



ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY
AND LOGISTICS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3000

JAN -4 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS
COMMAND (ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE)
COMMANDER, UNITED STATES TRANSPORTATION
COMMAND (ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
(PROCUREMENT)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
(ACQUISITION AND PROCUREMENT)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
(CONTRACTING)
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

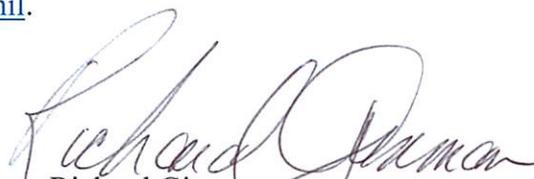
SUBJECT: Termination of the Authority for Use of the Simplified Acquisition Procedures for
Certain Commercial Items

The authority to issue solicitations under the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) subpart 13.5, Test Program for Certain Commercial Items expired on January 1, 2012. The statutory authority for the test program was not extended in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012.

A review of data in the Federal Procurement Data System for Fiscal Years (FY) 2010 and 2011 indicates for FY10, new commercial awards utilizing the test program accounted for 6,921 actions worth \$1.9 B (or 0.53% of all FY10 purchases) and for FY11, commercial awards utilizing the test program accounted for 7,180 actions worth \$2.1B (or 0.56% of all FY11 purchases).

If we are to consider a FY13 legislative initiative to reinstate the test program, we need data on its importance, or anecdotal evidence where the authority benefits the warfighter or a contingency operation. Request each activity review your use of the test program and provide justification for its reinstatement if appropriate. Please provide the requested information by January 27, 2012.

My point of contact for this guidance is Ms. Cassandra Freeman. She can be reached at 703-693-7062 or Cassandra.Freeman@osd.mil.


Richard Ginman
Director, Defense Procurement
and Acquisition Policy