Contracting Briefs

Disaster Response
Doing Business with FEMA

With the storm season approaching working with FEMA may be a good opportunity for your business. What do you need to do to work with FEMA? First there is no cost to become a FEMA contractor and there is no central FEMA bid list or approval process, each Local Business Transition Team (LBTT) learns about sources in their area and uses those they know about. If they don’t know of a source, they use the FEMA vendor profile form, search the SAM database by NAICS, search DSBS, and if all else fails, Google. Contact GACO for FEMA LBTT contact information. When FEMA uses the terms “FEMA Vetted” and “FEMA Verified” that simply means the vendor has active status in SAM and has completed the SAM disaster response registry. Click here to learn more about FEMA, what they buy, special contracting requirements for some services and disaster procurement regulations. Additionally, submit your company capabilities or request a meeting through submission of the FEMA Voluntary Vendor Profile Form. It is important to know that federal grants to the states make up half an agency’s budget in some cases. Being in contact with state emergency management departments is a proactive step.

New Login Requirements for SAM

The first time you log in to SAM.gov after June 29, 2018, you’ll be asked to create a login.gov user account (if you don’t already have one). Going forward, you will use your login.gov password every time you log on to SAM.gov. Your current SAM.gov username and password will no longer work. If you already have a login.gov account check the email address associated with it. If your current login.gov account matches the email address associated with your SAM.gov account, you are ready for the new login process.

If you use any other email address to create your account at login.gov other than the one associated with your SAM.gov account, your SAM.gov roles will need to be reassigned. This could cause delays in updating your existing registrations. If you don’t know which email is associated with your SAM.gov user account, contact the Federal Service Desk here, or by telephone at 866-606-8220.

Upcoming GACO/GCAC Sponsored Events

08/08/18 – Federal Government Contracting Seminar for Veteran-Owned Businesses, Abie Abraham VA Health Care Center, Butler, PA

10/23/18 – GACO/GCAC’s 31st Annual Procurement Opportunities Fair, Monroeville Convention Center, Monroeville, PA
RFID Requirements for DLA

Are you aware that passive RFID tags are no longer required for most shipments to DLA locations?

DIBBS broadcast message regarding RFID: DFARS 211.275(a)(2) requires passive RFID tags for specified shipments that will be shipped to locations listed at L&MR’s passive RFID site. Please note that the website has been updated to remove all DLA locations. Suppliers should ensure that their proposals do not include costs for passive RFID tags unless the requirements of paragraphs (i) and (ii) of DFARS 211.275(a)(2) are met.

Questions regarding this notice should be directed to e-mail address: Joanne.Battaglia@dla.mil.

- If the current contracts with the clause in them are stock buys, and the website the vendors are supposed to be checking “does not contain any addresses requiring RFID,” then the vendor would not need to include RFID as part of their packaging.
- There are still some instances when RFID is required, yes, it is still being put into those contracts. Those instances include:
  (i) location outside the contiguous United States when the shipment has been assigned Transportation Priority 1; or
  (ii) any additional location(s) deemed necessary by the requiring activity.

The Link – Connecting Suppliers with DLA

DLA publishes a quarterly newsletter providing information to DLA suppliers on important issues and updates. The July 2018 issue contains articles on additive manufacturing restrictions on DLA supplies, further explanation of RFID requirements mentioned above and steps DLA is taking to provide notice to suppliers who provide DLA items incorrectly packaged. The notice will include packaging deficiencies and the correction costs incurred by the government. Click here to access this issue. Previous issues of The Link and other DLA notices are viewable at https://www.dibbs.bsm.dla.mil/Notices/. Accept the consent notice by clicking OK to proceed to the website.

DLA DIBBS Registration Process Has Changed

Effective July 19, 2018, NEW DIBBS registrants will be subject to a two-step authentication process. Currently DLA only validates the e-mail address where a PIN is sent to complete your registration. After the 19th, a new “Physical Address Verification” process will be implemented. An actual post card will be mailed via U.S. mail to the address of record in SAM. This post card will contain a PIN that once received, is used to complete your DIBBS registration. You will not be able to complete your registration or quote until that time. If you do not receive the post card, there is an opportunity to request a 2nd post card.

CVE Applications and Renewals Now Being Accepted

After an update to the application process, The Center for Verification and Evaluation (CVE) is accepting applications for business ownership verification from service disabled veteran-owned and veteran-owned businesses. For new and renewing applicants you will first need to establish a single sign-on for the system. Instructions to establish a single sign-on and the application process can be found here. If you have any questions on the new registration and application process contact your GACO office.