

§ 101-26.800

Supply Service (134A), Veterans Administration, Washington, DC 20420.

[43 FR 29005, July 5, 1978]

Subpart 101-26.8—Discrepancies or Deficiencies in GSA or DOD Shipments, Material, or Billings

SOURCE: 41 FR 56320, Dec. 28, 1976, unless otherwise noted.

§ 101-26.800 Scope of subpart.

This subpart prescribes a uniform system for reporting discrepancies or deficiencies in material or shipments and processing requests for or documenting adjustments in billings from or directed by GSA or Department of Defense (DOD) activities.

§ 101-26.801 Applicability.

This subpart is applicable to all civilian executive agencies, including their contractors and subcontractors when authorized. DOD activities should follow the applicable DOD or military service/agency regulations in reporting discrepancies or deficiencies in shipments or material, or requesting adjustments in billings from or directed by GSA unless exempted therefrom, in which case the provisions of this § 101-26.801 apply.

§ 101-26.802 Exclusions.

The provisions of this regulation are not applicable to shipments and billings related to the stockpile of strategic and critical materials or excess or surplus property; or to billings for services, space, communications, and printing.

§ 101-26.803 Discrepancies or deficiencies in shipments, material, or billings.

§ 101-26.803-1 Reporting discrepancies or deficiencies.

Discrepancies or deficiencies in shipments or material occur in four broad categories: Quality deficiencies, shipping discrepancies, transportation discrepancies, and billing discrepancies. When discrepancies or deficiencies occur, activities shall document them with sufficient information to enable initiation and processing of claims

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against suppliers and carriers. Procedures for documenting discrepancies or deficiencies are set forth in the GSA publication, Discrepancies or Deficiencies in GSA or DOD Shipments, Material, or Billings, issued by the Federal Supply Service, GSA. Copies of the publication may be obtained by submitting a completed GSA Form 457, FSS Publications Mailing List Application, (referencing mailing list code number ODDH-0001) to the following address: General Services Administration, Centralized Mailing List Service (CMLS-C), 819 Taylor Street, P.O. Box 17077, Fort Worth, TX 76102-0077.

NOTE: Copies of the GSA Form 457 may be obtained by writing the Centralized Mailing List Service.

[55 FR 24086, June 14, 1990]

§ 101-26.803-2 Reporting quality deficiencies.

(a) Quality deficiencies are defined as defects or nonconforming conditions which limit or prohibit the item received from fulfilling its intended purpose. Quality deficiencies include deficiencies in design, specification, material, manufacturing, and workmanship. Timely reporting of all quality deficiencies is essential to maintain an acceptable quality level for common-use items. GSA relies on agency reporting of quality deficiencies in order to act to remove the defective items from the supply system as well as to document contractor performance files for use in future procurements.

(b) A product deficiency which may cause death, injury, or severe occupational illness, or directly restrict the mission capabilities of the using organization, is called a "category I" complaint. Quality complaints that do not meet the category I criteria are called "category II" complaints. Standard Form (SF) 368, Quality Deficiency Report, or a message in the format of the Standard Form 368, is used to report quality deficiencies.

(c) Standard Form 368 (including SF's 368 submitted in message formats) are required for all product quality deficiencies that involve material (1) shipped to the user from a GSA distribution center (including shipments made directly to the user from GSA

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distribution centers as well as “indirect” shipments (shipments with intermediate stops between the GSA distribution center and the ultimate user), (2) shipped to the user from a DOD depot or another Government activity, as directed by GSA, (3) purchased by GSA for the user and inspected by GSA, or (4) ordered from a GSA Federal Supply Schedule contract which specified source inspection by GSA.

(d) Category I complaints are to be reported to GSA by telephone or telegraphic message within 72 hours of discovery. Category II complaints are to be reported within 15 days after discovery.

(e) Standard Forms 368 (in triplicate) should be sent to the following address: GSA Discrepancy Reports Centers (6 FR-Q), 1500 East Bannister Road, Kansas City, MO 64131-3088. Communications routing indicator: RUEVPXE (unclassified), RULSSAA (classified), Com: (816) 926-7447, FTS: 926-7447, AUTOVON: 465-7447.

In addition, when reporting a category I product quality deficiency condition, an information copy should be sent to the following address: General Services Administration, FSS, Office of Quality and Contract Administration, Quality Assurance Division (FQA), Washington, DC 20406. Communications routing indicator: RUEVFWM (unclassified), RULSSAA (classified), COM: (703) 557-8515, FTS: 557-8515.

(f) For defective items covered by a manufacturer’s commercial warranty, activities should initially attempt to resolve all complaints on these items themselves (examples of items with a commercial warranty are vehicles, major appliances such as gas and electric ranges, washing machines, dishwashers, and refrigerators). If the contractor replaces or corrects the deficiency, an SF 368, in triplicate, should be sent to the Discrepancy Reports Center at the above address. The resolution of the case should be clearly stated in the text of the SF 368.

(g) If, however, the contractor refuses to correct, or fails to replace, either a defective item or an aspect of service under the warranty, an SF 368, along with copies of all pertinent correspondence, should be forwarded to the GSA

office executing the contract (address will be contained in the pertinent contract/purchase order). An information copy of the SF 368 should also be submitted to the Discrepancy Reports Center at the above address.

(h) For items ordered from a GSA Federal Supply Schedule contract when the inspection is performed by an activity other than GSA or when the items are purchased by GSA for the user but not inspected by GSA, activities should initially attempt to resolve all complaints on these items directly with the contractor. If the contractor refuses to correct, or fails to replace a defective item, an SF 368, along with copies of all correspondence, should be forwarded to the GSA office executing the contract (address will be contained in the pertinent contract/purchase order). An information copy of the SF 368 should also be submitted to the Discrepancy Reports Center at the above address.

(i) Information submitted to the Discrepancy Reports Center regarding defective items will be maintained as a quality history file for use in future procurements.

(j) Additional information regarding reporting of quality deficiencies may be obtained by referring to chapter 4 of the GSA publication cited in §101-26.803-1.

[53 FR 26595, July 14, 1988, as amended at 55 FR 24086, June 14, 1990]

§ 101-26.803-3 Reporting of discrepancies in transportation, shipments, material, or billings.

(a) Transportation-type discrepancies shall be processed under the instructions in subpart 101-40.7 when the discrepancies are the fault of the carrier and occur while the shipments are in the possession of:

(1) International ocean or air carriers, regardless of who pays the transportation charges, except when shipment is on a through Government bill of lading (TGBL), or is made through the Defense Transportation System (DTS). Discrepancies in shipments on a TGBL or which occur while in the DTS shall be reported as prescribed in the GSA publication referenced in §101-26.803-1; or