

Supply Chain Risk & Resolution:

Unauthorized Suppliers

Background

FAS regularly contacts Schedule contractors regarding products they are not authorized to sell that are listed on their contract and displayed on GSA Advantage!®. FAS identifies unauthorized suppliers using the [Verified Products Portal](#) (VPP). The VPP is GSA's official source for supplier authorization information and allows GSA to obtain supplier authorization data directly from participating manufacturers and their authorized partners.

What is an Unauthorized Supplier?

An “unauthorized supplier” is a Schedule contractor that has products listed on their Schedule contract that they are not authorized to sell based on information from the VPP. Offering unauthorized products on MAS contracts is a violation of clause [I-FSS-644 Products Offered and Sold by Vendors Other Than the Manufacturer](#).

If a product is flagged as “unauthorized” it means that either:

- The manufacturer is a VPP participant who maintains a supplier authorization program. The vendor is NOT listed by the manufacturer as an authorized supplier and is therefore NOT authorized to sell the product; or
- The manufacturer is a VPP participant who has an open distribution policy, meaning that all vendors are authorized to sell the product unless expressly identified as prohibited by the manufacturer. The manufacturer has expressly identified this vendor as prohibited, and the vendor is therefore NOT authorized to sell this product.

Process

FAS will contact your company's point of contact for contract administration and authorized negotiators, if VPP data indicates that unauthorized products are offered on your Schedule contract. FAS will work with you to resolve discrepancies in accordance with clause [I-FSS-644 Products Offered and Sold by Vendors Other Than the Manufacturer](#).

- GSA will email your company's points of contact with instructions and the list of products flagged as unauthorized.
- Contractors will have 30 days to dispute the accuracy of the supplier authorization information. GSA will then work directly with VPP points of contact to adjudicate disputes.
 - If GSA determines the disputed product has been flagged in error and it will not be removed from your MAS contract at this time.
 - If GSA confirms that VPP data for a disputed product is accurate, this product will be removed from your MAS contract in accordance with clauses [I-FSS-644 Products Offered and Sold by Vendors Other Than the Manufacturer](#) and [552.238-79 Cancellation](#).