

PURCHASE DESCRIPTION
TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR UPHOLSTERED SEATING

Upholstered seating is intended for a variety of Government uses and must meet the applicable requirements herein. Copies of the referenced documents may be obtained from the issuing organizations at the addresses given in the solicitation.

Changes in this revision are identified by ***bold italics*** type face.

Flammability Test Requirements.

See flammability test requirements in Technical Requirements Section in solicitation.

Performance Test Requirements.

Items offered by current contractors or new offerors for the first time must be tested in accordance with, and comply with all applicable sections of, EITHER one of the following:

(1) Upholstered Furniture Test Method FNAE-80-214A, dated September 1, 1998

OR

(2) ANSI/BIFMA X5.4 – 1997**.

**Sleep sofas and recliners must also be tested in accordance with paragraphs 7.7 and 7.8, respectively, of FNAE-80-214A.

FNAE-80-214A is a GSA test method that allows customers to select products meeting their needs based on the three-tier performance rating system utilized in the method. ANSI/BIFMA X5.4 is a minimum industry testing standard for safety and performance of lounge seating.

The contractor is responsible for conducting all applicable performance test requirements on the units being offered. The contractor may use his own or any other test lab capable of performing the tests. Test reports shall be signed and dated by the person performing the tests and shall be on the letterhead of the company/laboratory performing the tests. The Government reserves the right to

witness any tests where such inspections are deemed necessary to assure that the upholstered items meet all test requirements.

Within each different series or grouping being offered, tests shall be performed generally on the item having the greatest span between legs. This is normally a 3-seat sofa, however, if the design includes one or more interior support legs (i.e., a leg or legs other than those at the four corners of the frame), then the 2-seat sofa would likely have the greatest span between legs. If all multi-seat items in a series or grouping have one or more interior legs, then test the item having the largest overall length. All items within the same sofa/loveseat/chair series or grouping must have the same design and construction. Tests shall also be performed on offered dual-purpose (seating/sleeping) units and recliners. To avoid duplicative testing on some items where the construction details are evidently the same, the test results for one item may be acceptable to represent one or more other items. However, evidence of the similarity of construction details must be validated by providing: (1) description of the types of spring/support systems used for the seat and back of the tested and proposed untested item(s), and (2) detailed, clear, bare-frame photographs of the tested item and the proposed untested item(s). Additionally, the offer must include a well-organized chart which lists tested models in the left column and models proposed to be represented by each tested item, in the right column.

NOTE: Test results for conventional (non-sleep) sofas **cannot** represent dual-purpose (sleep) sofas.

Complete, passing performance test reports shall be submitted with the offer or within sixty (60) days after the offer is submitted, in order for the unit to be considered for an award. When submitted, the performance test reports shall be not more than five (5) years old for FNAE-80-214A testing and not more than three (3) years old for ANSI/BIFMA X5.4 testing.

Performance retesting requirements. All models under contract shall be retested for performance *in accordance with the provisions in the Technical Requirements section of the solicitation. The following exception to those provisions applies when the original testing was performed in accordance with method **FNE 80-214A**.*

- *If no product changes are incorporated during the period and/or if the test method is not revised, the retesting interval is ten (10) years from the date of the original test reports.*

Retesting is considered necessary to assure that the original test results have not changed over time **due to changes in component materials or construction methods**. See *Technical Requirements section in solicitation for more detailed information on retesting due to product changes*. In situations where a number of re-tests are due at approximately the same time, reasonable contractor proposals

for a phased retesting plan will be considered on a case-by-case basis. New passing test reports shall be submitted to the GSA contracting officer for review and approval.

If any modifications are made to an item(s)' design, construction or materials at any time during the term of the contract, the involved item(s) shall be retested. New passing test reports shall be submitted to the GSA contracting officer for review and approval before the modified upholstered units can be sold on contract.

Contract Brochure Requirements.

All offerors awarded a contract for sofas, dual-purpose (sleep) sofas, loveseats, recliners or lounge chairs, who choose to test in accordance with FNAE-80-214A, shall identify the service level achieved (light, medium, heavy) for each model in the brochures and price lists.

If an offeror chooses to test in accordance with ANSI/BIFMA X5.4, each model approved by GSA shall be identified in the brochures and price lists by stating: "This unit meets minimum performance test requirements of ANSI/BIFMA X5.4."

For award of dual purpose units, the following additional information shall be provided opposite the photograph of the item in the brochures and price lists:

1. Type of mattress (innerspring or foam);
2. Length, width and thickness of mattress;
3. Whether a waterproof mattress is a standard or optional item.