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(i) Review individual solicitations to determine whether this restriction applies.

(ii) Information concerning restricted items may be obtained from the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Industrial Affairs);

(3) Other U.S. laws or regulations (e.g., the annual defense appropriations act); and

(4) U.S. industrial security requirements.

(b) This section does not apply to construction contracts.

[56 FR 36367, July 31, 1991, as amended at 60 FR 61597, Nov. 30, 1995; 62 FR 34123, June 24, 1997; 65 FR 39705, June 27, 2000]

225.872-3 Solicitation procedures.

(a) Include qualifying country sources on bidders mailing lists and comparable source lists upon their request (see FAR 14.205).

(b) Except for items developed under the U.S./Canadian Development Sharing Program, use the criteria for soliciting and making awards under FAR part 19 for small business concerns without regard to whether there are potential qualifying country sources for the end product. Do not consider an offer of a qualifying country end product if the solicitation is identified for the exclusive participation of small business firms.

(c) Send solicitations directly to qualifying country sources. Solicit Canadian sources through the Canadian Commercial Corporation in accordance with 225.870.

(d) Use international air mail if solicitation destinations are outside the United States and security classification permits such use (see FAR 14.202 and FAR 14.203).

(e) If unusual technical or security requirements preclude the acquisition of otherwise acceptable defense equipment from qualifying country sources, review the need for such requirements. Do not impose unusual technical or security requirements solely for the purpose of precluding the acquisition of defense equipment from qualifying countries.

(f) Do not automatically exclude qualifying country sources from submitting offers because their supplies

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have not been tested and evaluated by the department/agency.

(1) Consider the adequacy of qualifying country service testing on a case-by-case basis. Departments or agencies that must limit solicitations to sources whose items have been service tested and evaluated by the department/agency shall consider supplies from qualifying country sources that have been tested and accepted by the qualifying country for service use.

(2) The department/agency may perform a confirmatory test, if necessary.

(3) Apply U.S. test and evaluation standards, policies, and procedures when the department/agency decides that confirmatory tests of qualifying country end products are necessary.

(4) Where it appears that these provisions might adversely delay service programs, obtain the concurrence of the DoD Acquisition Executive, Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics), before excluding the qualifying country source from consideration.

(g) Permit industry representatives from a qualifying country to attend symposia, program briefings, prebid conferences (see FAR 14.207 and 15.201(c)), and similar meetings that address U.S. defense equipment needs and requirements. When practical, structure these meetings to allow attendance by representatives of qualifying country concerns.

[56 FR 36367, July 31, 1991, as amended at 60 FR 61597, Nov. 30, 1995; 63 FR 55052, Oct. 14, 1998; 65 FR 39705, June 27, 2000]

225.872-4 Evaluation of offers.

(a) Qualifying country sources competing for DoD requirements must be responsive to the terms and conditions of DoD solicitations.

(b) Evaluate offers of end products from the qualifying country sources in 225.872-1(a) without application of the 50 percent Buy American Act or Balance of Payments Program evaluation factor, in accordance with 225.304 and 225.502.

(c) Evaluate offers of end products from the qualifying country sources in 225.872-1(b) without application of the 50 percent Buy American Act or Balance of Payments Program evaluation factor. If the offer, as evaluated, is low

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or otherwise eligible for award, the contracting officer shall request an exemption of the Buy American Act/Balance of Payments Program as inconsistent with the public interest, unless another exception such as the Trade Agreements Act applies.

(1) To obtain an exemption, process a Determination and Findings for signature—

(i) At a level above the contracting officer, for acquisitions of \$25,000 or less;

(ii) By the chief of the contracting office, for acquisitions of \$250,000 or less;

(iii) By the head of the contracting activity (HCA), for acquisitions of \$2 million or less; or

(iv) By the head of the agency, or designee at a level no lower than an HCA, for acquisitions over \$2 million.

(2) The Determination and Findings shall be substantially as follows for end items, or modified as necessary for components—

SERVICE OR AGENCY

Exemption of the Buy American Act/Balance of Payments Program

Determination and Findings

Upon the basis of the following findings and determination which I hereby make in accordance with the provisions of FAR 25.102, acquisition of (*qualifying country—identify country*) (*describe item*) may be made as provided below.

Findings

1. The (*contracting activity*) proposes to purchase under contract number, _____, mined, produced, or manufactured in (*country of origin*). The total estimated cost of this acquisition is _____.

2. The United States Government and the Government of _____ have agreed to remove barriers to procurement at the prime and subcontract level for defense equipment produced in each other's countries insofar as laws and regulations permit.

3. The agreement provides that competitive offers of (*qualifying country*) end products will be evaluated by the Department of Defense without imposing any price differential under the Buy American Act or Balance of Payments Program and without taking applicable U.S. customs and duties into consideration so that (*qualifying country*) items may better compete for sales of defense equipment to the Department of Defense. In addition, the Agreement stipulates that acquisitions of (*qualifying country*) items must fully satisfy Department of Defense require-

ments for performance, quality, and delivery and shall cost the Department of Defense no more than would comparable U.S. source or other foreign source defense equipment eligible for award.

4. To achieve the above objectives, the solicitation contained the (*title and number of the Buy American Act clause contained in the contract*). Offers were solicited from other sources and the offer received for (*qualifying country end item*) is found to be otherwise eligible for award.

Determination

Pursuant to the Buy American Act and Balance of Payments Program, I hereby determine that it is inconsistent with the public interest to apply the restrictions of the Buy American Act or the Balance of Payments Program to the proposed offer.

(Date)

[56 FR 36367, July 31, 1991, as amended at 57 FR 42630, Sept. 15, 1992; 63 FR 11534, Mar. 9, 1998; 65 FR 39705, June 27, 2000]

225.872-5 Contract administration.

(a) Arrangements exist with some qualifying countries to provide reciprocal contract administration services. Some arrangements are at no cost to either government. To determine whether such an arrangement has been negotiated and what contract administration functions are covered, contact the Deputy Director of Defense Procurement (Foreign Contracting), ((703) 697-9351, DSN 227-9351).

(b) When contract administration services are required on contracts to be performed in qualifying countries, direct the request to the cognizant activity under DLAH 4105.4, section II, part 2 (DoD Directory of Contract Administration Services Components). Contract administration services for DoD subcontracts placed by qualifying country sources in the United States will be arranged by the cognizant activity under DLAH 4105.4, section II, part 2.

(c) The contract administration activity receiving a delegation or secondary delegation shall review the delegation to determine whether any portion of the delegation are covered by memoranda of understanding annexes, and delegate those functions to the appropriate organization in the qualifying country's government.