APTAC Body of Knowledge Competency Guide

C. Basics of Contracting with Government Entities

C.3.2 Manufacturing

Description

The SCAA states that PTACs should not offer clients training on topics such as ISO 9000, Lean Six Sigma, or manufacturing, except where manufacturing assistance specifically relates to compliance with federal, state and/or local government-specific requirements. However, these are areas that are critical to the manufacturing concern to be successful in the government market place. A contracting officer will need to see that the business has a thorough understanding of these risk mitigators. The capability narrative should include information on the company's quality programs and lean processes, including Six Sigma, Lean Processing, Lean 6 Sigma for Manufacturing and ISO. APTAC BOK Section B.3.3 Quality Systems includes a good overview of these processes.

Manufacturing Firms must also have solid understanding of government packaging and labeling and Wide Area Workflow (WAWF). Items covered here are also included in BOK Section C.11 Packaging and C.12 Financial Controls.

Item Identification

Item Unique Identification

Item Unique Identification, or IUID, is a DoD strategic imperative based on the value proposition that unambiguous, through life unique identification of tangible items provides a joint data capability that enables item tracking in DoD business systems and provides reliable and accurate data for management, financial accountability, and asset management purposes.

> DoD Directive 8320.03, Unique Identification (UID) Standards for a Net-Centric Department of Defense, requires that all relevant business, warfighter, intelligence, and enterprise information environment mission area transactions, among the DoD, Federal and State Agencies, non-governmental organizations, and domestic and foreign persons and organizations will use UID standards for discrete entities. DoD Instruction 8320.04 establishes UID standards for tangible personal property.
>
> > IUID policy requires that all items that are delivered to the DoD under a contract be marked with a UII, provided that these items meet the IUID qualifying criteria for unique identification.
> >
> > A contract can either be for procurement of supplies or services, such as repair and maintenance, when such a contract results in the delivery of one or more items to the Department.

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The clause DFARS 252.211-7003 is prescribed by DFARS 211.274 for use in contracts when items require unique item identification, valuation, or both. It also contains an Alternate I for reporting Government unit acquisition cost when items do not require IUID. It provides guidance for the assignment, marking and registration of UIIs.

A key requirement in paragraph (b) is that items requiring UIIs must be delivered under a Contract Line Item Number (CLIN), Sub Line Item Number (SLIN) or Exhibit Line Item Number (ELIN). This permits items to be valued, and enables the UII and its pedigree data to be delivered through the Wide Area Workflow - Receipt and Acceptance (WAWF-RA) capability. Paragraph (c) lists the items under $5,000 and DoD serially managed embedded items that are to be marked with a UII. It also defines the rules for the use of standards for syntax and semantics for encoding the UII in a 2-D Data Matrix and the standard practice for Machine-Readable Information (MRI) marking

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IUID Registry

The IUID Registry provides a single point of reference for information related to all items assigned a Unique Item Identifier (UII) and marked with the 2-D Data Matrix. By capturing IUID pedigree information of specific items, the DoD IUID Registry serves as the authoritative source for acquisition value for items and a record of reference for major life-cycle events. In addition, the IUID Registry vision includes life-cycle analysis, full cost accounting and total material/asset visibility as a direct result of data captured in the IUID Registry.

Located in Battle Creek, Michigan, the IUID Registry is operated by the Defense Logistics Information Service (DLIS) residing on the Business Partner Network (BPN).

This is the current address to the IUID Registry https://www.bpn.gov/iuid

Who Are the IUID Registry Users?
There are four different "controlled" access groups, plus one "public" access, each with different levels of permission to view and/or interact with the data in the IUID Registry. The levels are (select from the options below):

PUBLIC ACCESS

- Public access users can only verify that a record exists for a Unique Item Identifier (UII) or Enterprise Identifier and Serial Number.

CONTROLLED ACCESS

- Contractors may view and update all data within the database that is associated with their contracts.
- Legacy submitters provide data on legacy items and may view those asset records.
- DCMA users may read all data elements for those items under the relevant DCMA office's cognizance based on the CAGE Codes associated with the office as recorded in CCR.
- Inquiry users have read only access to the entire IUID database.

DoD Packaging

Involves lifecycle knowledge of Packaging, Handling, Storage and Transportation (PHS&T). Thorough understanding of these concepts is necessary to ensure the warfighter is properly supported.

Radio Frequency Identification

DoD suppliers are required to use ***passive*** RFID tags. It is important to remember these facts:

- Passive RFID tags do not contain personally identifiable information. Each tag is simply a "license plate" that is a unique number used only once. Nothing in the tag number identifies what is tagged.
- Because the RFID tag contains only unique identifier information, reading the tag will not provide any usable information to someone outside of the supply chain.
- Passive RFID tags do contain characters that associate information back to a database behind DoD's firewalls.

Suppliers concerned about RFID tag security can be referred to the recent Nations Institute of Standards and Technology publication, "Guidelines for Securing Radio Frequency Identification Systems," NIST Publication 800-98.

Active RFID tags are largely internal to DoD. A limited number of suppliers are required to apply active RFID tags to shipments. I most cases these are supplied to the supplier by DoD. DoD does not intend to issue a DFARS clause requiring suppliers to apply active RFID tags. There is no widespread commercial use of active RFID.

Passive RFID tags are applied to certain types of materiel incoming to the Department as called out by DoD. The requirement to apply passive RFID tags to DoD shipments is a DFRS requirement that will be mandated in the supplier's contract with DoD. A supplier must apply passive RFID tags at the case and pallet level if their contract contains the appropriate clause. Suppliers are required to use Generation2 tags that adhere to EPCglobal® tag identity types,

which include the DoD tag identity type. Suppliers are not required to be members of EPCglobal® to use the DoD tag identity type. Passive RFID tagging does have wide-scale commercial application.

Advance Shipment Notice (ASN), DoD gains a logistical advantage when the information about a shipment, package, or pallet is sent in advance to the recipient and when this shipment identifier, the RFID tag is correlated to key information about the shipment. This information can include who ordered the shipment, where the shipment is going, what material requisition is referenced, and what the commodity is. Having this detail sent in advance helps the recipient plan for the arrival of the shipment and facilitates reconciliation of shipments received and payments to be sent to the supplier. The use of this electronic shipment notification accelerates the logistics and payment process. In conjunction with the RFID and ASN, the manufacturer also send detailed information to the about the shipment to DoD electronically, via a system called Wide Area Work Flow (WAWF). The data is then sent to DoD systems for use by the receiving destination. Upon receipt of the shipment, the DoD can formally acknowledge receipt of an item and create an electronic shipment acknowledgment.

What Is WAWF and Why Use It?

WAWF is a paperless invoicing and property transfer environment and is the preferred means of submitting data on new end-items to the IUID Registry and for submitting data on custody changes for GFP. It enables contractors to transmit shipping notices electronically and DoD to perform both receipt and acceptance electronically. One of the crucial benefits of WAWF is that it has reduced the number of days it takes for contractors to get invoices approved and paid by DoD. The use of WAWF allows for the following:

- Sender and Receiver have the same data
- Near real-time update to IUID Registry
- Near real-time update to Property Systems
- Send/Ship and Receipt/Acceptance Date in order, in one update—as well as sender and receiver
- Other Systems can get electronic updates and/or view information in WAWF following email
- Single entry versus multiple updates to multiple Systems

Vendors can access the WAWF system via the web interface at https://wawf.eb.mil/ and follow the link called "Self Register to use WAWF (New Users)" (bottom of the page), where they will be walked through the process of gaining access to the WAWF system.

References

Additional resources regarding the IUID Registry.

- www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/pdi/uid/index.html - Defense Procurement, Acquisition Policy, and Strategic Sourcing UID Website
- www.iuidtoolkit.com/datatutorial - A tutorial providing concise, specific information pertaining to the IUID Registry and Data Submission
- IUID Registry assistance is available by calling 1-877-376-5787 or via email at IUID.helpdesk@bpn.gov
- The IUID Registry Software User Manual (SUM version 3.4.2) is available https://www.bpn.gov/iuid/documents/IUID_SUM_v3_4_2.pdf

Available Resources on RFID Technology

- DoD's Supplier Passive RFID Guide: http://www.acq.osd.mil/log/rfid/supplierguide.htm
- EPCGlobal® Standards: http://www.epcglobalinc.org/standards
- RFID tag security: http://csrc.nist.gov/publications and http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/nistpubs/800-98/SP800-98 RFID-2007.pdf
- DoD's RFID policy: http://www.dodrfid.org

Ask any RFID related question through info@dodrfid.org