

USDA COMMODITY REQUIREMENTS

**IFD3
INFANT FORMULA
FOR USE IN DOMESTIC PROGRAMS**

Effective Date: **11/5/07**

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Part 1 COMMODITY SPECIFICATIONS

Section 1.1 INFANT FORMULA REQUIREMENTS

- A. Quality of Product
The infant formula shall be iron fortified and shall conform to the Commercial Item Description (CID) A-A-20172 in effect on the date of the solicitation, which is available at <http://www.ams.usda.gov/fqa/cidspec.htm>
- B. Production Requirements
 - (1) The product delivered to the Government shall have been manufactured in the United States from ingredients which were produced in the United States; except that the vitamin folacin may be of domestic or foreign production. Exceptions for any ingredients to be used other than folacin shall be approved in writing by the contracting officer.
 - (2) Contractors shall immediately provide the contracting officer copies of any written complaints and summaries of any verbal complaints received by the contractor or the manufacturer about the infant formula delivered under the contract. The manufacturer shall inform the contracting officer of actions taken in response to complaints received.

Section 1.2 “KOSHER ONLY” PRODUCTS

“Kosher Only” products will be identified in the solicitation. Offerors shall not bid on these products unless they are properly certified to produce Kosher products. If awarded a contract, contractors shall:

- (1) Comply with applicable dietary (Kosher) laws as established by the “613 Council of Kashruth,” and
- (2) Contact the Board of Jewish Education of Greater New York at 646-472-5365. A rabbinic supervisor will be sent to visit the plant to certify compliance with the applicable dietary (Kosher) laws.

Section 1.3 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. The contractor shall perform the product testing and quality analysis to ensure that the product meets the commodity specifications. The results shall be evidenced by a Certificate of Analysis (COA).
- B. Contractors shall notify the Government immediately of lots that fail to meet contract requirements.

Part 2 CONTAINER AND PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS

Section 2.1 GENERAL

This part provides the container specifications and packaging materials requirements used under this contract.

Section 2.2 COMMERCIAL PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS

- A. Contractors shall supply commercial brand products only and shall certify at the time of submission of an offer that the commercial product being delivered has a history of successful distribution and use in domestic commercial channels and is sold on the commercial market with an established level of consumer acceptance.

- B. Container and packaging requirements are those customarily used in the current commercial shipping practices and shall comply with:
 - (1) Unitization requirements in Section 2.4.
 - (2) At contractor’s option, a statement such as “Not for Retail Sale” may be printed on the principal display panel of the food label.
 - (3) The manufacturer’s lot code/lot identification number shall be shown on the commercial bill of lading.
 - (4) Shipping containers shall be marked to show the maximum safe stacking height. It is the responsibility of the contractor in cooperation with the shipping container manufacturers to determine the safe stacking height.
 - (5) For identification upon receipt at delivery warehouses, all commercial-labeled product shipping documents shall specify “FOR USDA FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAMS.”
 - (6) Powder infant formula shall include a measuring scoop and shall be equipped with a plastic lid for reclosure after opening.
 - (7) Cans of infant formula shall be free of excessive dents and distortions, free of rust, and other effects of improper storage.

- C. A company name or brand name shall be shown on all shipping containers.

Section 2.3 CONTAINERS AND MATERIALS

- A. **All containers and packaging shall be constructed to meet the requirements of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for safe contact with the packaged product. The contractor shall obtain and maintain documentation from the container or packaging material manufacturer to verify that the containers and packaging materials used in this contract were in compliance with the Government’s regulatory requirements for safe contact with food products as required in the Master Solicitation, Part 3, Section A, Number 3.**

- B. **Questions concerning the containers and materials should be directed to:**
 - USDA/FSA/DACO**
 - Room 5755 – South Bldg, STOP 0551**
 - 1400 Independence Avenue SW**
 - Washington, DC 20250-0551**
 - ATTN: Packaging**

- C. **If the contractor purchases packaging and container ingredients from a foreign country and/or the package and container is manufactured in a foreign country, the package and container SHALL NOT display country of origin labeling. Phrases similar to but not inclusive of, “Made in [Name of Foreign Country.]” or “Product of [Name of Foreign Country.]” are strictly prohibited.**

Section 2.4 UNITIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Shipments shall comply with the following unitization requirements:

- A. Unless otherwise specified by the Government, all shipments of packaged products shall be unitized (palletized and stretch wrapped).
- B. Pallets shall be:
 - (1) Constructed to facilitate the safe handling and transportation of the packaged product, as a unit, without loss or damage.
 - (2) A Number 2, four-way, reversible flush stringer with no broken runners or slats.
 - (3) Suitable for use in the shipment of food products.
- C. Plastic stretch wrap shall be:
 - (1) Constructed of a plastic film which is to be stretched a minimum of 50 percent beyond its original length when stretched around the pallet load.
 - (2) Applied as tightly as possible around all tiers of the palletized shipping containers. The shipping containers shall be held firmly in place by the stretch wrap.
- D. Pallet loads shall be:
 - (1) Stacked in such a way as to minimize the amount that shipping containers overhang the edges of pallets.
 - (2) Blocked and braced or otherwise loaded into the conveyance in a manner that prevents shifting during transit.

Section 2.5 LOT CODE/CERTIFICATE NUMBER

A lot code or official inspection certificate number shall be legibly marked on all primary shipping materials. Contractors may use any type of lot coding system provided a unique code is used to identify each lot under a contract. When requested contractors shall provide to the Government an explanation of the lot coding system utilized.