

Addendum to the 2012 Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan: Responding to the President's Memorandum on Promotion of Biobased Markets

On February 21, 2012, President Obama signed a Memorandum, *Driving Innovation and Creating Jobs in Rural America through Biobased and Sustainable Product Procurement*. The memorandum requires all federal agencies to undertake a number of activities to increase their purchase of USDA-designated biobased (i.e. BioPreferred) products. GSA is moving aggressively to implement the Presidential Memorandum requirements.

Accomplishments to date include:

- The Federal Acquisition Service (FAS) added "BioPreferred only" requirements to Multiple Award Schedules (MAS) 73 and 84 for cleaning equipment and gun cleaning solvent.
- FAS incorporated biobased clauses/provisions into applicable MAS solicitations/contracts.
- FAS developed the web-based Green Products Compilation (www.sftool.gov/greenprocurement), which identifies all product types covered by the BioPreferred program and links to the BioPreferred catalog and biobased products available through *GSA Advantage!*.
- FAS assessed and improved the use of the biobased icon on *GSA Advantage!*.
- FAS's Global Supply program partnered with AbilityOne to develop and offer biobased products, including laundry detergent and cleaning products.
- Global Supply added 62 Item Purchase Descriptions for biobased products.
- FAS developed a draft Instructional Letter for its contracting officials regarding implementation of the new biobased reporting requirements.
- FAS developed online green purchasing training, including a BioPreferred products component, which is available to all GSA employees through the GSA On-Line University.
- PBS added several biobased products to the PBS national custodial and operations & maintenance scopes of work.

Baseline for Biobased Contracting:

To improve the quality of biobased product reporting and allow for the development of a baseline, GSA is developing guidance for its contracting community on properly completing the newly expanded data fields in the Federal Procurement Data System, including the biobased product data element. This guidance will be issued in FY 2013.

Strategies for Improving Compliance:

GSA will review the data from the first two quarters of FY 2013 FPDS data following distribution of the FPDS guidance and assess targets for compliance. In addition, GSA has incorporated reviews of contracts for biobased product clauses into its Program Management Reviews (PMRs) process and will continue to use the PMR findings to identify targets for improving compliance.

GSA's strategy for improving compliance – full incorporation of requirements and clauses for biobased products in relevant and appropriate contracts and follow-on activities to ensure compliance is achieved – includes the following elements:

- Incorporation of biobased requirements into upcoming Federal Strategic Sourcing Initiative (FSSI) Blanket Purchase Agreements (BPAs), as appropriate.
- Development and distribution of guidance to the acquisition workforce on how to complete the new sustainable acquisition fields in FPDS-NG, including the biobased data element.
- Ensuring that reviews for biobased clauses and requirements are incorporated into internal PMRs, taking corrective action as necessary.
- Incorporation of biobased considerations into GSA's ongoing hotspots study.
- Posting a BioPreferred fact sheet on the FAS Vendor Support Center to educate MAS vendors on the applicability of the program.
- Development of a crosswalk of designated BioPreferred product categories to NAICS/PSCs.
- Automatic inclusion of both biobased clauses in all applicable contract actions in the new PBS contract writing system to be released 2nd quarter FY 2013.
- Annual verification that all biobased requirements in the PBS custodial and operations & maintenance national scopes of work have been included in all new custodial and operations & maintenance contracts.
- Posting information on new contractor biobased reporting requirement on gsa.gov and on FedBizOpps.

Required Specification Reviews:

GSA manages product specifications and Item Purchase Descriptions (IPDs.) Although it is not possible to review a significant number of specifications and IPDs by the end of calendar year 2012, GSA will continue to identify those affected by the BioPreferred designations and assess options for promoting the purchase of biobased products. In FY 2012, GSA Global Supply created IPDs and National Stock Numbers (NSNs) for 62 biobased items, up from 47 in the beginning of FY 2012. For construction specifications for large projects, the specification format is the choice of the architect/engineer but the product requirements are set forth in the Facilities Standards for the Public Buildings Service (the "P-100.") The P-100 requires that architects/engineers specify biobased products.

GSA will take the following actions with respect to specification reviews:

1. Collaborate with the Department of Defense (DOD) to leverage efforts to improve the identification, purchase and use of biobased products. The partnership includes identifying appropriate MILSPECs to review for inclusion of biobased requirements, leveraging resources to demonstrate biobased product performance, and continuing the effort to ensure sustainable products are included in DOD/GSA contracts.
2. Review its remaining FEDSPECs to identify candidates for revision.
3. For IPDs, assess the descriptions for BioPreferred items whose sales exceeded \$25,000 in FY 2012. GSA will assess the possibility of creating new IPDs and NSNs for biobased products rather than revising existing IPDs.