7 Inspection of Services

7.1 Overview

This section describes the processes by which the Government will inspect the facilities and services provided by Transportation Service Providers (TSPs) for Household Goods (HHG) shipments moving under the Centralized Household Goods Traffic Management Program (CHAMP). In general, the Government reserves the right to inspect these facilities and services and deems it necessary to insure not only compliance with the provisions of this Household Goods Tender of Service (HTOS) but also to determine employee satisfaction with these services. The Government will use the results of these inspections to correct deficiencies in a TSP’s services, to provide “best value” recommendations to Federal agencies and to improve the level of employee satisfaction.

The Government may use any and all of the following to inspect and evaluate TSP service levels:

- Inspection by the Program Management Office (PMO) and its designated representative
- Inspection by the Responsible Transportation Officer (RTO) and its designated representatives
- Inspection by the employee or his/her authorized representative
- Collection and analysis of GSA Form 3080, Household Goods Carrier Evaluation Reports. (See also Section 2 on how this information is used to adjust a TSP’s scope of operation.)

The following sections provide additional detail on these procedures. All references to the TSP refer to the TSP and its agents.

7.2 Inspection by the Government

7.2.1 Inspection of Facilities and Operations

The PMO or its designee will have the right to review and inspect the facilities and operations of any CHAMP TSP. The inspections will determine if the equipment, facilities, operations and personnel are adequate and capable of performing the services required by the Government. The inspections will validate that TSP operations have been performed in accordance with the provisions of this HTOS and the requirements of the Federal ordering office.

The authorized representatives may inspect the TSP’s facilities and operations at the TSPs main facility, at the residence of the employee, or at the warehouse or any other facility of the TSP during regular office hours and at any time that work is in progress.
Published corporate TSP quality control programs shall be presented and explained to authorized inspectors when the TSP’s facilities are inspected.

7.2.1.1 Inspection of Facilities

The TSP shall furnish PMO representatives with free and reasonable access to its facilities and provide assistance to successfully accomplish the review. The TSP shall provide, without cost to the Government, legible reproductions of any documents requested and required in the performance of the inspection.

7.2.1.2 Inspection of Operations

Authorized representatives of the RTO will have the right to inspect the packing, loading, weighing, pick-up, delivery, unpacking, warehousing and any other services performed or being performed by the TSP. Authorized representatives of the RTO will include:

- GSA personnel designated to perform quality assurance
- The employee or their authorized representative
- Personnel of the employee’s Federal agency designated to perform quality assurance.

7.2.1.3 Inspection by the Employee

Most often, the employee will inspect TSP services in the absence of an authorized GSA representative, the employing agency, or the RTO. The employee’s report of inspection (as documented by employee’s signature on the Bill of Lading (BL), or a joint inspection conducted at delivery or other report are all acceptable reports of inspection and will be considered administratively final.

7.2.1.4 Immediate Corrective Actions

When authorized representatives of the RTO find that packing, loading, unpacking or any other work being performed or already completed does not comply with the terms, conditions or specifications set out in this HTOS, the authorized representative will advise the TSP of the situation. The TSP shall promptly correct the deficiency by taking whatever action is necessary at no additional cost to the Government or the employee.

7.2.2 Reports of Inspection

Reports of inspection will be furnished to the PMO. Upon receipt of an on-site review, the PMO will furnish the TSP a report within ninety (90) calendar days of completion of the on-site review. The report will show the findings of the review and corrective actions, if any, which must be taken by the TSP to bring its operation into compliance with requirements as set forth in this HTOS.
A TSP receiving a report showing corrective actions which need to be taken shall have its approval changed to conditional, and shall have thirty (30) calendar days from date of receipt to institute those corrective actions identified as requiring immediate action and to notify the PMO of completion of those corrective actions.

Reports of inspection by the PMO will be considered as final and conclusive of the performance of the services inspected. If the TSP objects to the rating or required corrective actions imposed by the RTO, the TSP shall first notify the RTO in writing, setting out the basis of the disagreement and requesting the opportunity to resolve it. If the TSP still objects to the RTO’s report, it may appeal to the PMO in accordance with the provisions of Section 3.

7.3 Other Inspections

7.3.1 Inspection of Sorting For Partial Withdrawal from SIT
The employee or any other person responsible for payment of the freight charges will have the right to be present at the TSP’s facility during the sorting of the property for a partial withdrawal from Storage-in-Transit (SIT). The TSP shall deliver, or the employee has the option to pick up, the property.

7.3.2 Inspection of Pre-packed Items by the TSP
The TSP is responsible for all packing. The TSP is authorized to inspect all pre-packed goods to ascertain the contents and determine that only articles not otherwise prohibited by this HTOS are contained in the shipment.

The TSP is authorized to determine that employee packed goods require repacking. Such repacking will be performed by the TSP in a TSP-provided container. The Government will bear the costs for repacking in this instance, subject to the other terms and conditions of this HTOS.

7.4 Acceptance by the Government
Acceptance, as used in this HTOS, means the act of an authorized representative of the Government by which the Government assumes for itself or approves specific services, as partial or complete performance of the requirements of the HTOS.

7.4.1 Warranty
Notwithstanding inspection and acceptance by the Government or any provision concerning the conclusiveness thereof, the TSP warrants that all services performed under this HTOS will, at the time of acceptance, be free from defects in workmanship and conform to the requirements of this HTOS. The RTO will give written notice of any defect or nonconformance to the TSP within forty-five (45) days from the date of acceptance by the Government. This
notice will state either (1) that the TSP shall correct or reperform any defective or nonconforming services, or (2) that the Government does not require correction or reperformance.

7.4.2 Correction and Reperformance
Correction, as used in this section, means the elimination of a defect. If the TSP is required to correct or reperform, it shall be at no cost to the Government, and any services corrected or reperformed by the TSP shall be subject to this clause or if the TSP refuses to correct or reperform, the RTO may correct or replace with similar services and charge to the TSP the cost occasioned to the Government thereby, or make an equitable adjustment in the price for services rendered.

7.4.3 No Correction and Reperformance
If the Government does not require correction or reperformance, the RTO will make an equitable adjustment in the price for services rendered.

7.5 Household Goods Carrier Evaluation Report (GSA Form 3080)
This section describes the Household Goods Carrier Evaluation Report, GSA Form 3080, the procedures for administering the TSP evaluation program and how the GSA Form 3080 response is used to compute the TSP Customer Satisfaction Index (CSI). Section 2, Application and Participation, describes how the CSI is used to adjust the scope of a TSP’s operations. The CSI is also used by Federal agencies in TSP selection and shipment distribution to meet their agency’s service requirements at the lowest cost consistent with those requirements.

7.5.1 Overview
The GSA Form 3080, Household Goods Carrier Evaluation Report, (see Appendix C) is used as a report of inspection and will be provided to the employee and to the RTO. Completed reports assist the PMO in the overall evaluation of customer satisfaction with personal property shipments.

Upon completion of services by the TSP at destination, the employee will complete the RELOCATING EMPLOYEE’S RESPONSE section of GSA Form 3080 and send it to the RTO for completion of B/L ISSUING OFFICER’S/AGENCY MOVE COORDINATOR’S RESPONSE section. After completion by both the employee and the RTO, GSA Form 3080 is returned to the PMO.

The PMO will review each completed form to ensure that all shipments routed under CHAMP received high quality service. After the PMO has reviewed the form, the information contained
on the form will be entered into the Service Performance Index and Evaluation System (SPIES) database.

7.5.2 Calculating the Customer Satisfaction Index (CSI)
The CSI is calculated on an annual basis. Only GSA Form 3080 for shipments with indicated delivery dates between January 1 and December 31 of the calendar year for which the CSI is calculated will be used. The PMO will provide quarterly reports to the TSPs showing the GSA Forms 3080 submitted to date, and the TSP may take action to insure all relevant forms are forwarded to the PMO. However, forms received by the PMO after the last day in February will not be used in the calculation of a TSP’s CSI score for the previous calendar year.

7.5.3 Issuing CSI Score
Based on the number of shipment scores reported to the PMO on GSA Form 3080, a TSP will be issued a CSI or be in “unindexed” status. The following criteria will be used when issuing CSI scores.

7.5.3.1 Unindexed Status
A TSP will not be issued a CSI if:
- The TSP had less than two shipments reported
- The TSP had less than two GSA Forms 3080 returned to GSA
- The TSPs GSA Form 3080 rate of return was less than 90% of the overall program average rate of return for the calendar year
- The TSP did not submit complete shipment information.

7.5.3.2 Indexed status
A TSP will be issued a CSI if:
- The TSP had between two and fourteen GSA Forms 3080 returned to GSA and the TSP’s GSA Form 3080 rate of return was greater than 90% of the overall program average
- The TSP had 15 or more GSA Forms 3080 returned to GSA.

7.5.4 Appeal Procedures.
In the event that the rated TSP disagrees with the evaluation contained on the GSA Form 3080, the TSP has the right to appeal such evaluation as specified below. The objective of these appeal procedures is to resolve the disagreement as close to the point of service as possible.
Except as provided below, an appeal received by the PMO directly from a rated TSP will be rejected.

7.5.4.1 Shipmentation Not Tendered
If the rated TSP determines that a shipment was not tendered to its company, the TSP shall advise the PMO in writing requesting review and correction.

7.5.4.2 Disagree with the Rating by the Employee
If the rated TSP disagrees with the employee’s evaluation and the employee’s evaluation has not been changed by the RTO prior to submission to the PMO, the rated TSP shall first notify the employee in writing, setting out the basis of the disagreement and requesting the opportunity to resolve it.

Note: If the rated TSP disagrees with the employee’s evaluation and the employee’s evaluation has been changed by the RTO prior to submission to the PMO, the procedures in Section 7.5.4.3 will apply.

7.5.4.2.1 Disagreement is Resolved
If the employee and the rated TSP resolve the disagreement and that resolution changes the employee’s rating, the employee and the rated TSP shall jointly advise the RTO by a single memo signed by both. The RTO will then notify the PMO in writing and request that the rating be changed.

7.5.4.2.2 Disagreement is Not Resolved
If the employee and the rated TSP cannot resolve the disagreement, the rated TSP shall notify the RTO in writing requesting review and resolution. The request will set out the basis of the disagreement, actions taken to resolve the disagreement, and include a copy of the letter to the employee and any records that may have been made of conversations, meetings or correspondence with the employee. The RTO will then investigate the disagreement, determine whether any changes should be made in the rating, and, if so, advise the PMO in writing. The RTO’s determination is final and not reviewable by the PMO.

7.5.4.3 Disagree with Rating by the RTO
In the event the rated TSP disagrees with the RTO’s evaluation, the rated TSP shall first notify the RTO in writing, setting out the basis of the disagreement and requesting the opportunity to resolve it.
7.5.4.3.1 Disagreement is Resolved
If the RTO and the rated TSP resolve the disagreement and that resolution changes the RTO’s rating, the RTO and the rated TSP shall jointly advise the PMO in a single memo signed by both.

7.5.4.3.2 Disagreement is Not Resolved
If the RTO and the rated TSP cannot resolve the disagreement, the rated TSP and the RTO must jointly prepare a single memo to the PMO signed by both that they request resolution of the disagreement by the PMO and agree to accept the findings of the PMO without further appeal.

The request will set out the basis of the disagreement, actions taken to resolve the disagreement, and include a copy of the letter to the RTO and any records that may have been made of conversations, meetings or correspondence by either party. The PMO will then investigate the disagreement, determine whether any changes should be made to the rating, and, if so, advise the rated TSP and the RTO in writing and correct the rating. If the rated TSP and the RTO cannot agree to jointly request review and resolution by the PMO, the original rating will remain in effect.

7.5.4.3.3 Oral Appeals
Oral appeals will be construed as without merit and be rejected.