

**23.406 Solicitation provision and contract clause.**

(a) Insert the provision at 52.223-4, Recovered Material Certification, in solicitations that are for, or specify the use of, EPA-designated products containing recovered materials.

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**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****GENERAL SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION****NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND  
SPACE ADMINISTRATION****48 CFR Parts 5, 7, and 10**

[FAC 2001-15; FAR Case 2001-030; Item III]

RIN 9000-AJ30

**Federal Acquisition Regulation;  
Electronic Listing of Acquisition  
Vehicles Available for Use by More  
Than One Agency**

**AGENCIES:** Department of Defense (DoD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** The Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council (Council) has agreed on a final rule amending the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to require contracting activities to input information in an online contract directory for Governmentwide acquisition contracts (GWACs), multi-agency contracts, Federal Supply Schedule contracts, and other procurement instruments intended for multiple agency use, including blanket purchase agreements (BPAs) under Federal Supply Schedule contracts. The directory is located at <http://www.contractdirectory.gov>; and encourage consideration of the online contract directory during acquisition planning and market research.

The Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) seeks to improve application of acquisition basics generally and use of interagency contracts in particular. The contract directory furthers both of these objectives by providing easier access to information that will support more informed acquisition planning and market research. The contract directory also furthers the Administration's efforts to create a more efficient, effective, and citizen-centric government. See OFPP's

May 6, 2003, memorandum to the Federal Acquisition Council and Agency Senior Procurement Executives, "Roll-Out of the Inter-Agency Contract Directory" available at <http://www.acqnet.gov>.

**DATES:** This rule is effective July 24, 2003. This rule applies July 24, 2003 for the following procurement instruments, except for those expiring on or before June 1, 2004: GWACs, multi-agency contracts, Federal Supply Schedule contracts, and other procurement instruments intended for multiple agency use, including blanket purchase agreements (BPAs) under Federal Supply Schedule contracts.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The FAR Secretariat, Room 4035, GS Building, Washington, DC, 20405, (202) 501-4755, for information pertaining to status or publication schedules. For clarification of content, contact Mr. Gerald Zaffos, Procurement Analyst, at (202) 208-6091. Please cite FAC 2001-15, FAR case 2001-030.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****A. Background****1. The Proposed and Final Rules**

The Council published a proposed rule in the **Federal Register** on February 15, 2002 (67 FR 7255). The proposed rule would add a new FAR Subpart 5.6, Publicizing Multi-Agency Use Contracts, to—

- Make contracting officers and program managers aware of an online database of information about GWACs, multi-agency contracts, Federal Supply Schedule contracts, and other procurement instruments intended for multiple agency use, including BPAs under Federal Supply Schedule contracts;

- Require contracting activities, within ten days of award of a procurement instrument intended for use by multiple agencies, to enter into the database general information about the instrument, as specified on the Web site hosting the database; and

- Require contracting activities to enter information into the database on all existing contracts and other procurement instruments intended for multiple agency use by a date to be established in the final rule.

The final rule generally adopts the proposed rule with certain changes. In particular, the final rule amends—

- FAR 7.105(b)(1) to add a requirement that contracting officers and program managers consider the sources contained in the database of interagency contracts, to be known as the "contract directory", as prospective sources of supplies and services; and

- FAR 10.002(b)(2)(iv) to encourage querying the database during market research for information relevant to agency acquisitions.

Consistent with the proposed rule, agencies will have ten days after contract award to input information on new awards. See FAR 5.601(b)(1). In addition, as set forth at FAR 5.601(b)(2), agencies will be required to enter information on existing contracts by October 31, 2003. Agencies may, but are not required to, input information on contracts that would expire on or before June 1, 2004.

While the Council intends for the contract directory to provide increased visibility regarding the opportunities agencies are creating through interagency vehicles, it also recognizes that contracts relatively close to expiration may be nearing or at ceiling limits. Accordingly, in deciding whether to input such contracts, agencies may consider the administrative burden to input such contracts in light of the likely amount of customer usage prior to expiration.

**2. Data Fields**

The data elements that will populate the contract directory will not be prescribed in the FAR. As noted in the preamble to the proposed rule, specific elements will be listed on the Web site that hosts the database. The address for the Web site is <http://www.contractdirectory.gov>.

After consideration of public comments (discussed below), the following data fields have been selected for use in the initial population of the contract directory. The fields fall within one of three categories: (1) General information about the procurement instrument, (2) information about placing orders, and (3) information about the servicing agency. (The numbering of the data fields below is provided for easy reference in this preamble and may differ on the contract directory Web site.) The list has been annotated to identify which fields will be searchable as well as those that will have "drop-down" boxes with more detailed information.

**Description of Initial Data Fields for  
Contract Directory**

*Information about the procurement instrument.*

(1) Program name and acronym (searchable).

(2) Procurement instrument number (searchable).

(3) Type of procurement instrument (searchable) with drop down box that includes GWAC, multi-agency contract, Federal Supply Schedule contract, BPA under Federal Supply Schedule contract, other.