

(ii) The offeror certifies that the following supplies are Free Trade Agreement country end products other than Bahrainian end products, Korean end products, Moroccan end products, or Peruvian end products:

(Line Item Number)

(Country of Origin)

■ 9. Section 252.225–7036 is amended by—

■ a. Removing the clause date “(OCT 2011)” and adding “(MAY 2012)” in its place;

■ b. In paragraph (a) in the definition of “Free Trade Agreement country”, removing “Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico,” and adding “Guatemala, Honduras, Korea (Republic of), Mexico” in its place;

■ c. Revising paragraph (c); and

■ d. Adding Alternates IV and V.

The additions and revisions read as follows:

252.225–7036 Buy American Act—Free Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program.

* * * * *

(c) The Contractor shall deliver under this contract only domestic end products unless, in its offer, it specified delivery of qualifying country end products, Free Trade Agreement country end products other than Bahrainian end products, Moroccan end products, or Peruvian end products, or other foreign end products in the Buy American Act—Free Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program Certificate provision of the solicitation. If the Contractor certified in its offer that it will deliver a qualifying country end product or a Free Trade Agreement country end product other than a Bahrainian end product, a Moroccan end product, or a Peruvian end product, the Contractor shall deliver a qualifying country end product, a Free Trade Agreement country end product other than a Bahrainian end product, a Moroccan end product, or a Peruvian end product, or, at the Contractor's option, a domestic end product.

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ALTERNATE IV (MAY 2012)

As prescribed in 225.1101(11)(i)(C), add the following definition to paragraph (a) and substitute the following paragraph (c) for paragraph (c) of the basic clause:

(a) *Korean end product* means an article that—

(i) Is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of Korea; or

(ii) In the case of an article that consists in whole or in part of materials from another country, has been substantially transformed in Korea (Republic of) into a new and different article of commerce with a name,

character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was transformed. The term refers to a product offered for purchase under a supply contract, but for purposes of calculating the value of the end product, includes services (except transportation services) incidental to its supply, provided that the value of those incidental services does not exceed the value of the product itself.

(c) The Contractor shall deliver under this contract only domestic end products unless, in its offer, it specified delivery of qualifying country end products, Free Trade Agreement country end products other than Bahrainian end products, Korean end products, Moroccan end products, or Peruvian end products, or other foreign end products in the Buy American Act—Free Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program Certificate provision of the solicitation. If the Contractor certified in its offer that it will deliver a qualifying country end product or a Free Trade Agreement country end product other than a Bahrainian end product, a Korean end product, a Moroccan end product, or a Peruvian end product, the Contractor shall deliver a qualifying country end product, a Free Trade Agreement country end product other than a Bahrainian end product, a Korean end product, a Moroccan end product, or a Peruvian end product, or, at the Contractor's option, a domestic end product.

ALTERNATE V (MAY 2012)

As prescribed in 225.1101(11)(i)(C), add the following new definitions to paragraph (a) and substitute the following paragraph (c) for paragraph (c) of the basic clause:

(a) *Korean end product* means an article that—

(i) Is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of Korea; or

(ii) In the case of an article that consists in whole or in part of materials from another country, has been substantially transformed in Korea (Republic of) into a new and different article of commerce with a name, character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was transformed. The term refers to a product offered for purchase under a supply contract, but for purposes of calculating the value of the end product, includes services (except transportation services) incidental to its supply, provided that the value of those incidental services does not exceed the value of the product itself.

South Caucasus/Central and South Asian (SC/CASA) state means Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, or Uzbekistan.

South Caucasus/Central and South Asian (SC/CASA) state end product means an article that—

(i) Is wholly the growth, product, or manufacture of an SC/CASA state; or

(ii) In the case of an article that consists in whole or in part of materials from another country, has been substantially transformed in an SC/CASA state into a new and different article of commerce with a name, character, or use distinct from that of the article or articles from which it was transformed. The term refers to a product offered for purchase

under a supply contract, but for purposes of calculating the value of the end product, includes services (except transportation services) incidental to its supply, provided that the value of those incidental services does not exceed the value of the product itself.

(c) The Contractor shall deliver under this contract only domestic end products unless, in its offer, it specified delivery of qualifying country end products, SC/CASA state end products, Free Trade Agreement country end products other than Bahrainian end products, Korean end products, Moroccan end products, or Peruvian end products, or other foreign end products in the Buy American Act—Free Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program Certificate provision of the solicitation. If the Contractor certified in its offer that it will deliver a qualifying country end product, SC/CASA state end products, or a Free Trade Agreement country end product other than a Bahrainian end product, a Korean end product, a Moroccan end product, or a Peruvian end product, the Contractor shall deliver a qualifying country end product, an SC/CASA state end product, a Free Trade Agreement country end product other than a Bahrainian end product, a Korean end product, a Moroccan end product, or a Peruvian end product or, at the Contractor's option, a domestic end product.

252.225–7045 [Amended]

■ 10. Section 252.225–7045 is amended by—

■ a. Removing the clause date “(JAN 2012)” and adding “(MAY 2012)” in its place; and

■ b. In paragraph (a) in the definition of “Designated country”, amending paragraph (2) by removing “Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico” and adding “Guatemala, Honduras, Korea (Republic of), Mexico” in its place.

[FR Doc. 2012–11558 Filed 5–21–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001–06–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Defense Acquisition Regulations System

48 CFR Part 252

RIN 0750–AH72

Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: New Free Trade Agreement With Colombia (DFARS Case 2012–D032)

AGENCY: Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Interim rule.

SUMMARY: DoD is issuing an interim rule amending the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to implement the United States—Colombia Trade Promotion

Agreement. This Trade Promotion Agreement is a free trade agreement that provides for mutually non-discriminatory treatment of eligible products and services from Colombia.

DATES: *Effective date:* May 22, 2012.

Comment Date: Comments on the interim rule should be submitted in writing to the address shown below on or before July 23, 2012, to be considered in the formation of a final rule.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments identified by DFARS Case 2012–D032, using any of the following methods:

- *Regulations.gov:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Submit comments via the Federal eRulemaking portal by entering “DFARS Case 2012–D032” under the heading “Enter keyword or ID” and selecting “Search.” Select the link “Submit a Comment” that corresponds with “DFARS Case 2012–D032.” Follow the instructions provided at the “Submit a Comment” screen. Please include your name, company name (if any), and “DFARS Case 2012–D032” on your attached document.

- *Email:* dfars@osd.mil. Include DFARS Case 2012–D032 in the subject line of the message.

- *Fax:* 571–372–6094.

- *Mail:* Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Attn: Ms. Amy Williams, OUSD (AT&L) DPAP/DARS, Room 3B855, 3060 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301–3060.

Comments received generally will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. To confirm receipt of your comment(s), please check www.regulations.gov approximately two to three days after submission to verify posting (except allow 30 days for posting of comments submitted by mail).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Amy Williams, Defense Acquisition Regulations System, OUSD(AT&L)DPAP/DARS, Room 3B855, 3060 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301–3060. Telephone 571–372–6106.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

This interim rule amends DFARS part 252 to implement the United States—Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act (Pub. L. 112–42) (19 U.S.C. 3805 note).

This Trade Promotion Agreement is designated in the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) as the Colombia Free Trade Agreement (FTA). The FTA provides for—

- Waiver of the applicability of the Buy American statute (41 U.S.C. chapter

83) for some foreign supplies and construction materials from Colombia; and

- Applicability of specified procurement procedures designed to ensure fairness in the acquisition of supplies and services (see FAR 25.408).

II. Discussion and Analysis

This interim rule adds Colombia to the definition of “Free Trade Agreement country” in multiple locations in the DFARS. The Colombia FTA covers acquisition of supplies and services equal to or exceeding \$77,494. The threshold for the Colombia FTA is \$7,777,000 for construction.

Because the Colombia FTA construction threshold of \$7,777,000 is the same as the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement threshold, no new clause alternates are required for the Balance of Payments Program—Construction Material under the Trade Agreements clause (DFARS 252.225–7045).

There are also conforming changes to the clause at DFARS 252.212–7001, Contract Terms and Conditions Required to Implement Statutes or Executive Orders Applicable to Defense Acquisitions of Commercial Items.

III. Executive Orders 12866 and 13563

Executive Orders (E.O.s) 12866 and 13563 direct agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). E.O. 13563 emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, of reducing costs, of harmonizing rules, and of promoting flexibility. This is not a significant regulatory action and, therefore, was not subject to review under section 6(b) of E.O. 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, dated September 30, 1993. This rule is not a major rule under 5 U.S.C. 804.

IV. Regulatory Flexibility Act

DoD does not expect this rule to 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.* Although the rule now opens up Government procurement to the goods and services of Colombia at or above the threshold of \$77,494, DoD does not anticipate any significant economic impact on U.S. small businesses. The Department of Defense only applies the trade agreements to the non-defense

items listed at DFARS 225.401–70, and acquisitions that are set aside or provide other forms of preference for small businesses are exempt. FAR 19.502–2 states that acquisitions that do not exceed \$150,000 (with some exceptions) are automatically reserved exclusively for small business concerns. Therefore, DoD has not performed an Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis. DoD invites comments from small business concerns and other interested parties on the expected impact of this rule on small entities.

DoD will also consider comments from small entities concerning the existing regulations in subparts affected by the rule in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 610. Interested parties must submit such comments separately and should cite 5 U.S.C. 610 (DFARS Case 2012–D032), in correspondence.

V. Paperwork Reduction Act

This rule affects the certification and information collection requirements in the provisions at DFARS 252.225–7020 and 252.225–7035, currently approved under OMB Control Number 0704–0229, titled Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement part 225, Foreign Acquisition, and related clauses, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. chapter 35). The impact, however, is negligible, because it is just a question of under which category offered goods from Colombia would be listed.

VI. Determination To Issue an Interim Rule

A determination has been made under the authority of the Secretary of Defense that urgent and compelling reasons exist to promulgate this interim rule without prior opportunity for public comment. This action is necessary because the Free Trade Agreement with Colombia entered into force on May 15, 2012. This Trade Promotion Agreement is a reciprocal agreement approved by Congress and the President of the United States. It is important for the United States Government to honor its new trade obligations to Colombia, as Colombia in turn honors its new trade obligations to the United States. However, pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 1707 and FAR 1.501–3(b), DoD will consider public comments received in response to this interim rule in the formation of the final rule.

List of Subjects in 48 CFR Part 252

Government procurement.

Ynette R. Shelkin,

Editor, *Defense Acquisition Regulations System*.

Therefore, 48 CFR part 252 is amended as follows:

PART 252—SOLICITATION PROVISIONS AND CONTRACT CLAUSES

- 1. The authority citation for 48 CFR part 252 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 41 U.S.C. 1303 and 48 CFR chapter 1.

252.225–7017 [Amended]

- 2. Section 252.225–7017 is amended by—

■ a. In paragraph (a), in the definition of “Designated country,” paragraph (ii), by removing “Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica” and adding “Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica” in its place; and

■ b. In paragraph (a) in the definition of “Free Trade Agreement country” removing “Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica” and adding “Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica” in its place.

252.225–7021 [Amended]

- 3. Section 252.225–7021 is amended in paragraph (a), in the definition of “Designated country,” paragraph (ii), by removing “Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica” and adding “Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica” in its place.

252.225–7045 [Amended]

- 4. Section 252.225–7045 is amended in paragraph (a), in the definition of “Designated country,” paragraph (2), by removing “Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica” and adding “Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Chile, Columbia, Costa Rica” in its place.

[FR Doc. 2012–11559 Filed 5–21–12; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001–06–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Defense Acquisitions Regulations System****48 CFR Parts 225 and 252**

RIN 0750–AH70

Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement; Defense Trade Cooperation Treaty With the United Kingdom (DFARS 2012–D034)

AGENCY: Defense Acquisition Regulations System; Department of Defense (DoD).

ACTION: Interim rule.

SUMMARY: DoD is issuing an interim rule amending the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) to implement requirements of the Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Concerning Defense Trade Cooperation (the Treaty) and the Security Cooperation Act of 2010 regarding export control regulations between the United States and the United Kingdom. The Treaty and statute establish an Approved Community that includes members of the U.S. Government and the government of the United Kingdom.

DATES: *Effective Date:* May 22, 2012.

Comment date: Comments on the interim rule should be submitted in writing to the address shown below on or before July 23, 2012, to be considered in the formation of the final rule.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments identified by DFARS Case 2012–D034, using any of the following methods:

• *Regulations.gov:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Submit comments via the Federal eRulemaking portal by entering “DFARS Case 2012–D034” under the heading “Enter keyword or ID” and selecting “Search.” Select the link “Submit a Comment” that corresponds with “DFARS Case 2012–D034.” Follow the instructions provided at the “Submit a Comment” screen. Please include your name, company name (if any), and “DFARS Case 2012–D034” on your attached document.

• *Email:* dfars@osd.mil. Include DFARS Case 2012–D034 in the subject line of the message.

• *Fax:* 571–372–6094.

• *Mail:* Defense Acquisition Regulations System, Attn: (Insert case manager’s name), OUSD (AT&L) DPAP/DARS, Room 3B855, 3060 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301–3060.

Comments received generally will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. To confirm receipt of your comment(s), please check www.regulations.gov, approximately two to three days after submission to verify posting (except allow 30 days for posting of comments submitted by mail).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Amy Williams, Defense Acquisition Regulations System, OUSD (AT&L) DPAP/DARS, Room 3B855, 3060 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301–3060. Telephone 571–372–6106; facsimile 571–372–6101.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

This rule streamlines the export control regulations between the United States and the United Kingdom under specified circumstances.

The U.S. Government controls exports of defense articles, technical data, and defense services. The governing law is the Arms Export Control Act (AECA) (22 U.S.C. 2778 *et seq.*) and implementing regulations in the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) (22 CFR 120–130).

Under the ITAR, the Department of State manages an export licensing system in which numerous government approvals are often necessary for companies to hold discussions about potential projects, pursue joint activities, ship hardware, or transfer know-how to one another, and even sometimes to transfer engineers and other company employees from one country to another. This process can be challenging and time consuming for U.S. exporters and for foreign firms in their supply chains.

The U.S. concluded the Treaty with the United Kingdom to enable their militaries, security authorities, and their approved industries to exchange defense articles, technical information, and defense services more freely. The Treaty establishes exemptions for certain exports and transfers that meet the Treaty requirements. Other exports and transfers remain governed by AECA and the ITAR.

The Treaty and implementing arrangements with the United Kingdom may be accessed at <http://www.state.gov/t/pm/rls/othr/misc/92770.htm>.

The implementing legislation is in Title I of Pub. L. 111–266, the Security Cooperation Act of 2010.

The Senate conditions upon ratification are at <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/billtext.xpd?bill=s111-3847>.