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212.001 Definitions. As used in this part—

Market research means a review of existing systems, subsystems, capabilities, and technologies that are available or could be made available to meet the needs of DoD in whole or in part. The review shall include, at a minimum, contacting knowledgeable individuals in Government and industry regarding existing market capabilities and pricing information, and may include any of the techniques for conducting market research provided in FAR 10.002(b)(2) (section 855 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Pub. L. 114-92)).

SUBPART 212.1 —ACQUISITION OF COMMERCIAL ITEMS - GENERAL

212.102 Applicability.

(a)(i) Commercial item determination. When using FAR part 12 procedures for acquisitions exceeding $1 million in value, except for acquisitions made pursuant to FAR 12.102(f)(1), the contracting officer shall—

(A) Determine in writing that the acquisition meets the commercial item definition in FAR 2.101;

(B) Include the written determination in the contract file; and

(C) Obtain approval at one level above the contracting officer when a commercial item
determination relies on subsections (1)(ii), (3), (4), or (6) of the commercial item definition at FAR 2.101.

(D) Follow the procedures and guidance at PGI 212.102(a)(i) regarding file documentation and commercial item determinations.

(ii) Prior commercial item determination. This section implements 10 U.S.C. 2306a(b)(4) and 10 U.S.C. 2380(b).

(A) The contracting officer may presume that a prior commercial item determination made by a military department, a defense agency, or another component of DoD shall serve as a determination for subsequent procurements of such item. See PGI 212.102(a)(ii) for information about items that the Department has historically acquired as military unique, noncommercial items.

(B) If the contracting officer does not make the presumption that a prior commercial item determination is valid, and instead chooses to proceed with a procurement of an item previously determined to be a commercial item using procedures other than the procedures authorized for the procurement of a commercial item, the contracting officer shall request a review of the commercial item determination by the head of the contracting activity that will conduct the procurement. Not later than 30 days after receiving a request for review of a commercial item determination, the head of a contracting activity shall—

(1) Confirm that the prior determination was appropriate and still applicable; or

(2) Issue a determination that the prior use of FAR part 12 procedures was improper or that it is no longer appropriate to acquire the item using FAR part 12 procedures, with a written explanation of the basis for the determination (see 212.70).

(iii) Nontraditional defense contractors. In accordance with 10 U.S.C. 2380a, contracting officers may treat supplies and services provided by nontraditional defense contractors as commercial items. This permissive authority is intended to enhance defense innovation and investment, enable DoD to acquire items that otherwise might not have been available, and create incentives for nontraditional defense contractors to do business with DoD. It is not intended to recategorize current noncommercial items, however, when appropriate, contracting officers may consider applying commercial item procedures to the procurement of supplies and services from business segments that meet the definition of nontraditional defense contractor even though they have been established under traditional defense contractors. The decision to apply commercial item procedures to the procurement of supplies and services from nontraditional defense contractors does not require a commercial item determination and does not mean the item is commercial.

SUBPART 212.2 --SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF COMMERCIAL ITEMS

See DoD Class Deviation 2018-00016, Defense Commercial Solutions Opening Pilot Program, issued June 26, 2018. This class deviation allows the contracting officer to acquire innovative commercial items, technologies, or services using the competitive procedure outlined in the class deviation called a commercial solutions opening (CSO). Use of a CSO is authorized by section 879 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Pub. L. 114-328). Under a CSO, DoD may competitively select proposals received in response to a general solicitation, similar to a broad agency
announcement, based on a review of proposals by scientific, technological, or other subject matter experts. This class deviation remains in effect until September 30, 2022.

212.203 Procedures for solicitation, evaluation, and award.

(1) See 217.7801 for the prohibition on the use of reverse auctions for personal protective equipment and aviation critical safety items.

212.205 Offers.

(c) When using competitive procedures, if only one offer is received, the contracting officer shall follow the procedures at 215.371.

212.207 Contract type.

(b) In accordance with section 805 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Pub. L. 110-181), use of time-and-materials and labor-hour contracts for the acquisition of commercial items is authorized only for the following:

(i) Services acquired for support of a commercial item, as described in paragraph (5) of the definition of commercial item at FAR 2.101 (41 U.S.C. 103).

(ii) Emergency repair services.

(iii) Any other commercial services only to the extent that the head of the agency concerned approves a written determination by the contracting officer that—

(A) The services to be acquired are commercial services as defined in paragraph (6) of the definition of commercial item at FAR 2.101 (41 U.S.C. 103);

(B) If the services to be acquired are subject to FAR 15.403-1(c)(3)(ii), the offeror of the services has submitted sufficient information in accordance with that subsection;

(C) Such services are commonly sold to the general public through use of time-and-materials or labor-hour contracts; and

(D) The use of a time-and-materials or labor-hour contract type is in the best interest of the Government.

212.209 Determination of price reasonableness.

(a) Market research shall be used, where appropriate, to inform price reasonableness determinations.

(b) If the contracting officer determines that the information obtained through market research pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section, is insufficient to determine the reasonableness of price, the contracting officer shall consider information submitted by the offeror of recent purchase prices paid
by the Government and commercial customers for the same or similar commercial items under comparable terms and conditions in establishing price reasonableness on a subsequent purchase if the contracting officer is satisfied that the prices previously paid remain a valid reference for comparison. In assessing whether the prices previously paid remain a valid reference for comparison, the contracting officer shall consider the totality of other relevant factors such as the time elapsed since the prior purchase and any differences in the quantities purchased (10 U.S.C. 2306a(b)).

(c) If the contracting officer determines that the offeror cannot provide sufficient information as described in paragraph (b) of this section to determine the reasonableness of price, the contracting officer should request the offeror to submit information on—

1. Prices paid for the same or similar items sold under different terms and conditions;
2. Prices paid for similar levels of work or effort on related products or services;
3. Prices paid for alternative solutions or approaches; and
4. Other relevant information that can serve as the basis for determining the reasonableness of price.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to preclude the contracting officer from requiring the contractor to supply information that is sufficient to determine the reasonableness of price, regardless of whether or not the contractor was required to provide such information in connection with any earlier procurement. If the contracting officer determines that the pricing information submitted is not sufficient to determine the reasonableness of price, the contracting officer may request other relevant information regarding the basis for price or cost, including uncertified cost data such as labor costs, material costs, and other direct and indirect costs.

212.211 Technical data.

The DoD policy for acquiring technical data for commercial items is at 227.7102.

212.212 Computer software.

1. Departments and agencies shall identify and evaluate, at all stages of the acquisition process (including concept refinement, concept decision, and technology development), opportunities for the use of commercial computer software and other non-developmental software in accordance with Section 803 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Pub. L. 110-110).

2. See Subpart 208.74 when acquiring commercial software or software maintenance. See 227.7202 for policy on the acquisition of commercial computer software and commercial computer software documentation.

212.270 Major weapon systems as commercial items.

The DoD policy for acquiring major weapon systems as commercial items is in Subpart 234.70.
212.271 Limitation on acquisition of right-hand drive passenger sedans.

10 U.S.C. 2253(a)(2) limits the authority to purchase right-hand drive passenger sedans to a cost of not more than $40,000 per vehicle.

212.272 Preference for certain commercial products and services.

(a) As required by section 855 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Pub. L. 114-92), for requirements relating to the acquisition of commercial information technology products and services, see 239.101.

(b)(1) As required by section 876 of the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2017 (Pub. L. 114-328), a contracting officer may not enter into a contract above the simplified acquisition threshold for facilities-related services, knowledge-based services (except engineering services), medical services, or transportation services that are not commercial services unless the appropriate official specified in paragraph (b)(2) of this section determines in writing that no commercial services are suitable to meet the agency's needs as provided in section 10 U.S.C. 2377(c)(2).

(2) The following officials are authorized to make the determination specified in paragraph (b)(1) of this section:

(i) For contracts above $10 million, the head of the contracting activity, the combatant commander of the combatant command concerned, or the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (as applicable).

(ii) For contracts in an amount above the simplified acquisition threshold and at or below $10 million, the contracting officer.

SUBPART 212.3 --SOLICITATION PROVISIONS AND CONTRACT CLAUSES FOR THE ACQUISITION OF COMMERCIAL ITEMS

212.301 Solicitation provisions and contract clauses for the acquisition of commercial items.

See DoD Class Deviation 2018-O0021, Commercial Item Omnibus Clause for Acquisitions Using the Standard Procurement System, issued October 1, 2018. This class deviation allows the contracting officer to use the SPS clause logic capability to automatically select the clauses that are applicable to the specific solicitation and contract. The contracting officer shall ensure that the deviation clause is incorporated into these solicitations and contracts because the deviation clause fulfills the statutory requirements on auditing and subcontract clauses applicable to commercial items. The deviation also authorizes adjustments to the deviation clause required by future changes to the clause at 52.212-5 that are published in the FAR. This deviation is effective for five years, or until otherwise rescinded.

(c) Include an evaluation factor regarding supply chain risk (see subpart 239.73) when acquiring
information technology, whether as a service or as a supply, that is a covered system, is a part of a covered system, or is in support of a covered system, as defined in 239.7301.

(f) The following additional provisions and clauses apply to DoD solicitations and contracts using FAR part 12 procedures for the acquisition of commercial items. If the offeror has completed any of the following provisions listed in this paragraph electronically as part of its annual representations and certifications at https://www.acquisition.gov, the contracting officer shall consider this information instead of requiring the offeror to complete these provisions for a particular solicitation.


(A) Use the FAR clause at 52.203-3, Gratuities, as prescribed in FAR 3.202, to comply with 10 U.S.C. 2207.

(B) Use the clause at 203.1004(a), to comply with section 6101 of Pub. L. 110-252 and 41 U.S.C. 3509.

(D) Use the provision at 204.7203.

(B) Use the provision at 204.7304(a).

(C) Use the clause at 204.7304(b).

(D) Use the clause at 204.7304(c).

(E) Use the clause at 204.7403(a), to comply with 10 U.S.C. 129d.

(F) Use the clause at 204.7403(b), to comply with 10 U.S.C. 129d.

(G) Use the provision at 204.2105(a), to comply with section 1656 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Pub. L. 115-91).

(H) Use the provision at 204.2105(b), to comply with section 1656 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Pub. L. 115-91).

(I) Use the clause at 204.2105(c), to comply with section 1656 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Pub. L. 115-91).

(iii) Part 205—Publicizing Contract Actions.

Use the clause at 205.470, to comply with 10 U.S.C. 2416.


(A) Use the clause at 215.408(2)(i).

(B) Use the clause at 215.408(2)(ii).

(C) Use the provision at 215.408(3).

(1) Use the basic provision as prescribed at 215.408(5)(i)(A).

(2) Use the alternate I provision as prescribed at 215.408(5)(i)(B).

(vii) Part 219—Small Business Programs.

(A) Use the provision at 219.309(1), to comply with 10 U.S.C. 2419.

(B) Use the clause at 219.708(b)(1)(A)(1).

(2) Use the alternate I clause as prescribed in 219.708(b)(1)(A)(2).

(3) Use the alternate II clause as prescribed in 219.708(b)(1)(A)(3).

(C) Use the clause at 219.708(b)(1)(B), to comply with 15 U.S.C. 637 note.

(D) Use the clause at 223.7306.

(ix) Part 225—Foreign Acquisition.

(A) Use the provision at 225.1101(1)(i).

(2) Use the alternate I provision as prescribed in 225.1101(1)(ii).

(B) Use the clause at 225.1101(2)(ii).

(2) Use the alternate I clause as prescribed in 225.1101(2)(iii).

(C) Use the clause at 225.1103(4), to comply with section 1211 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 (Pub. L. 109-163) as amended by the NDAAs for FY 2012 and FY 2017.

(E) Use the clause at 225.1101(5)(i).

(2) Use the alternate I provision as prescribed in 225.1101(5)(ii).

(N) Use the clause at 225.1101(6)(i).

(2) Use the alternate II clause as prescribed in 225.1101(6)(iii).

(O) Use the provision at 225.7307(a), to comply with 22 U.S.C. 2779.

(S) Use the clause at 225.7307(b), to comply with 22U.S.C. 2755.

(T) Use the clause at 225.7605, to comply with 10 U.S.C. 2410i.

(V) Use the provision at 225.1101(9)(i).

(2) Use the alternate I provision as prescribed in 225.1101(9)(ii).

(3) Use the alternate II provision as prescribed in 225.1101(9)(iii).

(4) Use the alternate III provision as prescribed in 225.1101(9)(iv).

(5) Use the alternate IV provision as prescribed in 225.1101(9)(v).
(6) Use the alternate V provision as prescribed in 225.1101(9)(vi).

(W) Use the clause at 225.1101(10)(i)(A).

(2) Use the alternate I clause as prescribed in 225.1101(10)(i)(B).

(3) Use the alternate II clause as prescribed in 225.1101(10)(i)(C).

(4) Use the alternate III clause as prescribed in 225.1101(10)(i)(D).

(5) Use the alternate IV clause as prescribed in 225.1101(10)(i)(E).

(6) Use the alternate V clause as prescribed in 225.1101(10)(i)(F).

(X) Use the provision at 226.104, to comply with section 8021 of Pub. L. 107-248 and similar sections in subsequent DoD appropriations acts.

(B) Use the provision at 226.7203.

(xi) Part 227—Patents, Data, and Copyrights.

(A) Use the clause at 232.7004, to comply with 10 U.S.C. 2227.

(B) Use the clause at 232.7004(b).

(C) Use the clause at 232.1110.

(D) Use the clause at 232.7102.

(E) Use the clause at 232.908.

(F) Use the provision at 232.7202.

(G) Use the clause at 239.7604(a).

(B) Use the clause 239.7604(b).

(C) Use the provision at 239.7306(a), to comply with 10 U.S.C. 2339a.

(D) Use the clause at 244.403.


(A) Use the clause at 246.370(a).

(B) Use the clause at 247.207, to comply with section 884 of Pub. L. 110-417.

(B) Use the provision at 247.574(a).

(C) Use the basic or one of the alternates of the clause at 247.574(b), to comply with the Cargo Preference Act of 1904 (10 U.S.C. 2631(a)).

(1) Use the basic clause as prescribed in 247.574(b)(1).

(2) Use the alternate I clause as prescribed in 247.574(b)(2).
(3) Use the alternate II clause as prescribed in 247.574(b)(3).

(D) Use the clause 247.574(c), to comply with 10 U.S.C. 2631(b).

(E) Use the provision at 247.574(d), to comply with section 1017 of Pub. L. 109-364.


(G) Use the clause at 247.207.

212.302 Tailoring of provisions and clauses for the acquisition of commercial items.

(c) Tailoring inconsistent with customary commercial practice.

The head of the contracting activity is the approval authority within the DoD for waivers under FAR 12.302(c).

SUBPART 212.5 --APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN LAWS TO THE ACQUISITION OF COMMERCIAL ITEMS

212.503 Applicability of certain laws to Executive agency contracts for the acquisition of commercial items.

(a) The following laws are not applicable to contracts for the acquisition of commercial items:

(i) 10 U.S.C. 2306(b), Prohibition on Contingent Fees.


(iii) 10 U.S.C. 2384(b), Requirement to Identify Suppliers.

(iv) 10 U.S.C. 2397(a)(1), Reports by Employees or Former Employees of Defense Contractors.

(v) 10 U.S.C. 2397b(f), Limits on Employment for Former DoD Officials.

(vi) 10 U.S.C. 2397c, Defense Contractor Requirements Concerning Former DoD Officials.


(viii) 10 U.S.C. 2410b, Contractor Inventory Accounting System Standards (see 252.242-7004).

(ix) 107 Stat 1720 (Section 843(a), Pub. L. 103-160), Reporting Requirement Regarding Dealings with Terrorist Countries.

(x) Domestic Content Restrictions in the National Defense Appropriations Acts for Fiscal Years 1996 and Subsequent Years, unless the restriction specifically applies to commercial items. For the
restriction that specifically applies to commercial ball or roller bearings as end items, see 225.7009-3 (section 8065 of Pub. L. 107-117).

(xi) Section 8116 of the Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Pub. L. 111-118) and similar sections in subsequent DoD appropriations acts.

c) The applicability of the following laws has been modified in regard to contracts for the acquisition of commercial items:

(i) 10 U.S.C. 2402, Prohibition on Limiting Subcontractor Direct Sales to the United States (see FAR 3.503 and 52.203-6).

(ii) 10 U.S.C. 2306a, Truth in Negotiations Act (see FAR 15.403-1(b)(3)).

212.504 Applicability of certain laws to subcontracts for the acquisition of commercial items.

(a) The following laws are not applicable to subcontracts at any tier for the acquisition of commercial items or commercial components:

(i) 10 U.S.C. 2306(b), Prohibition on Contingent Fees.

(ii) 10 U.S.C. 2313(c), Examination of Records of a Contractor.


(iv) 10 U.S.C. 2327, Reporting Requirement Regarding Dealings with Terrorist Countries.

(v) 10 U.S.C. 2384(b), Requirement to Identify Suppliers.


(vii) 10 U.S.C. 2393, Prohibition Against Doing Business with Certain Offerors or Contractors.

(viii) 10 U.S.C. 2397(a)(1), Reports by Employees or Former Employees of Defense Contractors.

(ix) 10 U.S.C. 2397b(f), Limits on Employment for Former DoD Officials.

(x) 10 U.S.C. 2397c, Defense Contractor Requirements Concerning Former DoD Officials.


(xii) 10 U.S.C. 2410b, Contractor Inventory Accounting System Standards.

(xii) 10 U.S.C. 2501 note, Notification of Proposed Program Termination.


(xv) 10 U.S.C. 2631, Transportation of Supplies by Sea (except as provided in the clause at 252.247-7023, Transportation of Supplies by Sea).
Domestic Content Restrictions in the National Defense Appropriations Acts for Fiscal Years 1996 and Subsequent Years, unless the restriction specifically applies to commercial items. For the restriction that specifically applies to commercial ball or roller bearings as end items, see 225.7009-3 (section 8065 of Pub. L. 107-117).

Section 8116 of the Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Pub. L. 111-118) and similar sections in subsequent DoD appropriations acts.

(b) Certain requirements of the following laws have been eliminated for subcontracts at any tier for the acquisition of commercial items or commercial components:

(i) 10 U.S.C. 2393(d), Subcontractor Reports Under Prohibition Against Doing Business with Certain Offerors (see FAR 52.209-6).

(ii) 10 U.S.C. 2402, Prohibition on Limiting Subcontractor Direct Sales to the United States (see FAR 3.503 and 52.203-6).

212.570 Applicability of certain laws to contracts and subcontracts for the acquisition of commercially available off-the-shelf items.

Paragraph (a)(1) of 10 U.S.C. 2533b, Requirement to buy strategic materials critical to national security from American sources, is not applicable to contracts and subcontracts for the acquisition of commercially available off-the-shelf items, except as provided at 225.7003-3(b)(2)(i).

SUBPART 212.6 --STREAMLINED PROCEDURES FOR EVALUATION AND SOLICITATION FOR COMMERCIAL ITEMS

212.602 Streamlined evaluation of offers.

(b)(i) For the acquisition of transportation and transportation-related services, also consider evaluating offers in accordance with the criteria at 247.206(1).

(ii) For the acquisition of transportation in supply contracts that will include a significant requirement for transportation of items outside the contiguous United States, also evaluate offers in accordance with the criterion at 247.301-71.

(iii) For the direct purchase of ocean transportation services, also evaluate offers in accordance with the criteria at 247.573-2(c).

SUBPART 212.70 —LIMITATION ON CONVERSION OF PROCUREMENT FROM COMMERCIAL ACQUISITION
PROCEDURES

212.7000 Scope.


212.7001 Procedures.

(a) Limitation.

(1) For a procurement valued at more than $1 million, but less than $100 million, previously procured under a prime contract using FAR part 12 procedures based on a commercial item determination made by a military department, a defense agency, or another DoD component, prior to converting the procurement from commercial acquisition procedures to noncommercial acquisition procedures under FAR part 15, the head of the contracting activity shall determine in writing, upon recommendation from the contracting officer for the procurement that—

(i) The earlier use of commercial acquisition procedures under FAR part 12 was in error or based on inadequate information; and

(ii) DoD will realize a cost savings compared to the cost of procuring a similar quantity or level of such item or service using commercial acquisition procedures.

(2) In the case of a procurement valued at $100 million or more, a contract may not be awarded pursuant to a conversion of the procurement described in paragraph (a)(1) of this section until a copy of the head of contracting activity determination is provided to the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics.

(b) In making a determination under paragraph (a) of this section, the determining official shall, at a minimum, consider the following factors:

(1) The estimated cost of research and development to be performed by the existing contractor to improve future products or services.

(2) The costs for DoD and the contractor in assessing and responding to data requests to support a conversion to noncommercial acquisition procedures.

(3) Changes in purchase quantities.

(4) Costs associated with potential procurement delays resulting from the conversion.

(c) The requirements of this subpart terminate November 25, 2020.

SUBPART 212.71 —PILOT PROGRAM FOR ACQUISITION
OF MILITARY-PURPOSE NONDEVELOPMENTAL ITEMS

212.7100 Scope.


212.7101 Definitions.

As used in this subpart—

Military-purpose nondevelopmental item means a nondevelopmental item that meets a validated military requirement, as determined in writing by the responsible program manager, and has been developed exclusively at private expense. An item shall not be considered to be developed at private expense if development of the item was paid for in whole or in part through—

(1) Independent research and development costs or bid and proposal costs, per the definition in FAR 31.205-18, that have been reimbursed directly or indirectly by a Federal agency or have been submitted to a Federal agency for reimbursement; or

(2) Foreign government funding.

Nondevelopmental item is defined in FAR 2.101 and also includes previously developed items of supply that require modifications other than those customarily available in the commercial marketplace if such modifications are consistent with the requirement at 212.7102-1(c)(1).

212.7102 Pilot program.

212.7102-1 Contracts under the program.

The contracting officer may utilize this pilot program to enter into contracts for the acquisition of military-purpose nondevelopmental items. See PGI 212.7102 for filedocumentation requirements. Each contract entered into under the pilot program shall—

(a) Be a firm-fixed-price contract, or a fixed-price contract with an economic price adjustment clause;

(b) Be in an amount not in excess of $100 million;

(c) Provide—

(1) For the delivery of an initial lot of production quantities of completed items not later than nine months after the date of the award of such contract; and

(2) That failure to make delivery as provided for under paragraph (c)(1) may result in termination for cause; and
(d) Be—

(1) Exempt from the requirement to submit certified cost or pricing data;

(2) Exempt from the cost accounting standards under 41 U.S.C. 1502; and

(3) Subject to the requirement to provide data other than certified cost or pricing data for the purpose of price reasonableness determinations.

212.7102-2 Reporting requirements.

Departments and agencies shall prepare a consolidated annual report to provide information about contracts awarded under this pilot authority. The report shall be submitted to the Office of the Deputy Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy (Contract Policy and International Contracting), by October 31 each year in accordance with the procedures at PGI 212.7102. See PGI 212.7102 for annual reporting format.

212.7102-3 Sunset of the pilot authority.

(a) The authority to carry out the pilot program described in this subpart expires on December 31, 2019.

(b) The expiration under paragraph (a) of this section of the authority to carry out the pilot program will not affect the validity of any contract awarded under the pilot program before the expiration of the pilot program under that paragraph.

212.7103 Solicitation provision.

Use the provision at 252.212-7002, Pilot Program for Acquisition of Military-Purpose Nondevelopmental Items, in solicitations when use of the pilot program is planned and the applicability criteria of 212.7102-1 are met.