§ 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.


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 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.


(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...