SUMMARY OF CHANGES

FAC 2005-14 amends the FAR as specified below:

Item I--Common Identification Standard for Contractors (FAR Case 2005-015)

This rule converts the interim rule published at 71 FR 208, January 3, 2006, to a final rule with changes. The rule amends the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) by addressing the contractor personal identification requirements in Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 12, ``Policy for a Common Identification Standard for Federal Employees and Contractors," and Federal Information Processing Standards Publication (FIPS PUB) Number 201, ``Personal Identity Verification (PIV) of Federal Employees and Contractors." The primary objectives of HSPD-12 are to establish a process to enhance security, increase Government efficiency, reduce identity fraud, and protect personal privacy by establishing a mandatory, Government-wide standard for secure and reliable forms of identification issued by the Federal Government to its employees and contractors who require routine physical access to Federally-controlled facilities, and/or routine access to Federally-controlled information systems.

Item II--Removal of Sanctions against Certain EU Countries (FAR Case 2005-045)

This rule converts the interim rule published at 71 FR 20305, April 19, 2006, to a final rule without change. The interim rule removed the sanctions in FAR Part 25 against Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Sweden, and the United Kingdom on acquisitions not covered by the World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement. These sanctions did not apply to small business set-asides, to acquisition below the simplified acquisition threshold using simplified acquisition procedures, or to acquisitions by the Department of Defense. Contracting officers may now consider offers of end products, services, and construction that were previously prohibited by the sanctions.

Item III--Free Trade Agreements--Bahrain and Guatemala (FAR Case 2006-017) (Interim)

This interim rule allows contracting officers to purchase the goods and services of Guatemala and Bahrain without application of the Buy American Act if the acquisition is subject to the Free Trade Agreements. These trade agreements with Guatemala and Bahrain join the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), the Australia, Chile, Morocco, and Singapore Free Trade Agreements, and the CAFTA-DR with respect to El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua, which are already in the FAR. The threshold for applicability of the Dominican Republic--Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement is \$64,786 for supplies and services (the same as other Free Trade Agreements to date except Morocco and Canada) and \$7,407,000 for construction (the same as all other Free Trade Agreements to date except NAFTA). The threshold for applicability of the Bahrain Free Trade Agreement is \$193,000 (the same as the Morocco FTA and the WTO GPA) and \$8,422,165 for construction (the same as NAFTA).

Item IV--Free Trade Agreements--Morocco (FAR Case 2006-001)

This final rule converts the interim rule published in the Federal Register at 71 FR 20306, April 19, 2006, to a final rule without change. This rule allows contracting officers to purchase the products of Morocco without application of the Buy American Act if the acquisition is subject to the Morocco Free Trade Agreements. The U.S. Trade Representative negotiated a Free Trade Agreement with Morocco, which went into effect January 1, 2006. This agreement joins the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the Australia, Chile, and Singapore Free Trade Agreements, which are already in the FAR. The threshold for applicability of the Morocco Free Trade Agreement is $193,000 for supplies and services and $7,407,000 for construction.

Item V--Technical Amendments

Editorial changes are made at FAR 15.404-1, 22.1006, 22.1304, 28.202, 52.212-5, 52.222-43, 52.228-15, and 52.228-16, in order to update references.