
An interim Federal standard is a potential Federal standard issued in temporary form for optional use by all Federal agencies. These documents are issued or controlled by the General Services Administration, primarily for use in the telecommunication functional area.

§ 101–29.207 Qualified products list (QPL).

A qualified products list is a list of products that have met the qualification requirements stated in the applicable specification, including appropriate product identification and test or qualification reference number, with the name and plant address of the manufacturer and distributor, as applicable. Documents that contain QPL requirements are listed in the GSA “Index of Federal Specifications, Standards and Commercial Item Descriptions.”

§ 101–29.208 Commercial item description (CID).

A commercial item description is an indexed, simplified product description that describes by function or performance characteristics of available, acceptable commercial products that will satisfy the Government’s needs. These documents are issued or controlled by the General Services Administration and are listed in the GSA “Index of Federal Specifications, Standards and Commercial Item Descriptions.”


A purchase description is any informal product description prepared for one-time use only or for small purchases when issuance of a formal product description is not cost effective.


The term product is any end item, either manufactured or produced, and also includes materials, parts, components, subassemblies, equipment, accessories, attachments, and services.

§ 101–29.211 Product description.

A product description is a description of a product for acquisition and management purposes. Product descriptions include specifications, standards, commercial item descriptions, purchase descriptions, and brand-name purchase descriptions.

§ 101–29.212 Tailoring.

Tailoring is a process by which the individual requirements (sections, paragraphs or sentences) or product descriptions are evaluated to determine the extent to which each requirement is most suitable for a specific acquisition and the modification of these requirements, where necessary, to ensure that each document invoked achieves and optimal balance between operational needs and costs.

§ 101–29.213 Commercial product.

A commercial product is any item, component, or system available from stock or regular production that is sold in substantial quantities to the general public at established catalog or market prices (for definition of terms, see FPR 1–3.807.1).

§ 101–29.214 Commercial-type product.

A commercial-type product is defined as:

(a) Any product similar to the commercial product but modified or altered in compliance with specified Government requirements and, as such is usually sold only to the Government and not through the normal catalog or retail outlets;

(b) Any product similar to a commercial product that is either assembled or manufactured in accordance with specifically stated Government requirements and sold only to the Government and not to the general public; or

(c) A commercial product identified or marked differently than the commercial product normally sold to the general public.

§ 101–29.215 Departmental specification or standard.

A departmental specification or standard is a specification or standard prepared by, and of primary interest to, a particular Federal agency, but which may be used by other Federal agencies.

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