

be divided between award fee and the maximum performance incentive at the discretion of the contracting officer.

(ii) The maximum negative performance incentive for research and development hardware (e.g., the first and second units) shall be equal in amount to the total *earned* award fee (including any base fee). The maximum negative performance incentives for production hardware (e.g., the third and all subsequent units of any hardware items) shall be equal in amount to the total *potential* award fee (including any base fee). Where one contract contains both cases described above, any base fee shall be allocated reasonably among the items.

(3) For cost reimbursement contracts other than award fee contracts, the maximum negative performance incentives shall not exceed the total earned fee under the contract.

[62 FR 3478, Jan. 23, 1997, as amended at 62 FR 58687, Oct. 30, 1997; 63 FR 9965, Feb. 27, 1998; 63 FR 12997, Mar. 17, 1998; 63 FR 28285, May 22, 1998; 68 FR 23424, May 2, 2003; 69 FR 21764, Apr. 22, 2004]

**1816.404 Fixed-price contracts with award fees.**

Section 1816.405-2 applies to the use of FPAF contracts as if they were CPAF contracts. However, neither base fee (see 1816.405-271) nor evaluation of cost control (see 1816.405-274) apply to FPAF contracts.

[62 FR 58687, Oct. 30, 1997]

**1816.405 Cost-reimbursement incentive contracts.**

[62 FR 3478, Jan. 23, 1997. Redesignated at 62 FR 36706, July 9, 1997]

**1816.405-2 Cost-plus-award-fee (CPAF) contracts.**

[62 FR 3478, Jan. 23, 1997. Redesignated at 62 FR 36706, July 9, 1997]

**1816.405-270 CPAF contracts.**

(a) Use of an award fee incentive requires advance approval by the Assistant Administrator for Procurement. Requests for approval, that include Determination & Findings (D&F) cited in paragraph (b) of this section, shall be submitted to Headquarters Office of

Procurement, Program Operations Division.

(b) Contracting officers shall prepare a D&F in accordance with FAR 16.401(d) prior to using an award fee incentive. In addition to the items identified in FAR 16.401(e)(1), D&Fs will include a discussion of the other types of contracts considered and shall indicate why an award fee incentive is the appropriate choice. Award fee incentives should not be used on contracts with a total estimated cost and fee less than \$2 million per year. Use of award fee incentive for lower-valued acquisitions may be authorized in exceptional situations such as contract requirements having direct health or safety impacts, where the judgmental assessment of the quality of contractor performance is critical.

(c) Except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section, an award fee incentive may be used in conjunction with other contract types for aspects of performance that cannot be objectively assessed. In such cases, the cost incentive is based on objective formulas inherent in the other contract types (e.g., FPI, CPIF), and the award fee provision should not separately incentivize cost performance.

(d) Award fee incentives shall not be used with a cost-plus-fixed-fee (CPFF) contract.

[76 FR 6697, Feb. 8, 2011]

**1816.405-271 Base fee.**

(a) A base fee shall not be used on CPAF contracts for which the periodic award fee evaluations are final (1816.405-273(a)). In these circumstances, contractor performance during any award fee period is independent of and has no effect on subsequent performance periods or the final results at contract completion. For other contracts, such as those for hardware or software development, the procurement officer may authorize the use of a base fee not to exceed 3 percent. Base fee shall not be used when an award fee incentive is used in conjunction with another contract type (e.g., CPIF/AF).

(b) When a base fee is authorized for use in a CPAF contract, it shall be paid only if the final award fee evaluation is "satisfactory" or better. (See 1816.405-