

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**13 CFR Part 121 and 127**

RIN 3245–AG94

Consolidation of Mentor-Protégé Programs and Other Government Contracting Amendments; Correction

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Correcting amendments.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is correcting regulations published in the **Federal Register** on October 16, 2020. The rule merged the 8(a) Business Development (BD) Mentor-Protégé Program and the All Small Mentor-Protégé Program to eliminate confusion and remove unnecessary duplication of functions within SBA. This document is making several technical corrections to the regulations.

DATES: Effective February 23, 2021.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mark Hagedorn, U.S. Small Business Administration, Office of General Counsel, 409 Third Street SW, Washington, DC 20416; (202) 205–7625; mark.hagedorn@sba.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: SBA published a final rule revising the regulations pertaining to the 8(a) BD and size programs in order to further reduce unnecessary or excessive burdens on small businesses and to eliminate confusion or more clearly delineate SBA's intent in certain regulations. (85 FR 66146). This is the third set of corrections. The first set of corrections was published in the **Federal Register** on November 16, 2020. (85 FR 72916). The second set of corrections was published in the **Federal Register** on January 14, 2021. This document augments those corrections.

In the final rule, SBA amended § 121.103(h) to revise and clarify the requirements for joint ventures. In doing so, the sub-paragraphs in this section were reorganized. The language about ostensible subcontractors moved from § 121.103(h)(4) to § 121.103(h)(2). This document removes references to § 121.103(h)(4) and replaces them with references to § 121.103(h)(2) in the introductory text to § 121.103(h), in paragraph § 121.404(d), and in paragraph § 127.504(g).

List of Subjects*13 CFR Part 121*

Administrative practice and procedure, Government procurement, Government property, Grant programs—business, Individuals with disabilities,

Loan programs—business, Small businesses.

13 CFR Part 127

Government contracts, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Small businesses.

Accordingly, 13 CFR parts 121 and 127 are corrected by making the following correcting amendments:

PART 121—SMALL BUSINESS SIZE REGULATIONS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 121 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 632, 634(b)(6), 636(a)(36), 662, and 694a(9); Pub. L. 116–136, Section 1114.

■ 2. In § 121.103 amend paragraph (h) introductory text by revising the second-to-last sentence to read as follows:

§ 121.103 How does SBA determine affiliation?

* * * * *

(h) * * * SBA may also determine that the relationship between a prime contractor and its subcontractor is a joint venture pursuant to paragraph (h)(2). * * *

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■ 3. Amend § 121.404 by revising paragraph (d) to read as follows:

§ 121.404 When is the size status of a business concern determined?

* * * * *

(d) *Nonmanufacturer rule, ostensible subcontractor rule, and joint venture agreements.* Compliance with the nonmanufacturer rule set forth in § 121.406(b)(1), the ostensible subcontractor rule set forth in § 121.103(h)(2), and the joint venture agreement requirements in § 124.513(c) and (d), § 125.8(b) and (c), § 125.18(b)(2) and (3), § 126.616(c) and (d), or § 127.506(c) and (d) of this chapter, as appropriate, is determined as of the date of the final proposal revision for negotiated acquisitions and final bid for sealed bidding.

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PART 127—WOMEN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS FEDERAL CONTRACT PROGRAM

■ 4. The authority citation for part 127 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 632, 634(b)(6), 637(m), 644 and 657r.

■ 5. Amend § 127.504 by revising the second sentence of paragraph (g)(1) to read as follows:

§ 127.504 What requirements must an EDWOSB or WOSB meet to be eligible for an EDWOSB or WOSB requirement?

* * * * *

(g) * * *

(1) * * * When the subcontractor is other than small or alleged to be other than small for the size standard assigned to the procurement, this issue may be grounds for a size protest, as described at § 121.103(h)(2) of this chapter.

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John W. Klein,

Acting Associate Administrator, Government Contracting and Business Development.

[FR Doc. 2021–03008 Filed 2–22–21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8026–03–P

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**13 CFR Part 125**

RIN 3245–AG85

Ownership and Control of Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business Concerns; Correction

AGENCY: U.S. Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Correcting amendment.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is correcting regulations that published in the **Federal Register** on September 28, 2018. The rule issued one definition of ownership and control for the Department of Veterans Affairs verification of Veteran-Owned (VO) and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned (SDVO) Small Business Concerns (SBCs) with the SBA. This document is making one technical correction to the regulations.

DATES: Effective February 23, 2021.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ed Bender, U.S. Small Business Administration, Office of General Counsel, 409 Third Street SW, Washington, DC 20416; (202) 205–6455; edmund.bender@sba.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In response to the provisions of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (NDAA 2017), SBA issued regulations relating to ownership and control for the Department of Veterans Affairs verification of Veteran-Owned (VO) and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned (SDVO) Small Business Concerns (SBCs) with the SBA. 83 FR 48908. Pursuant to NDAA 2017, SBA issued one definition of ownership and control for these concerns, which applies to the Department of Veterans Affairs in its verification and Vets First Contracting Program procurements, and

all other government acquisitions which require self-certification. The legislation also provided that in certain circumstances a firm can qualify as VO or SDVO when there is a surviving spouse or an employee stock ownership plan (ESOP).

In response to the NDAA 2017 changes, SBA amended the definitions in § 125.11 by incorporating language from VA's regulations and also from SBA's 8(a) Business Development (BD) program regulations. 13 CFR part 124, subpart A. In making these amendments, SBA inadvertently removed the definition of "interested party." This rule adds back the definition.

List of Subjects in 13 CFR Part 125

Government contracts, Government procurement, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Small businesses, Technical assistance.

Accordingly, 13 CFR part 125 is corrected by making the following correcting amendment:

PART 125—GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING PROGRAMS

- 1. The authority citation for part 125 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 15 U.S.C. 632(p), (q), 634(b)(6), 637, 644, 657f, 657q, 657r, and 657s; 38 U.S.C. 501 and 8127.

- 2. Amend § 125.11 by adding in alphabetical order the definition of "Interested Party" to read as follows:

§ 125.11 What definitions are important in the Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned (SDVO) Small Business Concern (SBC) Program?

* * * * *

Interested Party means the contracting activity's contracting officer, SBA, any concern that submits an offer for a specific sole source or set-aside SDVO contract or order (including Multiple Award Contracts), or any concern that submitted an offer in full and open competition and its opportunity for award will be affected by a reserve of an award given to a SDVO SBC.

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John W. Klein,

Acting Associate Administrator, Government Contracting and Business Development.

[FR Doc. 2021-03007 Filed 2-22-21; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 39

[Docket No. FAA-2020-0900; Product Identifier 2020-NM-080-AD; Amendment 39-21400; AD 2021-02-17]

RIN 2120-AA64

Airworthiness Directives; Airbus SAS Airplanes

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: The FAA is adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for all Airbus SAS Model A318 series airplanes; Model A319-111, A319-112, A319-113, A319-114, A319-115, A319-131, A319-132, A319-133, A319-151N, and A319-153N airplanes; Model A320 series airplanes; and Model A321 series airplanes. This AD was prompted by the results of laboratory tests on non-rechargeable lithium batteries installed in emergency locator transmitters (ELT), which highlighted a lack of protection against certain currents that could lead to thermal runaway and a battery fire. This AD requires modifying a certain ELT by installing a diode in the airplane circuit connecting the ELT battery, as specified in a European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) AD, which is incorporated by reference. The FAA is issuing this AD to address the unsafe condition on these products.

DATES: This AD is effective March 30, 2021.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in this AD as of March 30, 2021.

ADDRESSES: For EASA material incorporated by reference (IBR) in this AD, contact the EASA, Konrad-Adenauer-Ufer 3, 50668 Cologne, Germany; telephone +49 221 8999 000; email ADs@easa.europa.eu; internet www.easa.europa.eu. You may find this IBR material on the EASA website at <https://ad.easa.europa.eu>. For Airbus SAS service information incorporated by reference in this AD, contact Airbus SAS, Airworthiness Office—ELAS, Rond-Point Emile Dewoitine No. 2, 31700 Blagnac Cedex, France; telephone +33 5 61 93 36 96; fax +33 5 61 93 44 51; email account.airworth-eas@airbus.com; internet <https://www.airbus.com>. You may view this IBR material at the FAA, Airworthiness Products Section, Operational Safety Branch, 2200 South 216th St., Des

Moines, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 206-231-3195. It is also available in the AD docket on the internet at <https://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2020-0900.

Examining the AD Docket

You may examine the AD docket on the internet at <https://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA-2020-0900; or in person at Docket Operations between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this final rule, any comments received, and other information. The address for Docket Operations is U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sanjay Ralhan, Aerospace Engineer, Large Aircraft Section, International Validation Branch, FAA, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198; telephone and fax 206-231-3223; email Sanjay.Ralhan@faa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Discussion

The EASA, which is the Technical Agent for the Member States of the European Union, has issued EASA AD 2020-0103, dated May 7, 2020; corrected May 8, 2020 (EASA AD 2020-0103) (also referred to as the Mandatory Continuing Airworthiness Information, or the MCAI), to correct an unsafe condition for all Airbus SAS Model A318-111, A318-112, A318-121, A318-122 airplanes; Model A319-111, A319-112, A319-113, A319-114, A319-115, A319-131, A319-132, A319-133, A319-151N, and A319-153N airplanes; Model A320-211, A320-212, A320-214, A320-215, A320-216, A320-231, A320-232, A320-233, A320-251N, A320-252N, A320-253N, A320-271N, A320-272N, and A320-273N airplanes; and Model A321-111, A321-112, A321-131, A321-211, A321-212, A321-213, A321-231, A321-232, A321-251N, A321-252N, A321-253N, A321-271N, A321-272N, A321-251NX, A321-252NX, A321-253NX, A321-271NX, and A321-272NX airplanes. Model A320-215 airplanes are not certificated by the FAA and are not included on the U.S. type certificate data sheet; this AD therefore does not include those airplanes in the applicability.

The FAA issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 by adding an AD that would