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Summer 2023

MASQUARTERLY

From the MAS PMO

Hoping everyone had a fantastic summer, and is ready for fall (cooler) weather!!

The Multiple Award Schedule Program Management Office (MAS PMO) is committed to being your trusted resource and partner. This newsletter summarizes key program updates from June to August 2023.

Subscribe to the [MAS Interact group](#) and get news straight to your inbox!

If you would like to provide feedback or topics for future MAS newsletters, please send suggestions to maspmo@gsa.gov.

Continued thanks for your partnership and support.

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What's New

FAS Supplier Portal User Research Request for Information (RFI) Update

Thanks to industry stakeholders who responded to our [RFI on the FAS Supplier Portal User Testing Volunteers](#), which closed on July 7, 2023. A total of 141 completed responses were received from current and prospective Schedule holders, most coming from small businesses. *Note: The goal of the RFI was to identify volunteers to test draft wireframes, not to identify potential contractors to build the system.*

We are extremely grateful to those who volunteered to participate in user testing. The team is actively reviewing the list of volunteers and scheduling virtual sessions through the next month. If you don't hear from us about a virtual user testing session, do not think you are being left out! There will be other opportunities to participate when it comes to the Supplier Portal and other future FAS initiatives. Continue to [follow the MAS Interact page](#) for more information.

New Error Messages About Unawarded SINS

Contractors may see a new error message as catalog data migrates to the new Authoritative Catalog Repository (ACR). The message will say "Special Item Number [SIN] is Unauthorized for Contract" and occurs even if no products are listed under the SIN.

You will receive this error message when submitting a catalog transaction that contains SINS not awarded to the contract. Please note that all SINS listed at the contract and product level must be awarded to the contract, or the transaction will be rejected. If the contract was recently awarded the SINS, wait one (1) day and then resubmit the catalog. [Please refer to this Interact post](#) for more information on the error messages. If you have questions, please contact CatalogManagement@gsa.gov.

Contractor Feedback on New Service File for FAS Catalog Platform

In July, GSA sought contractor feedback on the new FAS Catalog Platform (FCP) Service File, which will ultimately replace the Services & Training Price Proposal Template (PPT). A draft of the [new file is attached to this Interact post](#), along with detailed information on features of the Draft Service file. You can also [watch a product catalog demo](#), showing workflow that will be similar to service catalogs.

GSA anticipates moving service contractors to the FCP in FY25 and beyond. Until then, service contractors are not impacted by the FCP transition and should continue using SIP or EDI-832 to manage their catalogs. Publicly available FCP resources can be accessed at catalog.gsa.gov/help.

Industry Partner Symposium Sessions Held in July

On July 19, FAS held an [Industry Partner Symposium](#) to provide guidance and tools for managing government contracts. Sessions were organized into three tracks: Prospective Small Business, New Contract Holders, and All Industry. If you missed the training or want to revisit information shared, you can [download session presentations](#) and materials.

Advanced Notice for MAS Refresh 17 and Mass Modification - Updated 6/30/2023

GSA is aware of a technical issue regarding limited capacity for the Refresh webinar conducted on Wednesday, 6/28/2023 and apologizes for the inconvenience. The slides for the webinar and Q&A document are attached in this [GSA Interact Notice](#). Please review all information and if you have questions, comment directly on the GSA Interact Notice and we will work to get you a response.

FAS issued GSA Multiple Award Schedule (MAS) Solicitation 47QSMD20R0001 - Refresh # 17 and an associated mass modification (mass mod) to all existing contracts in July 2023. The [Interact post](#) provides detailed information on Changes to Overall MAS Solicitations and Changes to Specific Large Category, Subcategory or SIN.

Multiple Award Schedule Program Working to Address Inflationary Impacts

On March 6, 2023, GSA OGP and FAS OPC jointly signed [Supplement 2 to GSA AL MV-22-02](#), which extended the temporary moratorium on certain GSA Economic Price Adjustment (EPA) contract clauses. This extended the expiration of the policy from Mar. 31, 2023 to Sept. 30, 2023. GSA/FAS expect the temporary moratorium to be extended until March 31, 2024, so please be on the lookout for the official announcement.

For information about the MAS program and ordering procedures, please visit the [GSA Schedule Buyers page](#).

Robomod Updates and Contract Compliance

Compliance with the terms and conditions of your Multiple Award Schedule is critical to the success of the MAS program! This summer, FAS took action to remove non-compliant products from GSA Advantage! and MAS contracts. FAS has removed, or is in the process of removing, products that are:

- Not compliant with [FAR clause 52.204-23](#), Prohibition on Contracting for Hardware, Software, and Services Developed or Provided by Kaspersky Lab and Other Covered Entities.
- Not compliant with [FAR clause 52.204-25](#), Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.
- Not compliant with [FAR clause 52.225-5](#), Trade Agreements. FAS used high confidence Country of Origin data from the [Verified Products Portal](#) (VPP) to identify non-compliant products.
- Are unauthorized per clause [I-FSS-644 Products Offered and Sold by Vendors Other Than the Manufacturer](#).

Please take steps to ensure non-compliant products are not offered on your MAS contract! In accordance with [I-FSS-600](#) Contract Price Lists, contractors are responsible for ensuring that items removed from contract through the Robomod process are not listed on GSA Advantage! and that the items are not added again through future catalog submissions via SIP or EDI.

FAS Contracting Officers may take corrective action if contractors repeatedly offer non-compliant products. For more information about FAS initiatives to remove non-compliant products, visit the [Vendor Support Center, Supply Chain Risk Management section](#).

MAS Program Updates

Keep Your GSA Advantage Catalog Up to Date

Did you know you are required to update your Contract Price List every two years? That's right, electronic catalogs/price lists previously submitted to GSA, in accordance with Schedule contract clause I-FSS-600(a) *Contract Price List*, must be updated every two years.

Why is this so important? Old catalogs/price lists may contain discontinued items and outdated pricing. When products are ordered online, this can cause problems for agency customers and you, the contractor. Your contract requires that you honor pricing contained in your published catalog, whether printed or electronic.

To stay in compliance with your contract, please be sure to update your catalog/price list regularly.

If you have questions about how to update your price list, contact our Vendor Support Center at vendor.support@gsa.gov or 877-495-4849.

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Reminder to Authorized Negotiators - Save Your Documents!

It is a best practice to download documents from eOffer/eMod and store them locally on your computer. This ensures you have a copy of important contract documents should there be a personnel transition within your organization or if you need to access the documents during a planned or unplanned outage. New Authorized Negotiators will not be able to see old documents that predate their role as an Authorized Negotiator.

MAS Consolidation Phase 3

Have more than one MAS contract under the same Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)? During Phase 3 of MAS Consolidation, your company may need to take action to move all your offerings to one surviving MAS contract.

You should make all consolidation actions in coordination with your GSA Contracting Officer and in accordance with your agreed upon [Phase 3 Consolidation Checklist and Plan](#).

These consolidation plans are the first step in determining your surviving contract and to start the process of getting to one contract. **No Phase 3 modifications will be approved without an approved plan.**

The MAS PMO has posted all Phase 3 supplier resources on the [Vendor Support Center](#), including our [MAS Consolidation Phase 3 Guide for Industry](#). This new resource takes you through all the critical consolidation steps.

*Note: **Phase 3 DOES NOT APPLY** to you if:*

- *Your company manages two contracts and:

 - *One contract has a small business set-aside (SBSA) Special Item Number (SIN) or*
 - *One contract is a follow-on contract with the same SIN(s).**
- *Your company only has one MAS contract.*

Please submit your [Phase 3 Consolidation Checklist and Plan](#) to your Contracting Officer(s) and copy maspmo@gsa.gov as soon as possible to get the process started.

QUICK LINKS

[MAS Consolidation Phase 3 Contractor Checklist and Plan](#)
(*required)

[MAS Consolidation Phase 3 Guide for Industry](#)

[MAS Consolidation Phase 3 Overview & FAQs for Industry](#)

[Phase 3 Recorded Training for Impacted Contractors - August 2020](#)

Catalog Management Updates

FAS Catalog Platform Updates

The FAS Catalog Platform (FCP) pilot continues to be successful and GSA will begin onboarding additional vendors in November 2023. To learn more about the FCP, please visit <https://catalog.gsa.gov/help>.

Moving all contractors to the FCP will be a multi-year effort. **Contractors should continue to use SIP or EDI-832 until they receive information about their transition date.** Notifications will be sent to contractors at least 60 days before their transition date. *Note: These dates are still being determined. We will share more details on Interact in the coming months.*

- **For contractors offering products:** The FCP is currently designed to support product catalogs. If you offer 100% products, see below for more details about product catalog transition.
- **For contractors offering services:** The FCP is being enhanced to manage MAS services. Most service providers will transition in FY25+. To learn more about services, please see our [Interact post about the Service File](#) and [join our Interact page](#) for future updates.
- **For contractors offering both products & services:** These catalogs will not transition until the FCP has been enhanced to manage services and will follow a similar timeline as service catalogs.

100% Product Catalogs: The goal is to transition all of these catalogs in FY24 with the following exceptions:

Factor	Impact to Transition Timeline
Contracts that use Zonal Pricing	Will not transition until the system is enhanced to manage zonal pricing.
Contracts that contain 4PL SIN	Will not transition until additional functionality is added to address 4PL SIN.
Contracts that have a GSA-BPA based on them that is managed thru SIP and/ or published to GSA Advantage	Will not transition until additional functionality is added to address BPA workflows.
Multiple contracts falling under single UEI	Will be moved on a case-by-case basis. If you currently have multiple contracts and have questions about your timeline for transition, please reach out to us at CatalogManagement@gsa.gov .
Contracts with an upcoming Option	May be delayed until the Option has been processed.
Contracts that have an ultimate expiration date before September 2025	Will not transition.

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Prioritizing Product Catalogs: GSA will prioritize contractors who:

- Indicated “I want to move as soon as possible” on the [transition form](#).
- *Note: This form is still accepting new responses.*
- Publish 100% to Advantage for purchasing (vs. publishing as text file).
- Currently use SIP, followed by contractors using EDI-832 or consultants.

Contractors with 100% product catalogs who are eligible to use the FCP will receive more information as their contract is identified for transition in FY24. We anticipate beginning the transition process in November 2023 and continuing throughout the fiscal year.

As a reminder, the FCP will introduce significant improvements to how catalogs are managed including:

- Integrating with eMod to combine the contract and catalog workflows, and ensure GSA Advantage! is updated in line with contract management;
- Introducing a new Product File that consolidates and replaces the Products Price Proposal Template and the SIP data template for GSA Advantage!;
- Automating and delivering a Compliance & Pricing Report directly to vendors to address catalog deficiencies prior to submitting for government review.

To learn more about the FCP, visit catalog.gsa.gov/help and make sure to watch our [Vendor Training Playlist](#). After reviewing existing guidance and materials, any additional questions can be sent to CatalogManagement@gsa.gov.

MAS Office Hours

The MAS PMO hosts monthly office hours for our industry partners. These webinars cover different topics each month and provide opportunities to ask questions and hear directly from MAS experts!

Our next office hour is scheduled for **Thursday, September 21, 2023**. Learn more and [register for the monthly office hours series](#) today!

To see all previous recordings, visit the [MAS playlist on YouTube](#).

QUICK LINKS

[Register for MAS Office Hours](#)

[MAS Interact group](#)

Helpful MAS Resources

GSA and Multiple Award Schedule:

[GSA Schedule](#)

[Schedule Customer Training](#)

[Electronic Subcontracting Reporting System \(eSRS\)](#)

[MAS on GSA Interact](#)

[MAS Desk Reference](#)

[GSA's Blog](#)

[GSA's Vendor Support Center](#)

[GSA Small Business Assistance](#)

[Finding Your IOA and ACO](#)

[GSA's Office of the Procurement Ombudsman](#)

Preparing and Submitting a MAS Offer:

[Roadmap to Preparing a MAS Offer](#)

[GSA's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization \(OSDBU\)](#)

[Procurement Technical Assistance Centers \(Free Assistance\)](#)

Marketing:

[Contract Opportunities](#)

[eLibrary - Contract Award Information](#)

[eBuy - Electronic Request for Quote \(RFQ\) / Request for Proposal \(RFP\) System](#)

[Schedules Sales Query Plus \(SSQ+\)](#)

[Small Business Forecasting Tool](#)

[GSA Advantage! - Online shopping](#)

Contact Us

Questions and feedback may be submitted to maspmo@gsa.gov.