

Cost Accounting Standards, requires the contractor to—

(i) Submit a description of the change to the CFAO not less than 60 days (or other mutually agreeable date) before implementation of the change; and

(ii) Submit rationale to support any contractor assertion that the cost impact of the change is immaterial.

(d) *Equitable adjustments for new or modified standards.* (1) Required changes made to comply with new or modified standards may require equitable adjustments, but only to those contracts awarded before the effective date of the new or modified standard (see 52.230–2, 52.230–3, or 52.230–5).

(2) When a contractor elects to implement a required change to comply with a new or modified standard prior to the applicability date of the standard, the CFAO shall administer the change as a unilateral change (see 30.603–2). Contractors shall not receive an equitable adjustment that will result in increased costs in the aggregate paid by the Government prior to the applicability date unless the CFAO determines that the unilateral change is a desirable change.

30.603–2 Unilateral and desirable changes.

(a) *Unilateral changes.* (1) The contractor may unilaterally change its disclosed or established cost accounting practices, but the Government shall not pay any increased cost, in the aggregate, as a result of the unilateral change.

(2) Prior to making any contract price or cost adjustments under the applicable paragraph(s) of the clause addressing a unilateral change at 52.230–2, 52.230–3, or 52.230–5, the CFAO shall determine that—

(i) The contemplated contract price or cost adjustments will protect the Government from the payment of the estimated increased costs, in the aggregate; and

(ii) The net effect of the contemplated adjustments will not result in the recovery of more than the increased costs paid by the Government, in the aggregate.

(b) *Desirable changes.* (1) Prior to taking action under the applicable paragraph(s) addressing a desirable change at 52.230–2, 52.230–3, or 52.230–5, the CFAO shall determine the change is a desirable change and not detrimental to the interests of the Government.

(2) Until the CFAO has determined a change to a cost accounting practice is a desirable change, the change is a unilateral change.

(3) Some factors to consider in determining if a change is a desirable

change include, but are not limited to, whether—

(i) The contractor must change the cost accounting practices it uses for Government contract and subcontract costing purposes to remain in compliance with the provisions of part 31;

(ii) The contractor is initiating management actions directly associated with the change that will result in cost savings for segments with CAS-covered contracts and subcontracts over a period for which forward pricing rates are developed or five years, whichever is shorter, and the cost savings are reflected in the forward pricing rates; and

(iii) Funds are available if the determination would necessitate an upward adjustment of contract cost or price.

(c) *Notice and proposal preparation.*

(1) When a contractor makes a unilateral change, the clause at 52.230–6, Administration of Cost Accounting Standards, requires the contractor to—

(i) Submit a description of the change to the CFAO not less than 60 days (or other mutually agreeable date) before implementation of the change; and

(ii) Submit rationale to support any contractor assertion that the cost impact of the change is immaterial.

(2) If a contractor implements the change in cost accounting practice without submitting the notice as required in paragraph (c)(1) of this subsection, the CFAO may determine the change a failure to follow a cost accounting practice consistently and process it as a noncompliance in accordance with 30.605.

(d) *Retroactive changes.* (1) If a contractor requests that a unilateral change be retroactive, the contractor shall submit supporting rationale.

(2) The CFAO shall promptly evaluate the contractor's request and shall, as soon as practical, notify the contractor in writing whether the request is or is not approved.

(3) The CFAO shall not approve a date for the retroactive change that is before the beginning of the contractor's fiscal year in which the request is made.

(e) *Contractor accounting changes due to external restructuring activities.* The requirements for contract price and cost adjustments do not apply to compliant cost accounting practice changes that are directly associated with external restructuring activities that are subject to and meet the requirements of 10 U.S.C. 2325. However, the disclosure requirements in 30.603–2 shall be followed.

30.604 Processing changes to disclosed or established cost accounting practices.

(a) *Scope.* This section applies to required, unilateral, and desirable changes in cost accounting practices.

(b) *Procedures.* Upon receipt of the contractor's notification and description of the change in cost accounting practice, the CFAO, with the assistance of the auditor, should review the proposed change concurrently for adequacy and compliance. The CFAO shall—

(1) If the description of the change is both adequate and compliant, notify the contractor in writing and—

(i) For required or unilateral changes (except those requested to be determined desirable changes), request the contractor submit a general dollar magnitude (GDM) proposal by a specified date, unless the CFAO determines the cost impact is immaterial; or

(ii) For unilateral changes that the contractor requests to be determined desirable changes, inform the contractor that the request shall include supporting rationale and—

(A) For any request based on the criteria in 30.603–2(b)(3)(ii), the data necessary to demonstrate the required cost savings; or

(B) For any request other than those based on the criteria in 30.603–2(b)(3)(ii), a GDM proposal and any other data necessary for the CFAO to determine if the change is a desirable change;

(2) If the description of the change is inadequate, request a revised description of the new cost accounting practice; and

(3) If the disclosed practice is noncompliant, notify the contractor in writing that, if implemented, the CFAO will determine the cost accounting practice to be noncompliant and process it accordingly.

(c) *Evaluating requests for desirable changes.* (1) When a contractor requests a unilateral change be determined a desirable change, the CFAO shall promptly evaluate the contractor's request and, as soon as practical, notify the contractor in writing whether the change is a desirable change or the request is denied.

(2) If the CFAO determines the change is a desirable change, the CFAO shall negotiate any cost or price adjustments that may be needed to resolve the cost impact (see 30.606).

(3) If the request is denied, the change is a unilateral change and shall be processed accordingly.

(d) *General dollar magnitude proposal.* The GDM proposal—