

SUBCHAPTER D—CLAIMS AND LITIGATION

PART 841—LICENSING GOVERNMENT-OWNED INVENTIONS IN THE CUSTODY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

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Subpart A—General Information

§ 841.0 Purpose.

This regulation prescribes the policies, administrative requirements, procedures, terms, and conditions for licensing of rights in federally owned patents and patent applications vested in the United States of America in the custody of the Department of the Air Force. It is consistent with General Services Administration Licensing of Federally Owned Inventions, 41 CFR

101-4, which implements Pub. L. 96-517. It applies to all requests for a license under an Air Force invention.

§ 841.1 Air Force policy.

Federally owned inventions in the custody of the Department of the Air Force normally will best serve the public interest when they are developed to the point of practical application and made available to the public in the shortest possible time. Nonexclusive, partially exclusive, or exclusive licenses for the practice of these inventions may be granted to applicants who agree to develop and/or market the inventions. All Air Force inventions normally will be made available for the granting of licenses to responsible applicants.

§ 841.2 Execution of licenses.

Nonexclusive, partially exclusive, or exclusive licenses will be executed on behalf of the Department of the Air Force by the Secretary or by anyone to whom this authority is delegated.

§ 841.3 Delegation of authority.

The administration of this part is delegated to The Judge Advocate General, who may redelegate the administration of this part to the Chief, Patents Division, Office of The Judge Advocate General. All communications received in any Air Force activity requesting information regarding the licensing of a Government invention will be acknowledged and sent without further action directly to HQ USAF/JACP, Washington DC 20324.

§ 841.4 Definitions.

(a) *Air Force invention* means an invention, plant, or design which is covered by a patent or patent application in the United States, or a patent, patent application, plant variety protection, or other form of protection in a foreign country, title to which has been assigned to or otherwise vested in the United States Government and in the custody of the Department of the Air Force.

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(b) *Small business firm* means a small business concern as defined in section 2 of Pub. L. 85-536 (15 U.S.C. 632) and implementing regulations of the Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

(c) *Practical Application* means to manufacture in the case of a composition or product, to practice in the case of a process or method, or to operate in the case of a machine or system; and in each case, under such conditions as to establish that the invention is being utilized and that its benefits are to the extent permitted by law or Government regulations available to the public on reasonable terms.

(d) *United States* means the United States of America, its territories and possessions, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

§ 841.5 Royalties.

(a) Royalties may or may not be charged under nonexclusive licenses granted to US citizens and US corporations on Government inventions; however, the Department of the Air Force may require other considerations when a royalty is not charged.

(b) Normally, an exclusive or partially exclusive license on an Air Force invention will contain a royalty provision and/or other consideration flowing to the Government.

Subpart B—Restrictions and Conditions for Licensing and Types of Licenses

§ 841.6 Restrictions and conditions.

The following restrictions and conditions apply to all licenses granted under this part:

(a) *Restrictions:* (1) A license may be granted only if the applicant has supplied the Air Force with a satisfactory plan for development or marketing of the invention, or both, and with information about the applicant's capability to fulfill the plan.

(2) A license granting rights to use or sell under an Air Force invention in the United States shall normally be granted only to a licensee who agrees that any product embodying the invention or produced through the use of the invention will be manufactured substantially in the United States.

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(b) *Conditions.* Licenses shall contain such terms and conditions as the Air Force determines are appropriate for the protection of the interests of the Federal Government and the public and are not in conflict with law or this part. The following terms and conditions apply to any license:

(1) The duration of the license shall be for a period specified in the license agreement, unless sooner terminated according to provisions therein.

(2) The license may be granted for all or less than all fields of use of the invention or in specified geographical areas, or both.

(3) The license may extend to subsidiaries of the licensee or other parties if provided for in the license but shall be nonassignable without approval of the Air Force, except to the successor of that part of the licensee's business to which the invention pertains.

(4) The license may provide the licensee the right to grant sublicenses under the license, subject to the approval of the Air Force. Each sublicense shall make reference to the license, including the rights retained by the Government, and a copy of each sublicense shall be furnished to the Air Force.

(5) The license shall require the licensee to carry out the plan for development or marketing of the invention, or both, to bring the invention to practical application within a period specified in the license, and to continue to make the benefits of the invention reasonably accessible to the public.

(6) The license shall require the licensee to report, at least annually, on the utilization or efforts at obtaining utilization that are made by the licensee, with particular reference to the plan submitted.

(7) Licenses may be royalty-free or for royalties or other consideration.

(8) When the licensee agrees that any products embodying the invention or produced through use of the invention will be manufactured substantially in the United States, the license shall recite such agreement.

(9) The license shall provide for the right of the Air Force to terminate the license, in whole or in part, if: