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SUPERSEDING
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Freestanding Partitions and Demountable Walls

1. Scope. This document defines technical and performance requirements for freestanding and interconnecting partitions, and demountable walls.

2. Freestanding partitions. Freestanding partitions shall not exceed 75 inches in height. Partitions shall not include provisions for hanging furniture components or for mounting lighting fixtures. Panels may be provided with a pre-wired base as part of the construction.

2.1 Performance and safety. Freestanding partitions shall meet applicable requirement of ANSI/BIFMA X5.6-1993. The panel electrical system shall meet the requirements of UL Standard 1286.

2.2 Acoustical requirements. Freestanding acoustical partitions shall have a minimum noise reduction coefficient (NRC) of 0.65 when tested as specified herein for acoustics.

2.3 Flammability requirements. All freestanding partitions shall have a maximum flame spread rating of 25 and a maximum smoke development of 450 when tested as specified herein for flammability.

2.3.1 Third Party Certification. The manufacturer for freestanding partitions shall enter into an agreement with a Third Party Certification Program (TPCP) for Freestanding Partitions in accordance with 3FNE-98-576 – Certification Requirements for Freestanding Partitions and 3FNE-98-577 – Guidelines for use of Third Party Certifications Programs by Commodity Centers.

3. Demountable walls. Demountable walls are acoustical panels that are mounted on horizontal and/or vertical frames. Panels shall be factory assembled into complete individual panel units. Panels shall be available in solid face and door panels. Clerestories and glazed (tempered safety glass) may be offered. If glazed clerestories are offered they must comply with Federal

Safety Standard for Architectural Glazing Materials (16 CFR, Part 1201). Panels shall allow installation over a finished floor, tile or carpet, without damage to the floor. Panels shall interlock with adjacent panels or use internal vertical supports. The system shall allow two, three and four way connections. All fasteners shall be concealed. The panel base and top shall adjust to accommodate floor and ceiling irregularities and shall prevent light and sound leakage. A horizontal wiring raceway shall be standard. Each panel shall be fully removable.

3.1 Acoustical requirements. Demountable walls shall have a minimum Sound Transmission Class (STC) of 35, when tested as specified herein for acoustics.

3.2 Flammability requirements. Demountable walls shall have a maximum flame spread rating of 25 and a maximum smoke development of 450 when tested as specified herein for flammability.

4. Test requirements.

4.1 Laboratories. Panels (including face panels, and panel inserts), demountable walls, and wall coverings shall be tested by an independent laboratory or the vendor’s ISO Guide 25 self certified testing facility or the vendors ISO 9001 registered facility.

4.2 Flammability. Testing for smoke development and flame spread shall be in accordance with American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) E-84, Standard Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials. Alternatively, the fire test may be conducted in accordance with Underwriters Laboratories (UL) Standard No. 723 or National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard No. 255.

4.2.1 Test reports.

4.2.1.1 Age of tests.

4.2.1.1 Freestanding panels. The report shall be not more than one year old when submitting offer. The test shall be conducted two times a year.

4.2.1.1.2 Demountable walls. Test reports are required to be submitted with the offer, and shall be not more than one year

old at the time set for receipt of offers. During the term of the contract new testing shall be conducted every three years. If the construction/components or test standard has changed prior to the three year term, new tests are required.

4.2.1.2 Report content. The test report must state in detail the construction of the item tested from the inside out and identify by series or model number the item tested.

4.2.1.3 Test samples. The test shall be conducted on the entire assembled unit (the complete core, adhesive, decorative fabric, frame and joining components). The test must be conducted for each different fabric, and interior construction. However, additional fabrics or sheet–film finishes not exceeding 0.89mm in thickness may be offered for inclusion under the contract without additional testing provided the following conditions are met:

(1) A test was conducted on the complete item, which is acceptable to GSA.
(2) The fabric or sheet-film finish not exceeding 0.89mm in thickness on the item was tested and complied with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard No. 701.
(3) The additional fabrics or sheet-film finishes offered were tested and comply with NFPA No. 701.
(4) There are no other changes in construction.

4.4 Acoustical tests.

4.4.1 Test report. The acoustical test report must state in detail the construction of the item tested and identify by series or model number the item tested. New tests are required, if during the course of the contract there are changes in components/ construction of the item or the test standard has been revised. Tests are good for three years. If anytime during the course of the contract period the test becomes more than three years old, new tests are required.

4.4.2 Noise reduction coefficient. The acoustical tests must be in accordance with the ASTM Standard Test Method for Sound Absorption Coefficients by the reverberation Room Method, C-423 (most recent issue), utilizing an average measurement over the four standard octave intervals, 250, 500, 1000, and 2000 HZ. The test shall be conducted on the entire assembled panel, full-face area (the complete core, adhesive, decorative fabric,

frame, raceway and joining components). Both sides of the panel shall be tested.

4.4.3 Sound transmission class. Sound transmission class (STC) shall be determined by testing in accordance with ASTM Standard E-90 and classified in accordance with ASTM Standard E-413. Test reports shall be no more than three years old at the time set for receipt of offers.