

contracts under which the scrap is accountable, and correctly identify the scrap's quantity and condition;

(3) Use Standard Form 1423 to verify accepted scrap lists, in accordance with agency procedures;

(4) Require a contractor to correct any discrepancies found during verification; and

(5) Provide disposition instructions to the contractor within 45 days following Government acceptance of a scrap list. If the plant clearance officer does not provide disposition instructions within that period, the contractor may dispose of scrap identified on a scrap list without further Government approval.

## PART 46—QUALITY ASSURANCE

Sec.

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## Federal Acquisition Regulation

## 46.102

AUTHORITY: 40 U.S.C. 486(c); 10 U.S.C. Chapter 137; and 42 U.S.C. 2473(c).

SOURCE: 48 FR 42415, Sept. 19, 1983, unless otherwise noted.

### 46.000 Scope of part.

This part prescribes policies and procedures to ensure that supplies and services acquired under Government contract conform to the contract's quality and quantity requirements. Included are inspection, acceptance, warranty, and other measures associated with quality requirements.

### Subpart 46.1—General

#### 46.101 Definitions.

As used in this part—

*Acceptance* means the act of an authorized representative of the Government by which the Government, for itself or as agent of another, assumes ownership of existing identified supplies tendered or approves specific services rendered as partial or complete performance of the contract.

*Conditional acceptance* means acceptance of supplies or services that do not conform to contract quality requirements, or are otherwise incomplete, that the contractor is required to correct or otherwise complete by a specified date.

*Contract quality requirements* means the technical requirements in the contract relating to the quality of the product or service and those contract clauses prescribing inspection, and other quality controls incumbent on the contractor, to assure that the product or service conforms to the contractual requirements.

*Critical nonconformance* means a nonconformance that is likely to result in hazardous or unsafe conditions for individuals using, maintaining, or depending upon the supplies or services; or is likely to prevent performance of a vital agency mission.

*Government contract quality assurance* means the various functions, including inspection, performed by the Government to determine whether a contractor has fulfilled the contract obligations pertaining to quality and quantity.

*Major nonconformance* means a nonconformance, other than critical, that

is likely to result in failure of the supplies or services, or to materially reduce the usability of the supplies or services for their intended purpose.

*Minor nonconformance* means a nonconformance that is not likely to materially reduce the usability of the supplies or services for their intended purpose, or is a departure from established standards having little bearing on the effective use or operation of the supplies or services.

*Off-the-shelf item* means an item produced and placed in stock by a contractor, or stocked by a distributor, before receiving orders or contracts for its sale. The item may be commercial or produced to military or Federal specifications or description.

*Patent defect* means any defect which exists at the time of acceptance and is not a latent defect.

*Subcontractor* (see 44.101).

*Testing* means that element of inspection that determines the properties or elements, including functional operation of supplies or their components, by the application of established scientific principles and procedures.

[48 FR 42415, Sept. 19, 1983, as amended at 60 FR 48249, Sept. 18, 1995; 61 FR 31662, June 20, 1996; 64 FR 51846, Sept. 24, 1999; 66 FR 2133, Jan. 10, 2001]

#### 46.102 Policy.

Agencies shall ensure that—

(a) Contracts include inspection and other quality requirements, including warranty clauses when appropriate, that are determined necessary to protect the Government's interest.

(b) Supplies or services tendered by contractors meet contract requirements;

(c) Government contract quality assurance is conducted before acceptance (except as otherwise provided in this part), by or under the direction of Government personnel;

(d) No contract precludes the Government from performing inspection;

(e) Nonconforming supplies or services are rejected, except as otherwise provided in 46.407;

(f) Contracts for commercial items shall rely on a contractor's existing