Subpart 225.1 - BUY AMERICAN—SUPPLIES

Parent topic: Part 225 - FOREIGN ACQUISITION

225.101 General.

(a) For DoD, the following two-part test determines whether a manufactured end product is a domestic end product:

(i) The end product is manufactured in the United States; and

(ii)(A) Except for an end product that consists wholly or predominantly of iron or steel or a combination of both, the cost of its U.S. and qualifying country components exceeds 60 percent of the cost of all its components, except that the percentage will be 65 percent for items delivered in calendar years 2024 through 2028 and 75 percent for items delivered starting in calendar year 2029, but see paragraph (d) of this section. This test is applied to end products only and not to individual components.

(B) For an end product that consists wholly or predominantly of iron or steel or a combination of both, the cost of iron and steel not produced in the United States or a qualifying country must constitute less than 5 percent of the cost of all the components used in the end product. The cost of iron and steel not produced in the United States or a qualifying country includes but is not limited to the cost of iron or steel mill products (such as bar, billet, slab, wire, plate, or sheet), castings, or forgings, not produced in the United States or a qualifying country, utilized in the manufacture of the end product and a good faith estimate of the cost of all iron or steel components not produced in the United States or a qualifying country, excluding commercially available off-the-shelf (COTS) fasteners. The domestic content test of the Buy American statute has not been waived for acquisitions of COTS items in this category, except for COTS fasteners.

(c) Additional exceptions that allow the purchase of foreign end products are listed at 225.103.

(d)(1) In lieu of the threshold increases in FAR 25.101(a)(2)(i), use the domestic content threshold increases in paragraph (a)(ii) of this section. The senior procurement executive may approve application of an alternate domestic content test, under which the domestic content threshold in effect at the time of contract award will apply to the entire period of performance of the contract, following consultation with the Office of Management and Budget’s Made in America Office. See PGI 225.101 for guidance on documentation requirements when the senior procurement executive approves application of an alternate domestic content test.

(2) When the senior procurement executive allows for application of an alternate domestic content test for the contract pursuant to FAR 25.101(d)(1) (but see paragraph (d)(1) of this section)—

(A) See 225.1101(2)(iv) for use of alternate II of the clause at 252.225-7001, Buy American and Balance of Payments Program;

(B) See 225.1101(2)(v) for use of alternate III of the clause at 252.225-7001, Buy American and Balance of Payments Program;

(C) See 225.1101(9) for use of the basic or alternate provision at 252.225-7035, Buy American—Free Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program Certificate, or the basic or alternate clause at

252.225-7036, Buy American—Free Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program; and

(D) See 225.1101(10)(i) for use of the basic or alternate clause at 252.225-7036, Buy American—Free Trade Agreements—Balance of Payments Program.

225.103 Exceptions.

(a)(i)(A) Public interest exceptions for certain countries are in 225.872 .

(B) For procurements covered by the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement, the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment) has determined that it is inconsistent with the public interest to apply the Buy American statute to end products that are substantially transformed in the United States.

(ii)(A) Normally, use the evaluation procedures in subpart 225.5, but consider recommending a public interest exception if the purposes of the Buy American statute are not served, or in order to meet a need set forth in 10 U.S.C. 4861. For example, a public interest exception may be appropriate—

(1) If accepting the low domestic offer will involve substantial foreign expenditures, or accepting the low foreign offer will involve substantial domestic expenditures;

(*2*) By the head of the contracting activity for acquisitions with a value greater than the simplified acquisition threshold but less than $2 million; or

(*3*) By the agency head for acquisitions valued at $2 million or more.

(i) For an end item that qualifies as a domestic end product; or

(ii) In order not to impair integration of the military and commercial industrial base.

(B) Except as provided in PGI 225.872-4 , process a determination for a public interest exception after consideration of the factors in 10 U.S.C. 4861—

(1) At a level above the contracting officer for acquisitions valued at or below the simplified acquisition threshold;

(2) By the head of the contracting activity for acquisitions with a value greater than the simplified acquisition threshold but less than $1.5 million; or

(3) By the agency head for acquisitions valued at $1.5 million or more.

(b)(i) A determination that an article, material, or supply is not reasonably available is required when domestic offers are insufficient to meet the requirement and award is to be made on other than a qualifying country or eligible end product.

(ii) A determination is not required before January 1, 2030, if there is an offer for a foreign end product that exceeds 55 percent domestic content. Except as provided in FAR 25.103(b)(3), the determination shall be approved—

(A) At a level above the contracting officer for acquisitions valued at or below the simplified acquisition threshold;

(B) By the chief of the contracting office for acquisitions with a value greater than the simplified acquisition threshold but less than $2 million; or

(C) By the head of the contracting activity or immediate deputy for acquisitions valued at $2 million or more.

(iii) A separate determination as to whether an article is reasonably available is not required for the following articles. DoD has already determined that these articles are not reasonably available from domestic sources:

(A) Spare or replacement parts that must be acquired from the original foreign manufacturer or supplier.

(B) Foreign drugs acquired by the Defense Supply Center, Philadelphia, when the Director, Pharmaceuticals Group, Directorate of Medical Materiel, determines that only the requested foreign drug will fulfill the requirements.

(iv) Under coordinated acquisition (see Subpart 208.70), the determination is the responsibility of the requiring department when the requiring department specifies acquisition of a foreign end product.

(c) The cost of a domestic end product is unreasonable if it is not the low evaluated offer when evaluated under subpart 225.5.

225.106 Determining reasonableness of cost.

(b) Use an evaluation factor of 50 percent instead of the factors specified in FAR 25.106(b)(1)(i) and (c)(1)(i).

225.170 Acquisition from or through other Government agencies.

Contracting activities must apply the evaluation procedures in subpart 225.5 when using Federal supply schedules.