



A
Monthly
Newsletter
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ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING (EPP)

*Providing Buyers, Catalogers and Item Specialists
The Information Busy People Need to Keep Current*

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Water Conservation

The first Federal Agency goals established under EO 13123 take effect this year.

EPA Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines

Executive Order 13101 requires Federal Agencies to procure CPGs items published in the Federal Register. So far, the EPA has issued 54 items in 8 categories, and on August 11, 2001 proposed adding 11 new items. The program is administered at DLA by the DSS-E staff, which works closely with OSD, EPA and the Office of the Federal Environmental Executive (OFEE). The Executive Order also requires Agencies to track and report purchases, and to justify in writing the items. Details for tracking and reporting are still being developed by the OFEE, OSD and the other Federal Agencies. More details on this evolving situation will be provided as they become available.

The existing 54 items fall into the following categories:

- Paper and Paper Products
- Vehicular Products
- Construction Products
- Transportation Products
- Park and Recreation Products
- Landscaping Products
- Non-Paper Office Products
- Miscellaneous Products

The new 11 items are as follows:

- Vehicular Products
 - Rebuilt vehicular parts
 - Tires
- Construction Products
 - Cement and concrete containing cenospheres
 - Cement and concrete containing silica fume
 - Modular threshold ramps
 - Nonpressure pipe
 - Nylon carpet and nylon carpet backing
 - Roofing materials
- Non-Paper Office Products
 - Office furniture
- Miscellaneous
 - Bike racks
 - Blasting grit

EPA is still receiving comments on the proposed rule, and expects to resolve them by the May/June time frame.

For a complete listing and more information about the new CPG items, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/cpg/products.htm>

Low or No Volatile Organic Compound Content

DLA DSS-E is currently reviewing the criteria selected for low-VOC content. In late 1999, the Joint Group on Environmental Attributes (JGAtt), decided low-VOC was an important environmental attribute, and adopted it for the EPP program. It decided to use the most restrictive criteria in the country, the one adopted by the California South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).

Most of the DLA managed items affected by this attribute are cleaning compounds. Many are used for industrial cleaning operations in arsenals, depots, shipyards; and mostly on weapons systems. Therefore, making substitutions to low-VOC alternative products is dependent on expensive and demanding testing, and explicit approval by the cognizant military authorities responsible for weapons systems maintenance.

However, during late 80s to early 90s, many of DoD's most widely used solvents were ozone depleting substances, which were phased out of production under an international environmental treaty. Since then, the cost of cleaning property contaminated with organic solvents has escalated dramatically. These events caused cognizant military authorities to switch to alternative solvents, many low-VOC. So, DSS-E is working to identify products currently carried by DLA that meet the low-VOC criteria, designate them in FLIS with the appropriate ENAC. Other low-VOC items include paints, adhesives, detergents and pesticides. More detail on these products can be found at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/tao/cas/prolist.html>

Other categories of low voc products are covered by the California Air Resources Board. These fall primarily into the categories of Architectural Coatings and Consumer Products. The Consumer Products are further divided into five categories, governed by five regulations: The first regulation (Article 1) covers antiperspirants and deodorants; the second regulation (Article 2) covers 44 categories and is simply called the "general consumer products regulation." The third regulation (Article 3) covers 35 categories of aerosol paints and coatings. For compliance flexibility, the fourth regulation (Article 4) is a voluntary emissions trading program for consumer products, and aerosol paints and coatings, called the Alternative Control Plan (ACP) regulation. The fifth regulation (Article 5) is a voluntary program that provides an incentive for early or over compliance, called the Hairspray Credit Program Regulation. Most of these do not impact any DLA managed items. More detail on the California Air Resources Board low voc products can be found at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/consprod/consprod.htm>

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Energy Efficiency Standby Power

Executive Order 13221, issued July 2001, called for Federal agencies to purchase products that use minimal standby power when possible. The Order directed the Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program, to work with DLA, GSA and the ENERGY STAR® program, to develop a list of low standby products by December 31, 2001.

A low standby power product uses one watt of energy or less when in standby mode. If no product available that meets the criteria, federal purchasers are instructed to purchase products with the lowest standby power possible.

The list of product categories subject to this order include:

Computer & Office

Personal Computer
Computer Monitor
Printer
Fax
Copier

Communication

Powered telephone
Cell phone
Cordless phone

Video

TV
VCR
TV/VCR

Audio

Compact audio system

Major Appliances

Room air conditioner
Clothes washer
Dishwasher
Microwave

Other

Ceiling fans w/remote
Portable power tools
Desktop halogen lamp
Exercise equipment

Water Conservation

Federal agencies are required to conserve energy

The Energy Policy Act of 1992 (EPAAct)

Requires Federal agencies to implement all water conservation measures that take no more than 10 years to recover the cost. This includes use of water conserving products and fixtures.

Executive Order 12902

Energy Efficiency and Water Conservation at Federal Facilities
Requires Federal agencies to implement all cost-effective water conservation projects.

Executive Order 13123 Greening the Government Through Efficient Energy Management

Sections 207, 502(f), and 503(f) direct agencies to install cost-effective water-conserving fixtures and other equipment.

For a list of water savings products, visit the FEMP website:

<http://www.eren.doe.gov/femp/procurement/begin.html>