (2) Reshipped to the Contractor at its expense (any additional expense incurred by the Government or the freight carrier caused by the refusal of the Contractor to accept their return also shall be for the Contractor's account); or
- (3) Sold to the highest bidder on the open market and the proceeds applied against the accumulated storage and other costs, including the cost of the sale.

(End of clause)

*The rates to be inserted are established by the Commissioner of the Federal Supply Service or a designee.

552.246-72 Final Inspection and Tests.

As prescribed in 546.312, insert the following clause:

Final Inspection and Tests (Sep 1999)

The Contractor shall give written notice to the Contracting Officer at least 10 calendar days before the date the work will be completed and ready for final inspection and tests. Final inspection and tests will begin within 10 calendar days after the date specified in the Contractor's notice unless the Contracting Officer determines that the work is not ready for final inspection and so informs the Contractor.

(End of clause)

552.246-73 Warranty—Multiple Award Schedule.

As prescribed in 546.710(b), insert the following clause:

Warranty—Multiple Award Schedule (Feb 1996)

Unless specified otherwise in this contract, the Contractor's standard commercial warranty as stated in the Contractor's commercial price list will apply to this contract.

(End of clause)

552.246-74 Warranty—International Multiple Award Schedule.

As prescribed in 546.710(c), insert the following clause:

Warranty—International Multiple Award Schedule (May 1989)

Unless specified otherwise in this contract, the Contractor's standard commercial warranty as stated in the commercial price list applies to this contract, except: (a) the Contractor shall provide, at a minimum, a warranty on all non-consumable parts for a period of 90 days from the date that the Government accepts the product; (b) parts and labor required under the warranty provisions shall be supplied free of charge; (c) transportation costs of returning the products to and from the repair facility, or the costs involved with Contractor personnel traveling to the Government facility for the purpose of repairing the product onsite shall be borne by the Contractor during the 90-day warranty period.

(End of clause)

552.246-75 Guarantees.

As prescribed in 546.710(d), insert the following clause:

Guarantees (May 1989)

(a) Unless otherwise provided in the specifications, the Contractor guarantees all work to be in accordance with contract requirements and free from defective or inferior materials, equipment, and workmanship for 1 year after the date of final acceptance or the date the equipment or work was placed in use by the Government, whichever occurs first.

(b)(1) If, within any guarantee period, the Contracting Officer finds that guaranteed work requires repair or change because of defective or inferior materials, equipment, or workmanship or is not in accordance with contract requirements, the Contracting Officer shall notify the Contractor in writing. The Contractor shall promptly, and without additional expense to the Government, correct:

- (i) All guaranteed work;
- (ii) All damage to equipment, the site, the building or its contents resulting from the unsatisfactory guaranteed work; and
- (iii) Any work, materials, and equipment that are disturbed in fulfilling the guarantee, including any disturbed work, materials, and equipment that may have been guaranteed under another contract.

(2) If the Contractor fails to proceed promptly in accordance with the guarantee,

the Government may have such work performed at the expense of the Contractor.

(c) Any special guarantees that may be required under the contract will be subject to paragraphs (a) and (b), insofar as they do not conflict with special guarantees.

(d) The Contractor shall furnish to the Government: (1) Each transferable guarantee or warranty of equipment, materials, or installation furnished by any manufacturer, supplier, or installer in the ordinary course of business; (2) All information required to make such guarantee or warranty legally binding and effective; and (3) The information and the guarantee or warranty in sufficient time to permit the Government to meet any time limit specified in the guarantee or warranty or, if no time limit is specified, prior to completion and acceptance of all work under this contract.

(End of clause)

552.246-76 Warranty of pesticides.

As prescribed in 546.710(e), insert the following clause:

Warranty of Pesticides (May 1989)

(a) Notwithstanding acceptance of pesticides by the Government, the Contractor warrants that for 1 year after the date of shipment, all pesticides furnished under this contract shall meet the requirements of Pub. L. 92-516, as amended, and shall be registered with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

(b) If EPA takes action to stop sale, stop use, remove, seize, or cancel registration of a pesticide within 1 year after date of shipment, the Contractor shall immediately notify the Contracting Officer. The notification will include: (1) contract number; (2) identification of the pesticide; (3) reason for the EPA action against the pesticide; and (4) list of Government agencies and addresses to which it was delivered.

(End of clause)

552.247-70 Placarding Railcar Shipments.

As prescribed in 547.305(a), insert the following clause:

Placarding Railcar Shipments (May 1989)

When a railcar is loaded in such a manner that it can be or should be unloaded from only one side, the Contractor shall place on the appropriate railcar door a placard reading "UNLOAD FROM THIS SIDE" and on the opposite door a placard reading "UNLOAD FROM OTHER SIDE."

(End of clause)

552.247-71 Diversion of Shipment Under f.o.b. Destination Contracts.

As prescribed in 547.305(b), insert the following clause:

Diversion of Shipment Under F.O.B. Destination Contracts (Sep 1999)

(a) Notwithstanding paragraph (c) of the clause in this contract titled 52.212-4, Contract Terms and Conditions—Commercial Items, the Government has the unilateral right to make changes at any time within the general scope of this contract in either the:

(1) Method of shipment or packing.

(2) Place of delivery.

(b) If any such change causes an increase or decrease in the cost of this contract, the Contracting Officer shall make an equitable adjustment in the contract price, the delivery schedule, or both. The Contractor must assert its right to an adjustment under this clause within 30 days from the date of receipt of a delivery order.

(c) The Government shall make no adjustment when supplies are identically priced for delivery regionally or nationally and the place of delivery is changed within the area to which the identical price applies. In all other cases, adjustments for changes in transportation costs under this clause shall be determined as follows:

(1) If the contractor ships by contract or common carrier, price adjustments shall be determined by comparing the cost of shipments to the new destination(s), as evidenced by copy of paid freight bills supplied by the Contractor with the invoice, to one of the following:

(i) The cost of shipments to the standard contract destination, as evidenced by copy of appropriate paid freight bills supplied by the Contractor.

(ii) If no shipments have been made to the standard contract destination, the cost as evidenced by the applicable rates of a common or contract carrier. If carrier rates are not publicly filed with a regulatory body (e.g., interstate shipments moving by rail piggyback service), the Contractor shall provide a copy of the contract, letter agreement, or other written communication from the carrier(s) quoting the rates/charges that would have applied for shipments to the standard contract destination.

(2) If (i) shipments to the new destination are made by the Contractor's owned or leased trucks or (ii) shipments to the original destination were or would have been made by the Contractor's owned or leased trucks, the Government shall determine the adjustment by substituting a rate equal to 70 percent of the lowest applicable rate published in common carrier tariffs as of the date of shipment for the Contractor's actual rate or contemplated transportation costs.

(d) If the copies of paid freight bills for a diverted shipment do not show, or make readily available, each of the following items, the Contractor shall supply a written statement showing the item(s):

- (1) Full name of each carrier in the routing.
- (2) Number of containers.
- (3) Gross shipping weight.
- (4) Actual date of shipping.

(5) Freight description for the supplies as indicated in the "National Motor Freight Classification" or the "Uniform Freight Classification" (Rail).

(End of clause)

552.249-70 Termination for Convenience of the Government (Fixed Price) (Short Form).

As prescribed in 549.502(a) insert the following clause:

Termination for Convenience of the Government (Fixed-Price) (Short Form) (May 1988) (Deviation FAR 52.249-1 and 52.249-2)

(a) If the Government terminates this contract for convenience, the rights of the Government and the Contractor shall be determined under paragraph (b) unless there is a termination liability schedule, in which case the rights of the parties shall be determined under paragraph (c).

(b) The clause at [Contracting Officer inserts 52.249-1 or 52.249-2, as applicable] of the FAR shall apply to the supply portion of the contract and the clauses at 52.249-4 of the FAR shall apply to the service portion of the contract.

(c) If the Contractor specifies a schedule of termination liability charges that would be incurred by the Government if the Government terminates this lease contract without taking title to the equipment, the payment of such charges shall be the only responsibility of the Government to compensate the Contractor for such termination; except that, there shall be no termination liability for equipment installed after termination of this contract.

(End of clause)

552.249-71 Submission of Termination Liability Schedule.

As prescribed in 549.502(b), insert the following clause:

Submission of Termination Liability Schedule (May 1989)

(a) An offeror may submit, as part of its proposal, a termination liability schedule to be applied if any resultant contract is terminated by the Government for reasons other than default. The offeror shall provide and explain the amount and method of computation of the termination liability charge(s).

(b) If submitted, the termination liability schedule will be incorporated into Part I, Section B of the contract document. If a termination liability schedule is not submitted and the Government terminates any resultant contract for its convenience, the rights of the parties shall be determined under paragraph (b) of the GSAR Termination for Convenience of the Government clause at 552.249-70.

(c) Any termination liability charges existing at the end of the evaluated contract period will be considered in the evaluation of offers.

(End of clause)

552.252-5 Authorized Deviations in Provisions.

As prescribed in 552.107-70(a), insert the following provision:

Authorized Deviations in Provisions (Deviation FAR 52.252-5) (Sep 1999)

(a) *Deviations to FAR provisions.*

(1) This solicitation indicates any authorized deviation to a Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR Chapter 1) provision by the addition of "(DEVIATION)" after the date of the provision, if the provision is not published in the General Services

Administration Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR Chapter 5).

(2) This solicitation indicates any authorized deviation to a Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) provision that is published in the General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation by the addition of "(DEVIATION (FAR provision no.))" after the date of the provision.

(b) *Deviations to GSAR provisions.* This solicitation indicates any authorized deviation to a General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation provision by the addition of "(DEVIATION)" after the date of the provision.

(c) "*Substantially the same as*" provisions. Changes in wording of provisions prescribed for use on a "substantially the same as" basis are not considered deviations.

(End of provision)

552.252-6 Authorized Deviations in Clauses.

As prescribed in 552.107-70(b), insert the following clause:

Authorized Deviations in Clauses (Deviation FAR 52.252-6) (Sep 1999)

(a) *Deviations to FAR clauses.*

(1) This solicitation or contract indicates any authorized deviation to a Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR Chapter 1) clause by the addition of "(DEVIATION)" after the date of the clause, if the clause is not published in the General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation (48 CFR Chapter 5).

(2) This solicitation indicates any authorized deviation to a Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) clause that is published in the General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation by the addition of "(DEVIATION (FAR clause no.))" after the date of the clause.

(b) *Deviations to GSAR clauses:* This solicitation indicates any authorized deviation to a General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation clause by the addition of "(DEVIATION)" after the date of the clause.

(c) "*Substantially the same as*" clauses. Changes in wording of clauses prescribed for use on a "substantially the same as" basis are not considered deviations.

(End of clause)

552.270-1 Instructions to Offerors—Acquisition of Leasehold Interests in Real Property.

As prescribed in 570.602, insert the following provision:

Instructions to Offerors—Acquisition of Leasehold Interests in Real Property (Mar 1998)

(a) Definitions. As used in this provision—
"Discussions" are negotiations that occur after establishment of the competitive range that may, at the contracting Officer's discretion, result in the offeror being allowed to revise its proposal.

"In Writing" or "Written" means any worded or numbered expression which can be read, reproduced, and later

communicated, and includes electronically transmitted and stored information.

"Proposal modification" is a change made to a proposal before the solicitation's closing date and time, or made in response to an amendment, or made to correct a mistake at any time before award.

"Proposal revision" is a change to a proposal made after the solicitation closing date, at the request of as allowed by a Contracting Officer as the result of or of negotiations.

"Time," if stated as a number of days, is calculated using calendar days, unless otherwise specified, and will include Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays. However, if the last day falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, then the period shall include the next working day.

(b) Amendments to solicitations. If this solicitation is amended, all terms and conditions that are not amended remain unchanged. Offerors shall acknowledge receipt of any amendment to this solicitation by the date and time specified in the amendment(s).

(c) Submission, modification, revision, and withdrawal of proposals.

(1) Unless other methods (e.g., electronic commerce or facsimile) are permitted in the solicitation, proposals and modifications to proposals shall be submitted in paper media in sealed envelopes or packages. Offers must be:

(i) Submitted on the forms prescribed and furnished by the Government as a part of this solicitation or on copies of those forms, and

(ii) Signed. The person signing an offer must initial each erasure or change appearing on any offer form. If the offeror is a partnership, the names of the partners composing the firm must be included with the offer.

(2) Late proposals and revisions.

(i) The Government will not consider any proposal received at the office designated in the solicitation after the exact time specified for receipt of offers unless it is received before the Government makes award and it meets at least one of the following conditions:

(A) It was sent by registered or certified mail not later than the 5th calendar day before the date specified for receipt of offers (e.g., an offer submitted in response to solicitation requiring receipt of offers by the 20th of the month must have been mailed by the 15th).

(B) It was sent by mail (or telegram or facsimile, if authorized) or hand-carried (including delivery by a commercial carrier) if it is determined by the Government that the late receipt was due primarily to Government mishandling after receipt at the Government installation.

(C) It was sent by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail Next Day Service-Post Office to Addressee, not later than 5:00 p.m. at the place of mailing two working days prior to the date specified for receipt of proposals. The term "working days" excludes weekends and U.S. Federal holidays.

(D) It was transmitted through an electronic commerce method authorized by the solicitation and was received at the initial point of entry of the Government

infrastructure not later than 5:00 p.m. one working day prior to the date specified for receipt of proposals.

(E) There is acceptable evidence to establish that it was received at the activity designated for receipt of offers and was under the Government's control prior to the time set for receipt of offers, and the Contracting Officer determines that accepting the late offer would not unduly delay the procurement.

(F) It is the only proposal received.

(ii) Any modification or revision of a proposal or response to request for information, including any final proposal revision, is subject to the same conditions as in subparagraphs (c)(2)(i)(A) through (c)(2)(i)(E) of this provision.

(iii) The only acceptable evidence to establish the date of mailing of a late proposal or modification or revision sent either by registered or certified mail is the U.S. or Canadian Postal Service postmark both on the envelope or wrapper and on the original receipt from the U.S. or Canadian Postal Service. Both postmarks must show a legible date or the proposal, response to a request for information, or modification or revision shall be processed as if mailed late. "Postmark" means a printed, stamped, or otherwise placed impression (exclusive of a postage meter machine impression) that is readily identifiable without further action as having been supplied and affixed by employees of the U.S. or Canadian Postal Service on the date of mailing. Therefore, offerors or respondents should request the postal clerk to place a legible hand cancellation bull's eye postmark on both the receipt and the envelope or wrapper.

(iv) Acceptable evidence to establish the time of receipt at the Government installation includes the time/date stamp of that installation on the proposal wrapper, other documentary evidence of receipt maintained by the installation, or oral testimony or statements of Government personnel.

(v) The only acceptable evidence to establish the date of mailing of a late offer, modification or revision, or withdrawal sent by Express Mail Next Day Service-Post Office to Addressee is the date entered by the post office receiving clerk on the "Express Mail Next Day Service-Post Office to Addressee" label and the postmark on both the envelope or wrapper and on the original receipt from the U.S. Postal Service. "Postmark" has the same meaning as defined in paragraph (c)(2)(iii) of this provision, excluding postmarks of the Canadian Postal Service. Therefore, offerors or respondents should request the postal clerk to place a legible hand cancellation bull's eye postmark on both the receipt and the envelope or wrapper.

(vi) Notwithstanding paragraph (c)(2)(i) of this provision, a late modification or revision of an otherwise successful proposal that makes its terms more favorable to the Government will be considered at any time it is received and may be accepted.

(vii) An offeror may withdraw its proposal by written notice or telegram (including mailgram) received at any time before award. If the solicitation authorizes facsimile proposals, an offeror may withdraw its proposal via facsimile received at any time

before award, subject to the conditions specified in the provision entitled "Facsimile Proposals." Proposals may be withdrawn in person by an offeror or an authorized representative, if the representative's identity is made known and the representative signs a receipt for the proposal before award.

(viii) If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal Government processes so that proposals cannot be received at the office designated for receipt of proposals by the exact time specified in the solicitation, and urgent Government requirements preclude amendment of the solicitation or other notice of an extension of the closing date, the time specified for receipt of proposals will be deemed to be extended to the same time of day specified in the solicitation on the first work day on which normal Government processes resume. If no time is specified in the solicitation, the time for receipt is 4:30 p.m., local time, for the designated Government office.

(3) Any information given to a prospective offeror concerning this solicitation will be furnished promptly to all other prospective offerors, if that information is necessary in submitting offers or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to any other prospective offeror.

(4) Offerors may submit modifications to their proposals at any time before the solicitation closing date and time, and may submit modifications in response to an amendment, or to correct a mistake at any time before award.

(5) Offerors may submit revised proposals only if requested or allowed by the Contracting Officer.

(6) The Government will construe an offer to be in full and complete with this solicitation unless the offer describes any deviation in the offer.

(7) Offerors may submit proposals that depart from stated requirements. Such a proposal shall clearly identify why the acceptance of the proposal would be advantageous to the Government. The proposal must clearly identify and explicitly define any deviations from the terms and conditions of the solicitation, as well as the comparative advantage to the Government. The Government reserves the right to amend the solicitation to allow all offerors an opportunity to submit revised proposals based on the revised requirements.

(d) Restriction on disclosure and use of data. An offeror that includes in its proposal data that it does not want disclosed to the public for any purpose, or use by the Government except for evaluation purposes, must meet both of the following conditions:

(1) Mark the title page with the following legend:

This proposal includes data that shall not be disclosed outside the Government and shall not be duplicated, used, or disclosed—in whole or in part—for any purpose other than to evaluate this proposal. If, however, a lease is awarded to this offeror as a result of—or in connection with—the submission of this data, the Government shall have the right to duplicate, use, or disclose the data to the extent provided in the resulting contract. This restriction does not limit the Government's right to use information contained in this data if it is obtained from

another source without restriction. The data subject to this restriction are contained in sheets [insert numbers or other identification of sheets].

(2) Mark each sheet of data it wishes to restrict with the following legend:

Use or disclosure of data contained on this sheet is subject to the restriction on the title page of this proposal.

(e) Lease award.

(1) The Government intends to award a lease resulting from this solicitation to the responsible offeror whose proposal represents the best value after evaluation in accordance with the factors and subfactors in the solicitation.

(2) The Government may reject any or all proposals if such action is in the Government's interest.

(3) The Government may waive informalities and minor irregularities in proposals received.

(4) The Government intends to evaluate proposals and award a lease after conducting discussions with offerors whose proposals have been determined to be within the competitive range. If the Contracting Officer determines that the number of proposals that would otherwise be in the competitive range exceeds the number at which an efficient competition can be conducted, the Contracting Officer may limit the number of proposals in the competitive range to the greatest number that will permit an efficient competition among the most highly rated proposals. Therefore, the offeror's initial proposal should contain the offeror's best terms from a price and technical standpoint.

(5) Exchanges with offerors after receipt of a proposal do not constitute a rejection or counteroffer by the Government.

(6) The Government may determine that a proposal is unacceptable if the price proposed are materially unbalanced between line terms or subline items. Unbalanced pricing exists when, despite an acceptable total evaluated price, the price of one or more contract line items is significantly overstated or understated as indicated by the application of cost or price analysis techniques. A proposal may be rejected if the Contracting Officer determines that the lack of balance poses an unacceptable risk to the Government.

(7) The unconditional written acceptance of an offer establishes a valid contract.

(8) The Government may disclose the following information in postaward debriefings to other offerors:

(i) The overall evaluated cost or price and technical rating of the successful offeror;

(ii) The overall making of all offerors, when any making was developed by the agency during source selection; and

(iii) A summary of the rationale for award.

(End of provision)

Alternate I (MAR 1998). As prescribed in 570.602, substitute the following paragraph for paragraph (c)(2)(i) of the basic provision:

(i) Any offer received at the office designated in the solicitation after the exact time specified for receipt of final proposal revisions will not be considered unless it is received before award is made and it meets one of the following conditions—

Alternate II (MAR 1998). As prescribed in 570.602, substitute the following paragraph for paragraph (e)(4) of the basic provision:

(4) The Government intends to evaluate proposals and award a lease without discussions with offerors (except clarifications as described in FAR 15.306(a)). Therefore, the offeror's initial proposal should contain the offeror's best terms from a cost or price and technical standpoint. The Government reserves the right to conduct discussions if the Contracting Officer later determines them to be necessary. If the Contracting Officer determines that the number of proposals that would otherwise be in the competitive range exceeds the number at which an efficient competition can be conducted, the Contracting Officer may limit the number of proposals in the competitive range to the greatest number that will permit an efficient competition among the most highly rated proposals.

552.270-2 Historic Preference.

As prescribed in 570.602, insert the following provision:

Historic Preference (Sep 1999)

(a) The Government will give preference to offers of space in buildings on, or formally listed as eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places and to historically significant buildings in historic districts listed in the National Register. This preference extends to historic buildings and will result in award if both of the following are met:

(1) The offer for space meets the terms and conditions of this solicitation as well as any other offer received. The Contracting Officer has discretion to accept alternatives to certain architectural characteristics and safety features defined elsewhere in this solicitation to maintain the historical integrity of the building such as high ceilings, wooden floors, etc.

(2) The rental is no more than 10 percent higher on a total annual usable square foot cost to the Government than the lowest otherwise acceptable offer.

(b) If the Government receives more than one offer of an historic building and they meet the above criteria, the Government will award to the lowest priced historic property offered.

(End of provision)

552.270-3 Parties to Execute Lease.

As prescribed in 570.602, insert the following provision:

Parties to Execute Lease (Sep 1999)

(a) If the lease is executed by an attorney, agent, or trustee on behalf of the Lessor, an authenticated copy of his power of attorney, or other evidence to act on behalf of the Lessor, shall accompany the lease.

(b) If the Lessor is a partnership, the lease shall be signed with the partnership name, followed by the name of the legally authorized partner signing the same, and, if requested by the Government, a copy of either the partnership agreement or current Certificate of Limited Partnership shall accompany the lease.

(c) If the Lessor is a corporation, the lease shall be signed with the corporate name,

followed by the signature and title of the officer or other person signing the lease on its behalf, duly attested, and, if requested by the Government, evidence of this authority to so act shall be furnished.

(End of provision)

552.270-4 Definitions.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Definitions (Sep 1999)

The following terms and phrases (except as otherwise expressly provided or unless the context otherwise requires) for all purposes of this lease shall have the respective meanings hereinafter specified:

(a) "Commencement Date" means the first day of the term.

(b) "Contract" and "Contractor" means "Lease" and "Lessor," respectively.

(c) "Contracting Officer" means a person with the authority to enter into, administer, and/or terminate contracts and make related determinations and findings. The term includes certain authorized representatives of the Contracting Officer acting within the limits of their authority as delegated by the Contracting Officer.

(d) "Delivery Date" means the date specified in or determined pursuant to the provisions of this lease for delivery of the premises to the Government, improved in accordance with the provisions of this lease and substantially complete, as such date may be modified in accordance with the provisions of this lease.

(e) "Delivery Time" means the number of days provided by this lease for delivery of the premises to the Government, as such number may be modified in accordance with the provision so this lease."

(f) "Excusable Delays" means delays arising without the fault or negligence of Lessor and Lessor's subcontractors and suppliers at any tier, and shall include, without limitation:

(1) acts of God or of the public enemy,
 (2) acts of the United States of America in either its sovereign or contractual capacity,
 (3) acts of another contractor in the performance of a contract with the Government,

(4) fires,
 (5) floods,
 (6) epidemics,
 (7) quarantine restrictions,

(8) strikes,
 (9) freight embargoes,

(10) unusually severe weather, or
 (11) delays of subcontractors or suppliers at any tier arising from unforeseeable causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of both the Lessor and any such subcontractor or supplier.

(g) "Lessor" means the sub-lessor if this lease is a sublease.

(h) "Lessor shall provide" means the Lessor shall furnish and install at Lessor's expense.

(i) "Notice" means written notice sent by certified or registered mail, Express Mail or Comparable service, or delivered by hand. Notice shall be effective on the date delivery is accepted or refused.

(j) "Premises" means the space described in this lease.

(k) "Substantially complete" and "substantial completion" means that the work, the common and other areas of the building, and all other things necessary for the Government's access to the premises and occupancy, possession, use and enjoyment thereof, as provided in this lease, have been completed or obtained, excepting only such minor matters as do not interfere with or materially diminish such access, occupancy, possession, use of enjoyment.

(l) "Usable square feet" means the ANSI/BOMA Z65.1-1996 definition for BOMA usable office area, which means "The area where a tenant normally houses personnel and/or furniture, for which a measurement is to be computed."

(m) "Work" means all alterations, improvements, modifications, and other things required for the preparation or continued occupancy of the premises by the Government as specified in this lease.

(End of clause)

552.270-5 Subletting and Assignment.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Subletting and Assignment (Sep 1999)

The Government may sublet any part of the premises but shall not be relieved from any obligations under this lease by reason of any such subletting. The Government may at any time assign this lease, and be relieved from all obligations to Lessor under this lease excepting only unpaid rent and other liabilities, if any that have accrued to the date of said assignment. Any assignment shall be subject to prior written consent of Lessor, which shall not be unreasonably withheld.

(End of clause)

552.270-6 Maintenance of Building and Premises—Right of Entry.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Maintenance of Building and Premises—Right of Entry (Sep 1999)

Except in case of damage arising out of the willful act or negligence of a Government employee, Lessor shall maintain the premises, including the building and all equipment, fixtures, and appurtenances furnished by the lessor under this lease, in good repair and condition so that they are suitable in appearance and capable of supplying such heat, air conditioning, light, ventilation, access and other things to the premises, without reasonably preventable or recurring disruption, as is required for the Government's access to, occupancy, possession, use and enjoyment of the premises as provided in this lease. For the purpose of so maintaining the premises, the Lessor may at reasonable times enter the premises with the approval of the authorized Government representative in charge.

(End of clause)

552.270-7 Fire and Casualty Damage.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Fire and Casualty Damage (Sep 1999)

If the entire premises are destroyed by fire or other casualty, this lease will immediately terminate. In case of partial destruction or damage, so as to render the premises untenable, as determined by the Government, the Government may terminate the lease by giving written notice to the Lessor within 15 calendar days of the fire or other casualty; if so terminated, no rent will accrue to the Lessor after such partial destruction or damage; and if not so terminated, the rent will be reduced proportionately by supplemental agreement hereto effective from the date of such partial destruction or damage. Nothing in this lease shall be construed as relieving Lessor from liability for damage to or destruction of property of the United States of America caused by the willful or negligent act or omission of Lessor.

(End of clause)

552.270-8 Compliance with Applicable Law.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Compliance With Applicable Law (Sep 1999)

Lessor shall comply with all Federal, state and local laws applicable to the Lessor as owner or lessor, or both, of the building or premises, including, without limitation, laws applicable to the construction, ownership, alteration or operation of both or either thereof, and will obtain all necessary permits, licenses and similar items at Lessor's expense. The Government will comply with all Federal, state and local laws applicable to and enforceable against it as a tenant under this lease; provided that nothing in this lease shall be construed as a waiver of any sovereign immunity of the Government. This lease shall be governed by Federal law.

(End of clause)

552.270-9 Inspection—Right of Entry.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Inspection—Right of Entry (Sep 1999)

(a) At any time and from time to time after receipt of an offer (until the same has been duly withdrawn or rejected), after acceptance thereof and during the term, the agents, employees and contractors of the Government may, upon reasonable prior notice to Offeror or Lessor, enter upon the offered premises or the premises, and all other areas of the building access to which is necessary to accomplish the purposes of entry, to determine the potential or actual compliance by the Offeror or Lessor with the requirements of the solicitation or this lease, which purposes shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Inspecting, sampling and analyzing suspected asbestos-containing materials and air monitoring for asbestos fibers;

(2) Inspecting the heating, ventilation and air conditioning system, maintenance records, and mechanical rooms for the offered premises or the premises;

(3) Inspecting for any leaks, spills, or other potentially hazardous conditions which may

involve tenant exposure to hazardous or toxic substances; and

(4) Inspecting for any current or past hazardous waste operations, to ensure that appropriate mitigative actions were taken to alleviate any environmentally unsound activities in accordance with Federal, State and local law.

(b) Nothing in this clause shall be construed to create a Government duty to inspect for toxic materials or to impose a higher standard of care on the Government than on other lessees. The purpose of this clause is to promote the ease with which the Government may inspect the building. Nothing in this clause shall act to relieve the Lessor of any duty to inspect or liability which might arise as a result of Lessor's failure to inspect for or correct a hazardous condition.

(End of clause)

552.270-10 Failure in Performance.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Failure in Performance (Sep 1999)

The covenant to pay rent and the covenant to provide any service, utility, maintenance, or repair required under this lease are interdependent. In the event of any failure by the Lessor to provide any service, utility, maintenance, repair or replacement required under this lease the Government may, by contract or otherwise, perform the requirement and deduct from any payment or payments under this lease, then or thereafter due, the resulting cost to the Government, including all administrative costs. If the Government elects to perform any such requirement, the Government and each of its contractors shall be entitled to access to any and all areas of the building, access to which is necessary to perform any such requirement, and the Lessor shall afford and facilitate such access. Alternatively, the Government may deduct from any payment under this lease, then or thereafter due, an amount which reflects the reduced value of the contract requirement not performed. No deduction from rent pursuant to this clause shall constitute a default by the Government under this lease. These remedies are not exclusive and are in addition to any other remedies which may be available under this lease or at law.

(End of clause)

552.270-11 Successors Bound.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Successors Bound (Sep 1999)

This lease shall bind, and inure to the benefit of, the parties and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns.

(End of clause)

552.270-12 Alterations.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Alterations (Sep 1999)

The Government shall have the right during the existence of this lease to make

alterations, attach fixtures, and erect structures or signs in or upon the premises hereby leased, which fixtures, additions or structures so placed in, on, upon, or attached to the said premises shall be and remain the property of the Government and may be removed or otherwise disposed of by the Government. If the lease contemplates that the Government is the sole occupant of the building, for purposes of this clause, the leased premises include the land on which the building is sited and the building itself. Otherwise, the Government shall have the right to tie into or make any physical connection with any structure located on the property as is reasonably necessary for appropriate utilization of the leased space. (End of clause)

552.270-13 Proposals for Adjustment.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Proposals for Adjustment (Sep 1999)

(a) The Contracting Officer may, from time to time during the term of this lease, require changes to be made in the work or services to be performed and in the terms or conditions of this lease. Such changes will be required under the Changes clause.

(b) If the Contracting Officer makes a change within the general scope of the lease, the Lessor shall submit, in a timely manner, an itemized cost proposal for the work to be accomplished or services to be performed when the cost exceeds \$100,000. The proposal, including all subcontractor work, will contain at least the following details—

- (1) Material quantities and unit costs;
- (2) Labor costs (identified with specific item or material to be placed or operation to be performed);
- (3) Equipment costs;
- (4) Worker's compensation and public liability insurance;
- (5) Overhead;
- (6) Profit; and
- (7) Employment taxes under FICA and FUTA.

(c) The following Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) provisions also apply to all proposals exceeding \$500,000 in cost—

(1) The Lessor shall provide cost or pricing data including subcontractor cost or pricing data (48 CFR 15.403-4); and

(2) The Lessor's representative, all Contractors, and subcontractors whose portion of the work exceeds \$500,000 must sign and return the "Certificate of Current Cost or Pricing Data" (48 CFR 15.406-2).

(d) Lessors shall also refer to 48 CFR Part 31, Contract Cost Principles, for information on which costs are allowable, reasonable, and allocable in Government work.

(End of clause)

552.270-14 Changes.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Changes (Sep 1999)

(a) The Contracting Officer may at any time, by written order, make changes within the general scope of this lease in any one or more of the following:

(1) Specifications (including drawings and designs).

(2) Work or services.

(3) Facilities or space layout.

(4) Amount of space, provided the Lessor consents to the change.

(b) If any such change causes an increase or decrease in Lessor's cost of or the time required for performance under this lease, whether or not changed by the order, the Contracting Officer shall modify this lease to provide for one or more of the following:

(1) A modification of the delivery date.

(2) An equitable adjustment in the rental rate.

(3) A lump sum equitable adjustment.

(4) An equitable adjustment of the annual operating costs per usable square foot specified in this lease.

(c) The Lessor must assert its right to an adjustment under this clause within 30 days from the date of receipt of the change order and must submit a proposal for adjustment. Failure to agree to any adjustment shall be a dispute under the Disputes clause. However, nothing in this clause excuses the Lessor from proceeding with the change as directed.

(d) Absent such written change order, the Government is not liable to Lessor under this clause.

(End of clause)

552.270-15 Liquidated Damages.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Liquidated Damages (Sep 1999)

In case of failure on the part of the Lessor to complete the work within the time fixed in the lease contract or letter of award, the Lessor shall pay the Government as fixed and agreed liquidated damages, pursuant to this clause, the sum \$_____ for each and every calendar day that the delivery is delayed beyond the date specified for delivery of all the space ready for occupancy by the Government. This remedy is not exclusive and is in addition to any other remedies which may be available under this lease or at law.

(End of clause)

552.270-16 Adjustment for Vacant Premises.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Adjustment for Vacant Premises (Sep 1999)

(a) If the Government fails to occupy any portion of the leased premises or vacates the premises in whole or in part before the lease term expires, the rental rate will be reduced.

(b) The rental rate will be reduced by that portion of the costs per usable square foot of operating expenses not required to maintain the space. The reduction takes effect 30 calendar days after the Government gives notice to the Lessor, and continues in effect until the Government occupies the premises or the lease expires or is terminated.

(End of clause)

552.270-17 Delivery and Condition.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Delivery and Condition (Sep 1999)

(a) Unless the Government elects to have the space occupied in increments, the space must be delivered ready for occupancy as a complete unit. The Government reserves the right to determine when the space is substantially complete.

(b) If the premises do not in every respect comply with the provisions of this lease the Contracting Officer may, in accordance with the Failure in Performance clause of this lease, elect to reduce the rent payments.
(End of clause)

552.270-18 Default in Delivery—Time Extensions.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Default In Delivery—Time Extensions (Sep 1999)

(a) With respect to Lessor's obligation to deliver the premises substantially complete by the delivery date, time is of the essence. If the Lessor fails to work diligently to ensure its substantial completion by the delivery date or fails to substantially complete the work by such date, the Government may by notice to the Lessor terminate this lease. Such termination is effective when received by Lessor. The Lessor and the Lessor's sureties, if any, are jointly and severally liable for any damages to the Government resulting from such termination, as provided in this clause. The Government is entitled to the following damages:

(1) The Government's aggregate rent, estimated real estate tax, and operating cost adjustments for the firm term and all option terms of its replacement lease or leases, in excess of the aggregate rent and estimated real estate tax and operating cost adjustments for the term. If the Government procures replacement premises for a term (including all option terms) in excess of this lease term, the Lessor is not liable for excess Government rent or adjustments during such excess lease term.

(2) All administrative and other costs the Government incurs in procuring a replacement lease or leases.

(3) Other, additional relief provided for in this lease, at law, or in equity.

(b) Damages to which the Government is entitled under this clause are due and payable thirty (30) days following the date Lessor receives notice from the Contracting Officer specifying such damages.

(c) Delivery by Lessor of less than the minimum usable square footage required by this lease shall in no event be construed as substantial completion, except as the Contracting Officer permits.

(d) The Government shall not terminate this lease under this clause nor charge the Lessor with damages under this clause, if (1) the delay in substantially completing the work arises from excusable delays, and (2) the Lessor within 10 days from the beginning of any such delay (unless extended in writing by the Contracting Officer) provides notice to the Contracting Officer of the causes of delay. The Contracting Officer shall ascertain the facts and the extent of delay. If the facts warrant, the Contracting Officer shall extend the delivery date, to the extent of such delay

at no additional costs to the Government. A time extension is the sole remedy of the Lessor.

(End of clause)

552.270-19 Progressive Occupancy.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Progressive Occupancy (Sep 1999)

The Government shall have the right to elect to occupy the space in partial increments prior to the substantial completion of the entire leased premises, and the Lessor agrees to schedule its work so as to deliver the space incrementally as elected by the Government. The Government shall pay rent commencing with the first business day following substantial completion of the entire leased premise unless the Government has elected to occupy the leased premises incrementally. In case of incremental occupancy, the Government shall pay rent pro rata upon the first business day following substantial completion of each incremental unit. Rental payments shall become due on the first workday of the month following the month in which an increment of space is substantially complete, except that should an increment of space be substantially completed after the fifteenth day of the month, the payment due date will be the first workday of the second month following the month in which it was substantially complete. The commencement date of the firm lease term will be a complete determined from all rent commencement dates.

(End of clause)

552.270-20 Payment.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Payment (Sep 1999)

(a) When space is offered and accepted, usable square footage delivered will be confirmed by either:

(1) The Government's measurement of plans submitted by the successful offeror as approved by the Government, and an inspection of the space to verify that the delivered space conforms with such plans.

(2) A mutual on-site measurement of the space if the Contracting Officer determines it necessary.

(b) The Government will not pay for space in excess of the amount of usable square footage stated in the lease.

(c) If the amount of usable square footage delivered is less than the amount agreed to in the lease, the lease will be modified to reflect the amount of usable space delivered and the annual rental will be adjusted as follows:

Usable square feet (USF) not delivered multiplied by one plus the common area factor (CAF), multiplied by the rate per rentable square foot (RSF). That is:
USF X (1+CAF) X Rate per RSF = Reduction in Annual Rent.

(End of clause)

552.270-21 Effect of Acceptance and Occupancy.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Effect of Acceptance and Occupancy (Sep 1999)

Neither the Government's acceptance of the premises for occupancy, nor the Government's occupancy thereof, shall be construed as a waiver of any requirement of or right of the Government under this Lease, or as otherwise prejudicing the Government with respect to any such requirement or right.

(End of clause)

552.270-22 Default by Lessor During the Term.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Default By Lessor During the Term (Sep 1999)

(a) Each of the following shall constitute a default by Lessor under this lease:

(1) Failure to maintain, repair, operate or service the premises as and when specified in this lease, or failure to perform any other requirement of this lease as and when required provided any such failure shall remain uncured for a period of thirty (30) days next following Lessor's receipt of notice thereof from the Contracting Officer or an authorized representative.

(2) Repeated and unexcused failure by Lessor to comply with one or more requirements of this lease shall constitute a default notwithstanding that one or all such failures shall have been timely cured pursuant to this clause.

(b) If a default occurs, the Government may, by notice to Lessor, terminate this lease for default and if so terminated, the Government shall be entitled to the damages specified in the Default in Delivery-Time Extensions clause.

(End of clause)

552.270-23 Subordination, Nondisturbance and Attornment.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Subordination, Nondisturbance and Attornment (Sep 1999)

(a) Lessor warrants that it holds such title to or other interest in the premises and other property as is necessary to the Government's access to the premises and full use and enjoyment thereof in accordance with the provisions of this lease. Government agrees, in consideration of the warranties and conditions set forth in this clause, that this lease is subject and subordinate to any and all recorded mortgages, deeds of trust and other liens now or hereafter existing or imposed upon the premises, and to any renewal, modification or extension thereof. It is the intention of the parties that this provision shall be self-operative and that no further instrument shall be required to effect the present or subsequent subordination of this lease. Government agrees, however, within twenty (20) business days next

following the Contracting Officer's receipt of a written demand, to execute such instruments as Lessor may reasonably request to evidence further the subordination of this lease to any existing or future mortgage, deed of trust or other security interest pertaining to the premises, and to any water, sewer or access easement necessary or desirable to serve the premises or adjoining property owned in whole or in part by Lessor if such easement does not interfere with the full enjoyment of any right granted the Government under this lease.

(b) No such subordination, to either existing or future mortgages, deeds of trust or other lien or security instrument shall operate to affect adversely any right of the Government under this lease so long as the Government is not in default under this lease. Lessor will include in any future mortgage, deed of trust or other security instrument to which this lease becomes subordinate, or in a separate nondisturbance agreement, a provision to the foregoing effect. Lessor warrants that the holders of all notes or other obligations secured by existing mortgages, deeds of trust or other security instruments have consented to the provisions of this clause, and agrees to provide true copies of all such consents to the Contracting Officer promptly upon demand.

(c) In the event of any sale of the premises or any portion thereof by foreclosure of the lien of any such mortgage, deed of trust or other security instrument, or the giving of a deed in lieu of foreclosure, the Government will be deemed to have attorned to any purchaser, purchasers, transferee or transferees of the premises or any portion thereof and its or their successors and assigns, and any such purchasers and transferees will be deemed to have assumed all obligations of the Lessor under this lease, so as to establish direct privity of estate and contract between Government and such purchasers or transferees, with the same force, effect and relative priority in time and right as if the lease had initially been entered into between such purchasers or transferees and the Government; provided, further, that the Contracting Officer and such purchasers or transferees shall, with reasonable promptness following any such sale or deed delivery in lieu of foreclosure, execute all such revisions to this lease, or other writings, as shall be necessary to document the foregoing relationship.

(d) None of the foregoing provisions may be deemed or construed to imply a waiver of the Government's rights as a sovereign. (End of clause)

552.270-24 Statement of Lease.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Statement of Lease (Sep 1999)

(a) The Contracting Officer will, within thirty (30) days next following the Contracting Officer's receipt of a joint written request from Lessor and a prospective lender or purchaser of the building, execute and deliver to Lessor a letter stating that the same is issued subject to the conditions stated in this clause and, if such is the case, that (1) the lease is in full force and effect; and (2)

the date to which the rent and other charges have been paid in advance, if any; and (3) whether any notice of default has been issued.

(b) Letters issued pursuant to this clause are subject to the following conditions:

(1) That they are based solely upon a reasonably diligent review of the Contracting Officer's lease file as of the date of issuance;

(2) That the Government shall not be held liable because of any defect in or condition of the premises or building;

(3) That the Contracting Officer does not warrant or represent that the premises or building comply with applicable Federal, State and local law; and

(4) That the Lessor, and each prospective lender and purchaser are deemed to have constructive notice of such facts as would be ascertainable by reasonable prepurchase and precommitment inspection of the Premises and Building and by inquiry to appropriate Federal, State and local Government officials. (End of clause)

552.270-25 Substitution of Tenant Agency.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Substitution of Tenant Agency (Sep 1999)

The Government may, at any time and from time to time, substitute any Government agency or agencies for the Government agency or agencies, if any, named in the lease.

(End of clause)

552.270-26 No Waiver.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

No Waiver (Sep 1999)

No failure by either party to insist upon the strict performance of any provision of this lease or to exercise any right or remedy consequent upon a breach thereof, and no acceptance of full or partial rent or other performance by either party during the continuance of any such breach shall constitute a waiver of any such breach of such provision.

(End of clause)

552.270-27 Integrated Agreement.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Integrated Agreement (Sep 1999)

This Lease, upon execution, contains the entire agreement of the parties and no prior written or oral agreement, express or implied, shall be admissible to contradict the provisions of the Lease.

(End of clause)

552.270-28 Mutuality of Obligation.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Mutuality of Obligation (Sep 1999)

The obligations and covenants of the Lessor, and the Government's obligation to pay rent and other Government obligations and covenants, arising under or related to

this Lease, are interdependent. The Government may, upon issuance of and delivery to Lessor of a final decision asserting a claim against Lessor, set off such claim, in whole or in part, as against any payment or payments then or thereafter due the Lessor under this lease. No setoff pursuant to this clause shall constitute a breach by the Government of this lease.

(End of clause)

552.270-29 Acceptance of Space.

As prescribed in 570.603, insert the following clause:

Acceptance of Space (Sep 1999)

(a) When the Lessor has completed all alterations, improvements, and repairs necessary to meet the requirements of the lease, the Lessor shall notify the Contracting Officer. The Contracting Officer or designated representative shall promptly inspect the space.

(b) The Government will accept the space and the lease term will begin after determining that the space is substantially complete and contains the required usable square footage as indicated in Paragraph 1.1, Amount and Type of Space, of this solicitation.

(End of clause)

PART 553 FORMS

Subpart 553.2 Illustrations of Forms

553.300 Scope of subpart.

Standard and GSA forms prescribed or referenced in the text of this chapter are illustrated in and made a part of the General Services Administration Acquisition Manual. The forms are not illustrated in Title 48, Chapter 5, of the Code of Federal Regulations. Copies may be obtained from the Director of the Office of GSA Acquisition Policy (MVP), 1800 F Street, NW, Washington, DC 20405.

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SUBCHAPTER I—SPECIAL CONTRACTING PROGRAMS

PART 570 ACQUIRING LEASEHOLD INTERESTS IN REAL PROPERTY

Subpart 570.1 General

570.101 Applicability.

(a) This part applies to acquisitions of leasehold interests in real property except:

(1) Leasehold interests acquired by the power of eminent domain or by donation.

(2) Acquisition of leasehold interests in bare or unimproved land.

(b) In addition, the GSAR rules in the following table apply. Other provisions of 48 CFR Chapter 5 (GSAR) do not apply to leases of real property unless specifically cross-referenced in this part 570.

GSAR RULES APPLICABLE TO ACQUISITIONS OF LEASEHOLD INTERESTS IN REAL PROPERTY

501	514.201-7(b)	517.207	533
502	514.407	519.7	536.271
503	515.204-1	519.12	537.2
504.5	515.209-70	522.8	552
505	515.305	532.1	553
509.4	517.202	532.908	

570.102 Definitions.

Acquisition means the acquiring by lease of an interest in improved real property for use by the Federal Government, whether the space already exists or must be constructed.

Contract means lease.

Contractor means lessor.

Landlord or *lessor* means any individual, firm, partnership, trust, association, State or local government, or other legal entity that leases real property to the Government.

Lease or *leasehold interest in real property* means a conveyance to the Government of the right of exclusive possession of real property for a definite period of time by a landlord. It may include operational services provided by the landlord.

Lessee or *tenant* means the United States of America.

Operational services means services that support use of a leased property, such as heating, ventilation, air condition, utilities, and custodial services.

Rent and related services means that consideration paid for the use of leased property plus the costs of operational services whether furnished by the lessor, the Government, or both.

Simplified lease acquisition procedures mean the procedures for awarding leases at or below the simplified lease acquisition threshold.

Simplified lease acquisition threshold Means \$100,000 average annual rent for the term of the lease, including option periods and excluding the cost of operational services.

Small business means a concern including affiliates, which is organized for profit, is independently-owned and operated, is not dominant in the field of leasing commercial real estate, and has annual average gross receipts of \$15 million or less for the preceding three fiscal years.

Solicitation for Offers (SFO) means invitation for bids in sealed bidding or request for proposals in negotiations.

Space in buildings means the premises leased, or to be leased, including improvements. Its quantity is normally expressed in square feet. It does not include space acquired by the power of eminent domain, donation, or condemnation, nor acquisitions of bare or unimproved land.

Substantially as follows or *substantially the same as*, when used in prescribing a provision or clause, means that you may prepare and use a

variation of that provision or clause to accommodate requirements peculiar to an individual acquisition. The variation must include the salient features of the FAR or GSAR provision or clause. It must also be consistent with the intent, principle, and substance of the FAR or GSAR provision or clause and related coverage on the subject matter.

570.103 Authority to lease.

(a) The Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 (40 U.S.C. 490(h)(1)), as amended, and Section 1 of the Reorganization Plan No. 18 of 1950 (40 U.S.C. 490 Note) authorize the Administrator of General Services to acquire leasehold interests in real property for use by Federal agencies. The authority is limited to leases for buildings and improvement that bind the Government for periods not exceeding 20 years.

(b) You have exclusive authority to enter into and administer leases on the Government's behalf to the extent provided in your certificate of appointment as a contracting officer.

570.104 Competition.

Unless you use the simplified procedures in subpart 570.2, the competition requirements of FAR part 6

apply to acquisition of leasehold interests in real property.

570.105 Methods of contracting.

570.105-1 Contracting by negotiation.

Contracting by negotiation is usually appropriate for acquiring space in a building through a lease contract. You will usually need to conduct discussions with offerors about their proposals and consider factors other than price in making the award.

570.105-2 Two-phase design-build selection procedures.

Unless you use another acquisition procedure authorized by law, you must use the two-phase design-build selection procedures in section 303M of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended, for lease construction projects. This includes lease construction projects with options to purchase the real property leased. Use the procedures in section 303M when you meet the conditions in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section:

(a) You anticipate the lease will involve the design and construction of a public building, facility, or work for lease to the Government.

(b) You determine the procedures are appropriate for entering into a lease construction contract based on the following:

- (1) You expect to receive three or more offers.
- (2) Offerors will need to perform design work before developing a price.
- (3) Offerors will incur a substantial amount of expense in preparing offers.
- (4) You consider criteria such as the following:
 - (i) The extent to which the project requirements have been adequately defined.
 - (ii) The time constraints for delivery of the project.
 - (iii) The capability and experience of potential contractors.
 - (iv) The suitability of the project for use of the two-phase selection procedures.
 - (v) The capability of the agency to manage the two-phase selection process.
 - (vi) Other criteria established by the HCA.

570.105-3 Sealed bidding.

For sealed bidding, use the procedures in FAR part 14. In most cases you should not use sealed bidding to acquire space in buildings unless you meet all the following conditions:

- (a) You have a preselected site.
- (b) A building will be constructed on the site using Government furnished plans and specifications.

(c) The Government will lease the building.

570.106 Publicizing/Advertising.

(a) Subparts 505.101, 505.202, and 505.203 define requirements for publicizing lease actions.

(b) Instead of issuing separate advertisements for multiple, known leasing actions, you may include the actions in one consolidated advertisement.

570.107 Oral presentations.

You may use oral presentations for acquisitions of leasehold interests in real property. Follow the procedures in FAR 15.102.

570.108 Responsibility determination.

(a) Determine that the prospective awardee is responsible with respect to the lease under consideration. The standards in FAR 9.104 apply. As part of the determination that a prospective contractor is otherwise qualified and eligible for award, review the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.

(b) Your signature on the contract is deemed an affirmative determination.

(c) If you find an offeror nonresponsible, sign and place in the contract file a determination of nonresponsibility. State the basis for the determination.

(d) If you find a small business concern nonresponsible, the procedures at FAR 19.6 apply. Place all documents and reports supporting a determination of responsibility or nonresponsibility in the lease file.

570.109 Certifications.

Before awarding a lease, review applicable certifications for compliance with statute and regulations.

570.110 Cost or pricing data and information other than cost or pricing data.

(a) The policies and procedures of FAR 15.403 apply to lease contract actions.

(b) FAR 15.403-1 defines exceptions to and waivers for submitting cost or pricing data. Most leasing actions will have adequate price competition. For price analysis, you may use a market survey or an appraisal conducted using accepted real property appraisal procedures to establish a market price for comparison.

(c) In exceptional cases, the requirement for submission of certified cost or pricing data may be waived under FAR 15.403-1(c)(4).

(d) If cost or pricing data are required, follow the procedures in FAR 15.403-4 and 15.406-2.

570.111 Inspection and acceptance.

Before you accept space, obtain an inspection to ensure that the space complies with the Government's requirements and specifications. Document the inspection and acceptance in the contract file.

570.112 Awards to Federal employees.

If you receive an offer from an officer or employee of the Government, follow the procedures in FAR 3.6.

570.113 Disclosure of mistakes after award.

If you discover a mistake in a lessor's offer after award, follow the procedures in FAR 14.407-4 and subpart 514.407-4.

570.114 Protests.

FAR 33.1 and 533.1 apply to protests of lease acquisitions.

Subpart 570.2—Simplified Lease Acquisition Procedures

570.201 Purpose.

This subpart prescribes simplified procedures for small leases. These procedures reduce administrative costs, while improving efficiency and economy, when acquiring small leasehold interests in real property.

570.202 Policy.

Use simplified lease acquisition procedures to the maximum extent practicable for actions at or below the simplified lease acquisition threshold.

570.203 Procedures.

570.203-1 Market survey.

Conduct a market survey to identify potential sources. Use information available in GSA or from other sources to identify locations that will meet the Government's requirements.

570.203-2 Competition.

(a) Solicit at least three sources to promote competition to the maximum extent practicable. If you have repeated requirements for space in the same market, and if practicable, invite two sources not included in the most recent solicitation to submit offers.

(b) If you solicit only one source, document the file to explain the lack of competition.

570.203-3 Soliciting offers.

(a) Solicit offers by providing each prospective offeror a proposed short form lease or SFO. The short form lease or SFO must provide all the following information:

- (1) A description of the Government's requirements.

(2) All award factors, including price or cost, and any significant subfactors you will consider in awarding the lease.

(3) A statement of the relative importance of the evaluation factors and subfactors.

(4) A statement of whether all evaluation factors other than cost or price, when combined, are either:

(i) Significantly more important than cost or price.

(ii) Approximately equal in importance to cost or price.

(iii) Significantly less important than cost or price.

(5) Either in full text or by reference, applicable FAR provisions and contract clauses required by 570.6.

(b) As necessary, review with prospective offerors the Government's requirements, pricing matters, evaluation procedures and submissions of offers.

570.203-4 Negotiations, evaluation, and award.

(a) If you need to conduct negotiations, use the procedures in 570.307.

(b) Evaluate offers in accordance with the solicitation. Evaluate prices and document the lease file to demonstrate whether the proposed contract prices are fair and reasonable.

(c) If the total price, including options, exceeds \$500,000, consider whether you need cost and pricing data to determine that the price is fair and reasonable. In most cases the exceptions at FAR 15.403-1 will apply.

(d) If the total contract value of the lease, including options, will exceed \$500,000, the proposed awardee must provide an acceptable small business subcontracting plan. This requirement does not apply if the proposed awardee is a small business concern.

(e) Make award to the responsible offeror whose proposal is most advantageous to the Government considering price and other factors included in the solicitation.

Subpart 570.3—Contracting Procedures for Leasehold Interests in Real Property

570.301 Market survey.

Conduct a market survey to identify potential sources. Use information available in GSA or from other sources to identify locations capable of meeting the Government's requirements.

570.302 Description of requirements.

(a) The description of requirements depends on the nature of the space the agency needs and the market available to satisfy that need.

(b) The description of requirements must include all the following:

(1) A statement of the purpose of the lease.

(2) Functional, performance, or physical requirements.

(3) Any special requirements.

(4) The delivery schedule.

(c) The description must promote full and open competition. Include restrictive provisions or conditions only to the extent necessary to satisfy the agency's needs or as authorized by law.

570.303 Solicitation for offers.

570.303-1 Preparing the SFO.

The SFO forms the basis for the lease negotiation process and becomes part of the lease. Document each SFO in writing or electronically. Include the information necessary to enable prospective offerors to prepare proposals. Each SFO, at a minimum, must provide all the following:

(a) Describe the Government's requirements.

(b) State the method the Government will use to measure space.

(c) Explain how to structure offers.

(d) Specify a date, time, and place for submission of offers.

(e) Explain how the Government will evaluate offers.

(f) Describe the source selection procedures the Government will use.

(g) Include a statement outlining the information the Government may disclose in debriefings.

(h) Include appropriate forms prescribed in 570.7.

570.302-3 Issuing the SFO.

Release the SFO to all prospective offerors at the same time.

570.303-3 Late offers, modifications of offers, and withdrawals of offers.

Follow the procedures in FAR 15.208.

570.303-4 Changes to SFOs.

(a) If the Government's requirements change, either before or after receipt of proposals, issue an amendment. Document the amendment using the same method as for the SFO, written or electronic.

(b) If time is critical, you may provide information on SFO amendments orally.

(1) Make a record of the information provided.

(2) Provide, or attempt to provide, the notice to all offerors or prospective offerors on the same day.

(3) Promptly confirm the information provided orally in a written amendment.

(c) Distribute an amendment as follows:

(1) If before the proposal due date, send the amendment to all prospective

offerors who were sent a copy of the SFO.

(2) If after proposal receipt, send the amendment to each offeror who submitted a proposal.

(d) If an amendment is so substantial that it requires a complete revision of the SFO, cancel the SFO and issue a new one.

570.304 General source selection procedures.

(a) These procedures apply to acquisitions of leasehold interests except if you use either:

(1) Simplified lease acquisition procedures authorized by 570.2.

(2) Two-phase design-build selection procedures authorized by 570.105-2.

(b) The contracting officer is designated as the source selection official unless the HCA appoints another individual for a particular leasing action or group of leasing actions.

(c) You must include price or cost to the Government and past performance as evaluation factors in every case.

(d) The SFO must comply with FAR 15.304 and either:

(1) FAR 15.101-1 if you will use the tradeoff process.

(2) FAR 15.101-2 if you will use the lowest price technically acceptable source selection process.

570.305 Two-phase design-build selection procedures.

(a) These procedures apply to acquisitions of leasehold interests if you use the two-phase design-build selection procedures authorized by 570.105-2.

(b) The SFO must include all the following information:

(1) The scope of work.

(2) The evaluation factors and subfactors to be used in evaluating phase-one proposals and their relative importance.

(3) The maximum number of offerors to be selected to submit competitive proposals in phase-two.

(4) The evaluation factors, including cost or price, and subfactors to be used in evaluating phase-two proposals and selecting the successful offeror, and their relative importance.

(c) The following procedures apply to phase-one evaluation factors:

(1) Phase one factors include:

(i) Specialized experience and technical competence.

(ii) Capability to perform.

(iii) Past performance of the offeror's team (including architect-engineer and construction members of the team).

(iv) Other appropriate factors, such as site or location.

(2) Do not require offerors to submit detailed design information or cost or price information in phase one. Do not use cost related or price related evaluation factors.

(d) Set the maximum number of offerors to be selected for phase-two to not exceed five (5) unless you determine that a number greater than five is both:

(1) In the government's interest.

(2) Consistent with the purpose and objectives of the two-phase selection process.

(e) In phase-two, require detailed technical and price proposals. Evaluate the proposals using the procedures in 570.306.

570.306 Evaluating offers.

(a) You must evaluate offers solely in accordance with the factors and subfactors stated in the SFO.

(b) Evaluate prices and document the lease file to demonstrate that the proposed contract price is fair and reasonable.

(c) Evaluate past performance in accordance with FAR 15.305(a)(2).

(d) Document the evaluation of award factors other than price listed in the solicitation. The file must include the basis for evaluation, an analysis of each offer, and a summary of findings.

570.307 Negotiations.

(a) Follow the procedures in FAR 15.306 and 15.307 for exchanges (including clarifications, communications, negotiations, discussions, and revisions).

(b) Place a written record of all exchanges in the lease file.

(c) Provide prompt written notice to any offeror excluded from the competitive range or otherwise eliminated from the competition in accordance with FAR 15.503(a).

570.308 Award.

(a) Make award to the responsible offeror whose proposal represents the best value after evaluation in accordance with the factors and subfactors in the SFO.

(b) Make award in writing and in the timeframe specified in the SFO.

(1) If you cannot make an award in that time, request in writing from each offeror an extension of the acceptance period through a specific date.

(2) If time is critical, you may request the extensions orally. You must make a record of the requested and confirm it promptly in writing.

(c) Notify unsuccessful offerors in writing or electronically in accordance with FAR 15.501 and 15.503(b).

(d) The source selection authority may reject all proposals received in

response to an SFO, if doing so is in the best interest of the Government.

570.309 Debriefings.

The procedures of FAR 15.505 and 15.506 apply to leasing actions.

Subpart 570.4—Special Aspects of Contracting for Continued Space Requirements

570.401 Renewal options.

(a) *Exercise of options.* Before exercising an option to renew, follow the procedures in 517.202 and 517.207. The contract must first provide the right to renew the lease.

(b) *Market survey.* Before exercising an option to renew a lease, review current market information to ensure the rental rate in the option is fair and reasonable.

570.402 Succeeding leases.

570.402-1 General.

(a) If a succeeding lease for the continued occupancy of space in a building does not exceed the simplified lease acquisition threshold, you may use the simplified procedures in 570.2. Explain the absence of competition in the contract file.

(b) If a succeeding lease will exceed the simplified lease acquisition threshold, you may enter into the lease under either of the following conditions:

(1) You do not identify any potential acceptable locations.

(2) You identify potential acceptable locations, but a cost-benefit analysis indicates that award to an offeror other than the present lessor will result in substantial relocation costs or duplication of costs to the Government, and the Government cannot expect to recover such costs through competition.

570.402-2 Publicizing/Advertising.

Publish a notice if required by 505.101(c). The notice should:

(a) Indicate the Government's lease is expiring.

(b) Describe the requirement in terms of type and quantity of space.

(c) Indicate the Government is interested in considering alternative space if economically advantageous.

(d) Advise prospective offerors that the Government will consider the cost of moving, alterations, etc., when deciding whether it should relocate.

(e) Provide a contact person for those interested in providing space to the Government.

570.402-3 Market survey.

Conduct a market survey following 570.301.

570.402-4 No potential acceptable locations.

If you do not identify any potential acceptable locations through the advertisement or the market survey, you may prepare a justification to negotiate directly with the present lessor. Fully document the efforts to locate alternative sources. Prepare the justification and obtain approval following FAR 6.3 and 506.3.

570.402-5 Potential acceptable locations.

If you identify potential acceptable locations through the advertisement or market survey, conduct a cost-benefit analysis following the procedures in 570.402-6. Based on the results of the cost-benefit analysis, take appropriate action as follows:

(a) If the cost-benefit analysis indicates that the Government will recover relocation costs and duplication of costs through competition, develop an SFO and negotiate with all interested parties following 570.3.

(b) If the cost-benefit analysis indicates that the Government cannot expect to recover relocation costs and duplication of costs through competition, prepare a justification for approval in accordance with FAR 6.3 and 506.3. Explain both:

(1) How you performed the cost-benefit analysis.

(2) That the cost-benefit analysis indicates that award to any other offeror will likely result in substantial costs to the Government that the Government cannot expect to recover through competition.

570.402-6 Cost-benefit analysis.

(a) The cost-benefit analysis must consider all the following:

(1) The prices of other potentially available properties.

(2) Relocation costs, including estimated costs for moving, telecommunications, and alterations, amortized over the firm term of the lease.

(3) Duplication of costs to the Government.

(4) Other appropriate considerations.

(b) Establish the prices for other potentially available properties by requesting each prospective offeror to provide an informational quotation for standard space for comparison purposes.

(1) Adjust the prices quoted for standard space for any special requirements.

(2) You do not need a formal SFO to obtain the informational quotation. However, you must provide a general description of the Government's needs.

(3) If you obtain oral quotations, document the following information, as a minimum:

- (i) Name and address of the firm solicited.
 - (ii) Name of the firm's representative providing the quote.
 - (iii) Price(s) quoted.
 - (iv) Description of the space and services for which the quote is provided.
 - (v) Name of the Government employee soliciting the quotation.
 - (vi) Date of the conversation.
- (4) Compare the informational quotations to the present lessor's price, adjusted to reflect the anticipated price for a succeeding lease.

570.403 Expansion requests.

- (a) If the expansion space is in the general scope of the lease, you may acquire the space through a modification without further justification under FAR 6.3.
- (b) If the expansion space needed is outside the general scope of the lease, determine whether it is more prudent to provide the expansion space by supplemental agreement to the existing lease or to satisfy the requirement by competitive means.
 - (1) Conduct a market survey to determine the availability of suitable alternative locations.
 - (2) If you identify alternate locations that can satisfy the total requirement, perform a cost-benefit analysis to determine whether it is in the Government's best interest to relocate. Consider, as appropriate.
 - (i) The cost of the alternate space compared to the cost of expanding at the existing location.
 - (ii) The cost of moving.
 - (iii) The cost of duplicating existing improvements.
 - (iv) The cost of the unexpired portion of the firm lease term. If a termination is possible, use the actual cost of such an action.
 - (v) the cost of disruption to the agency's operation.
 - (c) If you determine not to use competitive procedures and the expansion space is outside the general scope of the lease:
 - (1) If the estimated value of the acquisition does not exceed the simplified lease acquisition threshold, document the file as required by 570.203-2(b).
 - (2) If the estimated value of the acquisition exceeds the simplified lease acquisition threshold, prepare a justification for approval under FAR 6.3 and 506.3.

570.404 Superseding leases.

- (a) Consider executing a superseding lease to replace an existing lease when the Government need numerous or detailed modifications to the space that would cause complications or substantially change the present lease.
- (b) If the value of the superseding lease exceeds the simplified lease acquisition threshold, the justification and approval requirements in FAR 6.3 and 506.3 apply. If the cost does not exceed the simplified lease acquisition threshold, you may use the simplified procedures in 570.2 and explain the absence of competition in the file.

570.405 Lease extensions.

- (a) This section applies to extension of the term of a lease to provide for continued occupancy on a short-term basis.
- (b) If the value of a lease extension will exceed the simplified lease acquisition threshold, the justification and approval requirements in FAR 6.3 and 506.3 apply. For extensions that will not exceed the simplified lease acquisition threshold, you may use the simplified procedures in 570.2 and explain the absence of competition in the file.
- (c) FAR 6.302-1 permits contracting without providing for full and open competition when the property or services needed by the agency are available from only one responsible source and no other type of property or services will satisfy the needs of the agency. This authority may apply to lease extensions in situations such as the following:

- (1) The agency occupying the leased space is scheduled to move into other Federally controlled space, but encounters unexpected delays in preparing the new space for occupancy.
- (2) The Government encounters unexpected delays outside of its control in acquiring replacement space.
- (3) The Government is consolidating various agencies occupying the leased space and you need to extend the terms of some leases to establish a common expiration date.

Subpart 570.5—Special Aspects of Contracting for Lease Alterations

570.501 General.

- (a) Acquire alterations through a modification to an existing lease if you meet all the following conditions:
 - (1) The alterations fall in the general scope of the lease. Consider whether the work can be regarded as fairly and reasonably an inseparable part of the lease requirement originally contracted for.

(2) The lessor is willing to perform the proposed alterations at a fair and reasonable price.

(3) It is in the Government's interest to acquire the alterations from the lessor.

(b) If proposed alterations are outside the general scope of the existing lease, decide whether to acquire the alterations through either:

- (1) A supplemental lease agreement, justified and approved under 570.502-1.
- (2) Government performance or a separate contract. The lease must first provide the Government the right to perform alterations to the leased space.

570.502 Alterations by the lessor.

These procedures apply to alterations you acquire directly from a lessor by modification or supplement lease agreement.

570.502-1 Justification and approval requirements.

If the proposed alterations are outside the general scope of the lease and you plan to acquire them from the lessor without competition, the following justification and approval requirements apply:

- (a) If the alteration project will exceed the simplified lease acquisition threshold, the justification and approval requirements in FAR 6.3 and 506.3 apply.
- (b) If the alteration project will exceed \$2,500, but not the simplified lease acquisition threshold, you may use simplified acquisition procedures and explain the absence of competition in the file.
- (c) If the alternation project will not exceed \$2,500, no justification and approval is required.

570.502-2 Procedures.

- (a) *Scope of work.* Prepare a scope of work for each alteration project.
- (b) *Independent Government estimate.* Obtain an independent Government estimate for each alteration project, including changes to existing alteration agreements with the lessor.

(c) Request for proposal.

(1) Provide the scope of work to the lessor, including any plans and specifications, and request a proposal. Indicate in the request for proposal if the Government will make progress payments and provide for retainage, when appropriate.

(2) Request sufficient cost or price information to permit a price analysis.

(d) *Audits.* If you require cost or pricing data and the alteration project will exceed \$500,000, request an audit.

(3) Proposal evaluation.

- (1) Determine if the proposal meets the Government's requirements.
- (2) Analyze price or cost. At a minimum, compare the proposed cost to the independent estimate and, if applicable, any audit received.
- (3) Analyze profit following FAR 15.404-4.
- (4) Document your analysis under this paragraph and the resulting negotiation objectives.
- (f) *Price negotiations.*
- (1) Exercise sound judgment. You may make reasonable compromises as necessary.
- (2) The negotiated price should provide the lessor with the greatest incentive for efficient and economical performance.
- (3) Document negotiations in the contract file.

- (g) *Award.* Use GSA Form 276, Supplemental Lease Agreement. If the modification does not exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, you may use GSA Form 300, Order for Supplies or Services. Reference the lease on the form.
- (h) *Inspection and payment.* Do not make final payment for alterations until the work is:
 - (1) Inspected by a qualified Government employee or independent Government contractor.
 - (2) Confirmed as completed in a satisfactory manner.

- rather than contracting directly with the lessor, the Government may either:
 - (1) Have Federal employees perform the work.
 - (2) Contract out the work using standard contracting procedures that apply to a construction contract performed on Federal property.
 - (b) If the Government decides to contract for the work, invite the lessor, as well as all other prospective contractors, to submit an offer for the project.

Subpart 570.6—Solicitation Provisions and Contract Clauses

570.503 Alterations by the Government or through a separate contract.

570.601 FAR provisions and clauses.

- (a) If the Government chooses to exercise its right to make the alterations

Include provisions or clauses substantially the same as the following FAR provisions and clauses.

If . . .	Then include . . .
(a) the estimated value of the acquisition exceeds \$2,500.	52.204-3 Taxpayer Identification. 52.219-1 Small Business Program Representations. 52.222-36 Affirmative Action for Workers with Disabilities. 52.232-23 Assignment of Claims. 52.233-1 Disputes.
(b) the estimated value of the acquisition exceeds \$10,000.	52.222-21 Prohibition of Segregated Facilities. 52.222-22 Previous Contracts and Compliance Reports. 52.222-25 Affirmative Action Compliance. 52.222-26 Equal Opportunity. 52.222-35 Affirmative Action for Disabled Veterans and Veterans of the Vietnam Era. 52.222-37 Employment Reports on Disabled Veterans and Veterans of the Vietnam Era.
(c) the estimated value of the acquisition exceeds \$25,000.	52.209-6 Protecting the Government's Interest when Subcontracting with Contractors Debarred, Suspended, or Proposed for Debarment.
(d) the estimated value of the acquisition exceeds \$100,000.	52.203-11 Certification and Disclosure Regarding Payments to Influence Certain Federal Transactions.
(e) the estimated value of the acquisition exceeds the simplified lease acquisition threshold.	52.203-2 Certificate of Independent Price Determination. 52.203-7 Anti-Kickback Procedures. 52.209-5 Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Proposed Debarment, and Other Responsibility Matters. 52.215-2 Audit and Records—Negotiation. 52.219-8 Utilization of Small Business Concerns. 52.223-6 Drug-Free Workplace. 52.233-2 Service of Protest.
(f) the estimated value of the acquisition exceeds \$500,000.	52.219-9 Small Business Subcontracting Plan.
(g) the estimated value of the acquisition exceeds \$500,000 and the acquisition includes an evaluation factor that considers the extent of participation of small disadvantaged business concerns in accordance with FAR 19.12.	52.219-16 Liquidated Damages—Subcontracting Plan. 52.219-24 Small Disadvantaged Business Participation Program—Targets. 52.219-25 Small Disadvantaged Business Participation Program—Disadvantaged Status and Reporting.
(h) the estimated value of the acquisition exceeds \$10 million.	52.222-24 Preaward On-Site Equal Opportunity Compliance Review.
(i) you require cost or pricing data for work or services exceeding \$500,000.	52.215-10 Price Reduction for Defective Cost or Pricing Data. 52.215-12 Subcontractor Cost or Pricing Data.
(j) you authorize submission of facsimile proposals.	52.215-5 Facsimile Proposals.
(k) a negotiated acquisition provides monetary incentives based on actual achievement of small disadvantaged business subcontracting targets under FAR 19.1203 and 519.1203.	52.219-26 Small Disadvantaged Business Participation Program—Incentive Subcontracting.

570.602 GSAR solicitation provisions.

Each SFO must include provisions substantially the same as the following, unless you determine that the provision is not appropriate:

- 552.270-1 Instructions to Offerors— Acquisition of Leasehold Interests in Real Property. Use Alternate I if you decide that it is advantageous to the Government to allow offers to be submitted up to the exact time specified for award. Use Alternate II if the Government intends to award without discussions. These two alternates are not exclusive.
- 552.270-2 Historic Preference.
- 552.270-3 Parties to Execute Lease.

570.603 GSAR contract clauses.

Insert clauses substantially the same as the following in solicitations and contracts for leasehold interests in real property that exceed the simplified lease acquisition threshold, unless you determine that a clause is not appropriate. You do not require a deviation under 570.604 to determine that a clause in this section is not appropriate. Use the clauses at your discretion in actions at or below the simplified lease acquisition threshold.

- 552.270-4 Definitions. You must use this clause if you use 570.270-28.
- 552.270-5 Subletting and Assignment.
- 552.270-6 Maintenance of Building and Premises—Right of Entry.
- 552.270-7 Fire and Casualty Damage.
- 552.270-8 Compliance with Applicable Law.
- 552.270-9 Inspection—right of Entry.
- 552.270-10 Failure in Performance.
- 552.270-11 Successors Bound.
- 552.270-12 Alterations.
- 552.270-13 Proposals for Adjustment.

- 552.270-14 Changes.
- 552.270-15 Liquidated Damages. Insert this clause in solicitations and contracts if you have a critical requirement to meet the delivery date and you cannot establish an actual cost for the loss to the Government resulting from late delivery.
- 552.270-16 Adjustment for Vacant Premises.
- 552.270-17 Delivery and Condition.
- 552.270-18 Default in Delivery—Time Extensions.
- 552.270-19 Progressive Occupancy.
- 552.270-20 Payment.
- 552.270-21 Effect of Acceptance and Occupancy.
- 552.270-22 Default by Lessor During the Term.
- 552.270-23 Subordination, Nondisturbance and Attornment
- 552.270-24 Statement of Lease.
- 552.270-25 Substitution of Tenant Agency.
- 552.270-26 No Waiver.
- 552.270-27 Integrated Agreement.
- 552.270-28 Mutuality of Obligation.
- 552.270-29 Acceptance of Space.

570.604 Deviations to provisions and clauses.

- (a) You need a deviation approved under 501.4 to omit any required provision or clause.
- (b) You also need an approved deviation to modify the language of a provision or clause mandated by statute (e.g., GSAR 552.203-5, Covenant Against Contingent Fees, FAR 52.215-2, Audit and Records—Negotiation). The authorizing statute must allow for a waiver.
- (c) Certain clauses required by non-GSA regulations require approval of the issuing agency before you can delete or modify them. For example, 52.222-26, Equal Opportunity; 52.222-35,

Affirmative Action for Disabled Veterans and Veterans of the Vietnam Era; and 52.222-36, Affirmative Action for Workers with Disabilities, require the approval of the Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs before they can be deleted from or modified in the SFO or lease.

Subpart 570.7 Forms**570.701 Standard forms.**

Use Standard Form 2, U.S. Government Lease for Real Property, to award leases unless you use GSA Form 3626 (see 570.702). Delete the reference to the Standard Form 2-A in paragraph 7.

570.702 GSA forms.

(a) You may use GSA Form 3626, U.S. Government Lease for Real Property (Short Form), to award leases if you use the simplified leasing procedures in 570.2 or if you determine it advantageous to use.

(b) You may use GSA Form 276, Supplemental Lease Agreement, for actions requiring the agreement of both parties. This includes actions such as amending an existing lease to acquire additional space, obtaining partial release of space, revising the terms of a lease, settling restoration claims, and acquiring alterations.

(c) You may use GSA Form 1364, Proposal To Lease Space, to obtain offers from prospective offerors.

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