

**SUBPART 237.76—CONTINUATION OF ESSENTIAL CONTRACTOR SERVICES**

*(Added March 5, 2010)*

**237.7600 Scope.**

This subpart prescribes procedures for the acquisition of essential contractor services which support mission essential functions.

**237.7601 Definitions.**

As used in this subpart—

(1) “Essential contractor service” means a service provided by a firm or individual under contract to DoD to support mission-essential functions, such as support of vital systems, including ships owned, leased, or operated in support of military missions or roles at sea; associated support activities, including installation, garrison, and base support services; and similar services provided to foreign military sales customers under the Security Assistance Program. Services are essential if the effectiveness of defense systems or operations has the potential to be seriously impaired by the interruption of these services, as determined by the appropriate functional commander or equivalent.

(2) “Mission-essential functions” means those organizational activities that must be performed under all circumstances to achieve DoD component missions or responsibilities. Failure to perform or sustain these functions would significantly affect DoD’s ability to provide vital services or exercise authority, direction, and control.

**237.7602 Policy.**

(a) Contractors providing services designated as essential contractor services by a requiring activity shall be prepared to continue providing such services, in accordance with the terms and conditions of their contracts, during periods of crisis.

As a general rule, the designation of services as essential contractor services will not apply to an entire contract but will apply only to those service functions that have been specifically identified as essential contractor services by the functional commander or equivalent.

(b) Contractors who provide Government-determined essential contractor services shall have a written plan to ensure the continuation of these services in crisis situations. Contracting officers shall consult with a functional manager to assess the sufficiency of the contractor-provided written plan. Contractors will activate such plans only during periods of crisis, as directed by the appropriate functional commander or equivalent.

## Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement

### Part 237—Service Contracting

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(c) The contracting officer shall follow the procedures at PGI 207.105(b)(20)(C) in preparing an acquisition plan.

#### **237.7603 Contract clause.**

Use the clause at 252.237-7023, Continuation of Essential Contractor Services in solicitations and contracts for services that are in support of mission essential functions.