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Winter 2022

MASQUARTERLY

From the MAS PMO

Happy March and the last few weeks of winter!

As always, the Multiple Award Schedule Program Management Office (MAS PMO) is committed to being your trusted resource and partner.

This issue summarizes key program updates from the last quarter. To stay informed in real time, subscribe to the [MAS Interact group](#) and get news straight to your inbox!

Stay safe, stay well, and if you would like to provide feedback or topics for future MAS newsletters, please send your suggestions to maspmo@gsa.gov.

Thank you for your continued partnership.

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What's New

Transition to Unique Entity ID (SAM)

On April 4, 2022, the government will stop using the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) and will transition to using the new Unique Entity ID (SAM). Our MAS acquisition systems are being updated to reflect this change.

There are also changes coming to our eTools (eLibrary, GSA Advantage, and eBuy). Please keep an eye on your email for more information about these upcoming important changes.

Click [here](#) for more information on the government transition to the new Unique Entity ID (SAM).

New GSA Advantage! Advanced Search Training Video

Want to know how to use the new [GSA Advantage!](#) advanced search feature? Then you are in luck!

The GSA Advantage! team created a [training video](#), which includes helpful tips on how to find products and services quicker.

Questions? Reach out to the team at gsaadvantageresearch@gsa.gov.

GSA Piloting Manufacturer Stock Disruption Indicators on GSA Advantage!

GSA Advantage! will now display stock disruption information as manufacturers and wholesalers report issues in the Verified Products Portal (VPP).

Effective January 13, 2022, any product with a stock issue reported in VPP will have a banner displayed on GSA Advantage! advising customers of the disruption.

You can read more about this on [Interact](#), which includes Q&As.

New Pilot Removes Products Offered By Unauthorized Suppliers on GSA Advantage!

GSA is piloting a new Robomod process to ensure products awarded on Multiple Award Schedule (MAS) contracts and displayed on GSA Advantage! are only offered by authorized sellers. Per clause I-FSS-644, MAS contractors can only offer and sell products that have been authorized under the manufacturer's supplier authorization program.

Unauthorized MAS contractors are identified based on information from 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.

For full details on this pilot program and its benefits, please read the Interact post [here](#).

Important Update on FAS's Implementation of E.O.14026, Increasing the Minimum Wage for Federal Contractors

In April 2021, President Biden issued Executive Order (EO) [14026](#), Increasing the Minimum Wage for Federal Contractors. The order promotes economy and efficiency in Federal procurement by raising the hourly minimum wage paid by contractors to workers performing work on or in connection with covered Federal contracts to \$15.00 per hour, effective January 30, 2022. The EO also provides for annual wage increases set by the Department of Labor starting in January 2023.

DoD, GSA, and NASA recently issued an [interim rule](#) amending the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to implement EO 14026 and a [final rule](#) issued by the Department of Labor.

Visit the [MAS Interact post](#) to read more about this update.

For more detailed information on applicability refer to the [interim FAR rule](#) and email any comments or questions to opcpolycymailbox@gsa.gov.

E.O. 14042: Ensuring Adequate COVID Safety Protocols for Federal Contractors

The United States District Court for the Southern District of Georgia issued a [preliminary injunction](#) on December 7, 2021, that halts enforcement of FAR clause 52.223-99 Ensuring Adequate COVID-19 Safety Protocols for Federal Contractors in GSA contracts and contract-like instruments implementing the Safer Federal Workforce Taskforce guidance for contractors and subcontractors nationwide.

Due to this injunction GSA and federal agencies using GSA contracts will take no action to enforce FAR Clause 52.223-99. The Safer Federal Workforce Taskforce is maintaining a website with current information related to this subject and federal contractors at:

<https://www.saferfederalworkforce.gov/contractors>.

For additional information and updates, please visit the [GSA COVID-19 website](#).

GSA's New & Improved Vendor Support Center Is Now Live!

The new and improved [Vendor Support Center](#) (VSC) launched on January 12, 2022.

Thank you to all our industry partners who responded to our [Request for Information](#), attended our VSC MAS Office Hours and participated in user testing. Your comments and feedback were critical in ensuring that the changes we made reflected your needs.

Visit the [new VSC](#) today and let us know what you think by emailing maspmo@gsa.gov anytime.

Retired! Vendor Education Center

The Vendor Education Center (VEC) was successfully retired on December 17, 2021!

The Pathways to Success training and the Readiness Assessment are now available at [gsa.gov MAS Roadmap](#). For prospective contractors, the requirement to upload the Pathway to Success training certificate and the completed Readiness Assessment with your offer no longer applies. You must now simply acknowledge that you have completed the self-paced training and Readiness Assessment when submitting your offer through GSA's eOffer system.

2022 FAST Conference & Monthly Training Series

GSA's [Federal Acquisition Service Training \(FAST\)](#) 2022 Virtual Monthly Conference Series continues! [Register now](#) for "Securing Next-Generation Hybrid Work Environments" on Wednesday, March 16, at 1 p.m. EST., and learn about tools and techniques GSA offers for managing and securing next-generation hybrid work environments. Earn up to 3 CLPs.

In addition to our monthly series, GSA's three-day marquee conference FAST2022 is scheduled for June 21 - 23, 2022. Themes are: Data to Insights, Insights to Action, and Action to Impact. We are in the early stages of building our program and welcome your ideas on topics you would like to see covered. Please send your ideas to fast.event@gsa.gov.

[Register here](#) to receive updates on the Monthly Series and FAST2022, and please share the link with your colleagues!

Updates to Current MAS Programs

MAS Consolidation Phase 3

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](#)

Deadline for submitting your Phase 3 consolidation plan and checklist has been extended to April 30, 2022.

Have more than one MAS contract under the same DUNS number or Unique Entity ID (SAM)? Your company may need to take action during Phase 3 of MAS Consolidation to move all your offerings to one surviving MAS contract.

All consolidation actions should be made 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 per Unique Entity ID (SAM). **No Phase 3 modifications will be approved without a completed and 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.

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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.

Questions?

Email us anytime at maspmo@gsa.gov or connect directly with your CO(s).

Catalog Management Updates

GSA Begins Development of Common Catalog Platform (CCP)

Since our last update, GSA began development on the new Common Catalog Platform (CCP). The CCP will modernize catalog management for Multiple Award Schedule (MAS) contractors and the GSA workforce. The platform will introduce new functionality to simplify catalog creation for contractors and streamline the approval process for workforce members. The new CCP functionality will include, but is not limited to:

- CCP replacing the Schedule Input Program (SIP) with a web-based application that interacts with contracting systems to improve the current disjointed user experience.
- CCP introducing a new custom Product File to consolidate and replace the current SIP and Price Proposal Templates.
- CCP providing access to market research for contractors to address catalog deficiencies prior to submitting for government review.

The CMO team is leveraging Human Centered Design (HCD) principles to involve contractors, the Acquisition Workforce, and the Vendor Support Center during the design process and ensure CCP best meets users' needs. These engagements were kicked off in mid-February, and will continue through the end of the fiscal year. The team plans to pilot the CCP with a limited group of contractors in the beginning of FY23. More information on user transition will be shared in future newsletters.

For regular updates, join the [Catalog Management Interact Page](#).

Questions? Email us at CatalogManagement@gsa.gov.

QUICK LINKS

[Register for MAS Office Hours](#)

MAS Office Hours

The MAS PMO hosts monthly office hours for our industry partners. These webinars cover different topics each month and are your chance to get answers directly from MAS experts!

Register for the series [here](#).

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

Helpful MAS Resources

GSA and Multiple Award Schedule:

GSA Schedule: <https://www.gsa.gov/gsa-schedule>

Schedule Customer Training: www.gsa.gov/events

Electronic Subcontracting Reporting System (eSRS): esrs.gov

MAS on GSA Interact: <https://interact.gsa.gov/groups/multiple-award-schedule>

MAS Desk Reference: www.gsa.gov/mas-desk-reference

GSA's Blog: www.gsa.gov/blog

GSA's Vendor Support Center: vsc.gsa.gov

GSA Small Business Assistance: www.gsa.gov/acquisition/small-business

Finding Your IOA and ACO: https://vsc.gsa.gov/tools/aco_ioa.cfm

GSA's Office of the Procurement Ombudsman: gsa.gov/ombudsman

Preparing and Submitting a MAS Offer:

Roadmap to Preparing a MAS Offer: www.gsa.gov/acquisition/purchasing-programs/gsa-schedules/industry-partners/guide

Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (Free Assistance): <http://www.aptac-us.org/contracting-assistance/>

GSA's Office of Small Business Utilization (OSBU): <https://www.gsa.gov/acquisition/small-business>

Marketing:

Contract Opportunities: <https://beta.SAM.gov/>

eLibrary - Contract Award Information: www.gsaelibrary.gsa.gov

eBuy - Electronic Request for Quote (RFQ) / Request for Proposal (RFP) System: www.ebuy.gsa.gov

Schedules Sales Query+ (SSQ+): <https://ssq.gsa.gov>

Small Business Forecasting Tool: <https://hallways.cap.gsa.gov/app/#/x/forecast-of-contracting-opportunities>

GSA Advantage! - Online Shopping: www.gsaadvantage.gov

Feedback

Share feedback or your ideas for future MAS Newsletter content with us anytime at: maspmo@gsa.gov.