

the Contractor official authorized to provide this information.

(4) For ACH payment only:

(i) Name, address, and 9-digit Routing Transit Number of the Contractor's financial agent.

(ii) Contractor's account number and the type of account (checking, saving, or lockbox).

(5) For Federal Reserve Wire Transfer System payments only:

(i) Name, address, telegraphic abbreviation, and the 9-digit Routing Transit Number for the Contractor's financial agent.

(ii) If the Contractor's financial agent is not directly on-line to the Federal Reserve Wire Transfer System and, therefore, not the receiver of the wire transfer payment, the Contractor shall also provide the name, address, and 9-digit Routing Transit Number of the correspondent financial institution receiving the wire transfer payment.

(e) *Suspension of payment.* (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other clause of this contract, if, after receipt of the Contractor's EFT information in accordance with paragraph (b) of this clause, the EFT information is found to be incorrect, or, for payment after January 1, 1999, if EFT information has not been furnished, then until receipt by the designated payment office of the correct EFT information from the Contractor, (i) the Government is not required to make any further payment under this contract; and (ii) any invoice or contract financing request shall be deemed not to be a valid invoice or contract financing request as defined in the Prompt Payment clause of this contract.

(2) If the EFT information changes after submission of correct EFT information, the Government shall begin using the changed EFT information no later than the 30th day after its receipt to the extent payment is made by EFT. However, the Contractor may request that no further payments be made until the changed EFT information is implemented by the payment office. If such suspension would result in a late payment under the Prompt Payment clause of this contract, the Contractor's request for suspension shall extend the due date for payment by the number of days of the suspension.

(f) *Contractor EFT arrangements.* The Contractor shall designate a single financial agent capable of receiving and processing the electronic funds transfer using the EFT methods described in paragraph (d) of this clause. The Contractor shall pay all fees and charges for receipt and processing of transfers.

(g) *Liability for uncompleted or erroneous transfers.* (1) If an uncompleted or erroneous transfer occurs because the Government failed to use the Contractor-provided EFT information in the correct manner, the Government remains responsible for (i) making a correct payment, (ii) paying any prompt payment penalty due, and (iii) recovering any erroneously directed funds.

(2) If an uncompleted or erroneous transfer occurs because Contractor-provided EFT information was incorrect at the time of Government release of the EFT payment transaction instruction to the Federal Reserve System, and—

(i) If the funds are no longer under the control of the payment office, the Government is deemed to have made payment and the Contractor is responsible for recovery of any erroneously directed funds; or

(ii) If the funds remain under the control of the payment office, the Government retains the right to either make payment by mail or suspend the payment in accordance with paragraph (e) of this clause.

(h) *EFT and prompt payment.* (1) A payment shall be deemed to have been made in a timely manner in accordance with the Prompt Payment clause of this contract if, in the EFT payment transaction instruction given to the Federal Reserve System, the date specified for settlement of the payment is on or before the prompt payment due date, provided the specified payment date is a valid date under the rules of the Federal Reserve System.

(2) When payment cannot be made by EFT because of incorrect EFT information provided by the Contractor, no interest penalty is due after the date of the uncompleted or erroneous payment transaction, provided that notice of the defective EFT information is issued to the Contractor within 7 days after the Government is notified of the defective EFT information.

(i) *EFT and assignment of claims.* If the Contractor assigns the proceeds of this contract as provided for in the Assignment of Claims clause of this contract, the assignee shall provide the assignee EFT information required by paragraph (d) of this clause. In all respects, the requirements of this clause shall apply to the assignee as if it were the Contractor. EFT information which shows the ultimate recipient of the transfer to be other than the Contractor, in the absence of a proper assignment of claims acceptable to the Government, is incorrect EFT information within the meaning of paragraph (e) of this clause.

(j) *Payment office discretion.* If, after submitting the EFT information, the Contractor does not wish to receive payment by EFT methods for one or more payments, the Contractor may submit a request to the designated payment office to refrain from using the EFT payment method. The decision to grant the request is solely that of the Government.

(k) *Change of EFT information by financial agent.* The Contractor agrees that the Contractor's financial agent may notify the Government of a change to the routing transit number, Contractor account number, or account type. The Government shall use the changed data in accordance with paragraph (e)(2) of this clause. The Contractor agrees that the information provided by the agent is deemed to be correct information as if it were provided by the Contractor. The Contractor agrees that the agent's notice of changed EFT data is deemed to be a request by the Contractor in accordance with paragraph (e)(2) that no further payments be made until the changed EFT information is implemented by the payment office.

(End of clause)

Federal Acquisition Circular (FAC) 90-42 is issued under the authority of

the Secretary of Defense, the Administrator of General Services, and the Administrator for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Unless otherwise specified, all Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and other directive material contained in FAC 90-42 is effective August 29, 1996.

Dated: August 21, 1996.

Eleanor R. Spector,
Director, Defense Procurement.

Dated: August 22, 1996.

Ida M. Ustad,
Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Acquisition Policy.

Dated: August 21, 1996.

Tom Luedtke,
Deputy Associate Administrator for Procurement, NASA.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

48 CFR Chapter 1

Federal Acquisition Regulation; Small Entity Compliance Guide

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Small Entity Compliance Guide.

SUMMARY: This document is issued under the joint authority of the Secretary of Defense, the Administrator of General Services and the Administrator for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration as the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Council. This *Small Entity Compliance Guide* has been prepared in accordance with Section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-121). It consists of a summary of the rule appearing in Federal Acquisition Circular (FAC) 90-42 which amends the FAR. Further information regarding this rule may be obtained by referring to FAC 90-42 which precedes this notice. This document may be obtained from the Internet at <http://www.gsa.gov/far>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Fayson, FAR Secretariat, (202) 501-4755.

Payment by Electronic Funds Transfer (FAC 90-42, FAR Case 91-118)

This interim rule amends the FAR to add a new Subpart 32.11, Electronic Funds Transfer, which provides policy and procedures for Government payment by electronic funds transfer. The rule replaces the contract clause at 52.232-28, Electronic Funds Transfer Payment Methods, with two new

clauses at 52.232-33, Mandatory Information for Electronic Funds Transfer Payment, and 52.232-34, Optional Information for Electronic Funds Transfer Payment. The rule also makes related amendments to Parts 12 and 13 and the clause at 52.212-4, Contract Terms and Conditions—Commercial Items. The rule facilitates implementation of Section 31001(x)(1)

of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-134). Section 31001(x)(1) amends 31 U.S.C. 3332 to mandate payment by electronic funds transfer in certain situations.

Dated: August 23, 1996.

Edward C. Loeb,

Director, Federal Acquisition Policy Division.

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