

streamlining cases are currently in process regarding compensation (FAR 31.205–6), training and education (FAR 31.205–44), selling (FAR 31.205–38), depreciation (FAR 31.205–11), and expanded relocation lump-sum (FAR 31.205–35). The Councils continue to believe that such a case-by-case cooperative effort with industry offers the best opportunity for meaningful change in this often controversial area.

This is not a significant regulatory action and, therefore, was not subject to review under Section 6(b) of Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, dated September 30, 1993. This rule is not a major rule under 5 U.S.C. 804.

B. Regulatory Flexibility Act

The Department of Defense, the General Services Administration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration certify that this final 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.*, because most contracts awarded to small entities use simplified acquisition procedures or are awarded on a competitive, fixed-price basis, and do not require application of the cost principle discussed in this rule.

C. Paperwork Reduction Act

The Paperwork Reduction Act does not apply because the changes to the FAR do not impose information collection requirements that require the approval of the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501, *et seq.*

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Part 31

Government procurement.

Dated: September 24, 2003.

Laura G. Auletta,

Director, Acquisition Policy Division.

■ Therefore, DoD, GSA, and NASA amend 48 CFR part 31 as set forth below:

PART 31—CONTRACT COST PRINCIPLES AND PROCEDURES

■ 1. The authority citation for 48 CFR part 31 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 121(c); 10 U.S.C. chapter 137; and 42 U.S.C. 2473(c).

31.205–6 [Amended]

■ 2. Amend section 31.205–6 in paragraph (m)(2) by removing “(see 31.205–46(f))” and adding “(see 31.205–46(d))” in its place.

■ 3. Revise section 31.205–12 to read as follows:

31.205–12 Economic planning costs.

Economic planning costs are the costs of general long-range management planning that is concerned with the future overall development of the contractor's business and that may take into account the eventual possibility of economic dislocations or fundamental alterations in those markets in which the contractor currently does business. Economic planning costs are allowable. Economic planning costs do not include organization or reorganization costs covered by 31.205–27. See 31.205–38 for market planning costs other than economic planning costs.

■ 4. Amend section 31.205–13 by revising paragraphs (a), (d), and (f) to read as follows:

31.205–13 Employee morale, health, welfare, food service, and dormitory costs and credits.

(a) Aggregate costs incurred on activities designed to improve working conditions, employer-employee relations, employee morale, and employee performance (less income generated by these activities) are allowable, subject to the limitations contained in this subsection. Some examples of allowable activities are—

- (1) House publications;
- (2) Health clinics;
- (3) Wellness/fitness centers;
- (4) Employee counseling services; and
- (5) Food and dormitory services for the contractor's employees at or near the contractor's facilities. These services include—

- (i) Operating or furnishing facilities for cafeterias, dining rooms, canteens, lunch wagons, vending machines, living accommodations; and
- (ii) Similar types of services.

* * * * *

(d)(1) The allowability of food and dormitory losses are determined by the following factors:

- (i) Losses from operating food and dormitory services are allowable only if the contractor's objective is to operate such services on a break-even basis.
- (ii) Losses sustained because food services or lodging accommodations are furnished without charge or at prices or rates which obviously would not be conducive to the accomplishment of the objective in paragraph (d)(1)(i) of this subsection are not allowable, except as described in paragraph (d)(1)(iii) of this subsection.

(iii) A loss may be allowed to the extent that the contractor can demonstrate that unusual circumstances exist such that even with efficient management, operating the services on a break-even basis would require charging inordinately high prices, or

prices or rates higher than those charged by commercial establishments offering the same services in the same geographical areas. The following are examples of unusual circumstances:

(A) The contractor must provide food or dormitory services at remote locations where adequate commercial facilities are not reasonably available.

(B) The contractor's charged (but unproductive) labor costs would be excessive if the services were not available.

(C) If cessation or reduction of food or dormitory operations will not otherwise yield net cost savings.

(2) Costs of food and dormitory services shall include an allocable share of indirect expenses pertaining to these activities.

* * * * *

(f) Contributions by the contractor to an employee organization, including funds from vending machine receipts or similar sources, are allowable only to the extent that the contractor demonstrates that an equivalent amount of the costs incurred by the employee organization would be allowable if directly incurred by the contractor.

31.205–46 [Amended]

■ 5. Amend section 31.205–46 as follows:

- a. Remove paragraphs (b) and (c), and redesignate paragraphs (d), (e), and (f) as (b), (c), and (d), respectively; and
- b. In the introductory text of newly designated paragraph (c)(2), remove “paragraph (d)” each time it appears (twice) and add “paragraph (b)” in their place; and remove “subparagraph (e)(3)” and add “paragraph (c)(3)” in its place.

[FR Doc. 03–24589 Filed 9–30–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820–EP–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

48 CFR Parts 8 and 24

[FAC 2001–16; Item IX]

Federal Acquisition Regulation; Technical Amendments

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

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This document makes amendments to the Federal Acquisition

Regulation (FAR) in order to update references and make editorial changes.

DATES: *Effective Date:* October 1, 2003.

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. Please cite FAC 2001-16, Technical Amendments.

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Parts 8 and 24

Government procurement.

Dated: September 24, 2003.

Laura G. Auletta,

Director, Acquisition Policy Division.

■ Therefore, DoD, GSA, and NASA amend 48 CFR parts 8 and 24 as set forth below:

■ 1. The authority citation for 48 CFR parts 8 and 24 is revised to read as follows:

Authority: 40 U.S.C. 121(c); 10 U.S.C. chapter 137; and 42 U.S.C. 2473(c).

PART 8—REQUIRED SOURCES OF SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

■ 2. Amend section 8.404 by revising the first sentence of paragraph (b)(6) to read as follows:

8.404 Using schedules.

* * * * *

(b) * * *

(6) * * * When conducting evaluations and before placing an order, consider including, if available, one or

more small business, veteran-owned small business, service-disabled veteran-owned small business, HUBZone small business, woman-owned small business, and/or small disadvantaged business schedule contractor(s). * * *

* * * * *

PART 24—PROTECTION OF PRIVACY AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

§ 24.202 [Amended]

■ 3. Amend section 24.202 by—

■ a. Removing the em dash at the end of the introductory text of paragraph (a);

■ b. Removing paragraph (a)(1); and

■ c. Removing paragraph designation “(a)(2)” and the word “Set” and adding “set” in its place.

[FR Doc. 03-24590 Filed 9-30-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-EP-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

48 CFR Chapter 1

Federal Acquisition Regulation; Small Entity Compliance Guide

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DoD), General Services Administration (GSA),

and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Small Entity Compliance Guide.

SUMMARY: This document is issued under the joint authority of the Secretary of Defense, the Administrator of General Services and the Administrator for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. This *Small Entity Compliance Guide* has been prepared in accordance with Section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996. It consists of a summary of rules appearing in Federal Acquisition Circular (FAC) 2001-16 which amends the FAR. An asterisk (*) next to a rule indicates that a regulatory flexibility analysis has been prepared. Interested parties may obtain further information regarding these rules by referring to FAC 2001-16 which precedes this document. These documents are also available via the Internet at <http://www.arnet.gov/far>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laurie Duarte, FAR Secretariat, (202) 501-4225. For clarification of content, contact the analyst whose name appears in the table below.

LIST OF RULES IN FAC 2001-16

Item	Subject	FAR case	Analyst
* I	Central Contractor Registration	2002-018	Parnell.
* II	Electronic Commerce in Federal Procurement	1997-304	Davis.
III	Unique Contract and Order Identifier Numbers (Interim)	2002-025	Zaffos.
* IV	Procurements for Defense Against or Recovery From Terrorism or Nuclear, Biological, Chemical or Radiological Attack; and Temporary Emergency Procurement Authority.	2002-026	Zaffos.
V	Notification of Overpayment, Contract Financing Payments	2002-003	
VI	Caribbean Basin Country—Dominican Republic	2001-005	Parnell.
VII	Prohibited Sources	2003-006	Davis.
VIII	Economic Planning, Employee Morale, and Travel Cost Principles	2001-015	Davis
IX	Technical Amendments.	2002-001	Loeb.

Item I—Central Contractor Registration (FAR Case 2002-018)

This final rule amends FAR parts 1, 2, 4, 13, 32, and 52 to require contractor registration in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database prior to award of any contract, basic agreement, basic ordering agreement, or blanket purchase agreement on or after October 1, 2003. In addition, the rule requires contracting officers to modify existing contracts whose period of performance extends beyond December 31, 2003, to

require contractors to register in the CCR database by December 31, 2003.

Item II—Electronic Commerce in Federal Procurement (FAR Case 1997-304)

This final rule implements section 850 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998, Public Law 105-85, and section 810 of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001, Public Law 106-398. Section 850

amends titles 10, 15, 40, and 41 of the United States Code to eliminate the preference for electronic commerce within Federal agencies to be conducted on the Federal Acquisition Computer Network (FACNET) computer architecture. Section 810 amends 41 U.S.C. 416 and 15 U.S.C. 637 to allow solicitation notices to be published via a single Governmentwide point of entry on the Internet designated in the FAR or via the Commerce Business Daily (CBD). The objectives of the rule are (1) to