MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

Subj: CLASS DEVIATION—EXTENSION OF PROGRAM APPLYING SIMPLIFIED PROCEDURES TO CERTAIN COMMERCIAL ITEMS

Encl: (1) OUSD(AT&L)DP memo of January 11, 2002

Enclosure (1) provides official notification of the extension of the “Test Program For Certain Commercial Items” delineated in FAR 13.5 until January 1, 2003.

This is another tool in the contracting officer’s tool bag for purchasing commercial items. The program authorizes the use of the simplified acquisition procedures for the acquisition of commercial supplies or services in amounts up to $5,000,000, including options.

Activities utilizing this authority are encouraged to provide feedback as to its usefulness and benefits realized. If we can’t document these benefits, the authority may be allowed to expire; if we can, the authority could be extended or made permanent. Any feedback you choose to provide should be sent via email to Ronald G. Ostrom (Ostrom.Ronald@hq.navy.mil).

Questions or comments may be addressed to Ronald G. Ostrom (703) 602-2798, fax (703) 602-2117, or email as noted above.

Peter M. Chase
Director, Policy and Resources
Acquisition and Business Management

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MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES

DEPUTY FOR ACQUISITION AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT, ASN(RD&A)/ABM
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (CONTRACTING), SAF/AQC
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (PROCUREMENT)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR LOGISTICS POLICY AND ACQUISITION MANAGEMENT (DLA)

SUBJECT: Class Deviation--Extension of Program Applying Simplified Procedures to Certain Commercial Items

Effective January 11, 2002, all military department and defense contracting activities shall deviate from the requirements of Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 13.500(d) when using simplified procedures to acquire certain commercial items under $5,000,000. Contracting officers' authority to issue solicitations under FAR 13.5 is extended to January 1, 2003.

This class deviation implements Section 823 of the FY 2002 Defense Authorization Act. The Class deviation is effective through January 1, 2003, or until the FAR is revised, whichever event occurs first.

Deidre A. Lee
Director, Defense Procurement

cc: DSMC, Ft. Belvoir