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SUPERSEDING
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Certification Requirements for Freestanding, Acoustical and Speech Privacy Partitions

The manufacturer for SIN 711-13 shall enter into an agreement with a Third Party Certification Program, (TPCP) for Freestanding Partitions. Under this program, the Third Party inspection/testing body shall certify that the products offered under this solicitation meet the test requirements specified herein and the manufacturer's quality system is in compliance with the specified Federal Standard.

With the offer, the manufacturer shall identify the TPCP and provide program documentation demonstrating compliance with TPCP requirements. Offerors that fail to submit proof of the agreement with their offer will not be considered for award.

This agreement shall be in effect for the term of the contract or a minimum of one contract year. If at any time, changes to the terms of the agreement are desired, the manufacturer must first submit a written request citing the reason for the change and must receive written approval from the contracting officer.

A TPCP is defined by the American National Standards Institute as "An organized system (1) under which similar products or services of any number of producers may be certified as conforming to the referenced standard or specification on a uniform and equitable basis, (2) which uses or is operated by a third-party inspection/testing body, and (3) which authorizes the use of controlled certification marks and certificates of conformity as evidence of conformity."

A certifying body is described by the American National Standards Institute as "An impartial body possessing the necessary competence and other qualifications to sponsor and operate a certification program. A certification body is that organization under whose authority a certification program is developed, promulgated, operated, and financed, and with whose name the certification is identified."

A laboratory is any body that is qualified to perform the required tests.

The certifying body shall comply with the ANSI Z-34 Third Party Certification Program - Section 4 - Certification Body as a standard and International Organization for Standardization/International Electrotechnical Commission, (ISO/IEC) Guide 23-1982(E) - Methods of indicating conformity with standards for /Third Party Certification Systems. The laboratory shall be in compliance with American National Standards Institute Z-34 - Third Party Certification Program - Section 8 - General Requirements for Testing/Inspection Bodies and the (ISO/IEC) Guide 28-1982(E) - General rules for a

model third party certification system for products. The manufacturer shall use at a minimum, Federal Standard 369A - Quality Control System Requirements. The Third Party certifying body shall make periodic unannounced visits to the manufacturers facility to assure continued compliance with that requirement.

Within sixty days after award, the manufacturer shall have the panels tested in accordance with American Society for Testing and Materials E-84 - Standard Method of Testing for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials. The tests shall be in accordance with and shall be conducted on the entire assembled panel, full face area, (the complete core, adhesive, decorative fabric, frame and connectors, etc., electrical raceways excluded). Test results must demonstrate compliance with the requirements specified in this document and will:

- 1) Identify adhesive by trade name and components part number.
- 2) Describe components, (e.g., density and thickness of fiberglass); construction of septum, (e.g., if open mesh, measurement of openings or foil back); inner frame and outer frame (e.g., construction materials and dimensions); legs and closed base (if used). Identify all by trade name and component part number as applicable.
- 3) Give order of assembly, from inside out or outside in.
- 4) Identify decorative fabric by fiber, trade name/number, and ASTM E84 class rating.

Note: When items differ in exterior trim, the test must be performed on each type of trim. Items differing only in color of fabric shall be submitted with certification by the offeror/contractor indicating that the material, design and construction are exactly the same as the tested item.

Acoustical tests for panels are credible for a three-year period. At no time during the contract period shall they exceed this requirement.

Panels from the manufacturer's plant or panels in the field will be randomly sampled and tested for flammability two times a year unless there is reason to suspect non-compliance. If non-compliance is suspected or if there has been a change in components (prior to any change in components, written approval must be received from the contracting officer), additional panels may be selected and tested. Quarterly unannounced visits to the manufacturer's plant will be made throughout the contract period to assure compliance to the requirements.

The certifying body will provide labels or other marks to identify panels in compliance. These labels will be registered with the Department of Commerce, Patent and Trademark Office. Panels found not in compliance will not be authorized to be shipped until they comply with requirements. Panels shipped without the labels will be recalled at the manufacturers' expense and the manufacturer is subject to termination of contract.