



Homeland
Security

MEMORANDUM FOR: Heads of Contracting Activities

FROM: Paul Courtney
Chief Procurement Officer

PAUL R
COURTNEY

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COURTNEY
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SUBJECT: FAR Class Deviation (Number 25-16) for FAR Part 50 in Support
of the Executive Order on Restoring Common Sense to Federal
Procurement

1. **Purpose.** This memorandum approves a class deviation to Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) part 50 for purposes of implementing the Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council's (the Council's) model deviation text to FAR part 50.
2. **Background.** [Executive Order \(E.O.\) 14275 on Restoring Common Sense to Federal Procurement](#), signed April 15, 2025, mandates a comprehensive review and simplification of the FAR.

The FAR is being updated to:

- Eliminate non-statutory language.
- Remove redundant or obsolete language.
- Enhance clarity through plain language.
- Align with the new FAR framework.
- Preserve essential governmentwide acquisition standards.

This project is referred to as the Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (RFO) initiative. This initiative will make the FAR more concise, understandable, and focused on core procurement requirements.

3. **Summary of Changes.** FAR part 50, Extraordinary Contractual Actions and the SAFETY Act, has been updated for clarity and practical use.

Statutory requirements and presidential directives retained in the RFO FAR part 50 model deviation include, but may not be limited to, the following:

- 50 U.S.C. § 1431 et seq, National Defense Contracts
- 6 U.S.C. § 441 et seq, Support Anti-Terrorism by Fostering Effective Technologies
- E.O. 10789, Contracting Authority in Connection with National-Defense Functions

Change	Description
Retained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All subparts and sections throughout the part are retained. • All provisions and clauses are retained, specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clause 52.250-1, Indemnification Under Public Law 85-804 ○ Provision 52.250-2, SAFETY Act Coverage Not Applicable ○ Provision 52.250-3, SAFETY Act Block Designation/Certification ○ Provision 52.250-4, SAFETY Act Pre-qualification Designation Notice ○ Clause 52.250-5, SAFETY Act—Equitable Adjustment. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ This clause was updated with plain language edits.
Removed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plain language edits were made throughout to enhance readability and remove redundant, unclear, or non-essential language, decreasing the word count by more than 500 words.

This table is not an exhaustive list.

4. **Instructions.** The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) acquisition workforce shall follow the RFO Part 50 deviation text instead of FAR Part 50 as codified at 48 CFR Chapter 35. The Council's RFO Part 50 model deviation text is available at <https://www.acquisition.gov/far-overhaul/far-part-deviation-guide/far-overhaul-part-50> and is incorporated into this deviation.
5. **Applicability.** This class deviation applies to all DHS procurements.
6. **Authority.** This class deviation is issued under the authority of [E.O. 14275](#), [OMB Memo M-25-25](#), 48 CFR 1.4, and RFO FAR 1.304.
7. **Effective Date.** This class deviation is effective immediately and remains in effect until rescinded or incorporated into the FAR.
8. **Points of Contact.** Questions regarding this class deviation may be directed to Acquisition Policy and Legislation Branch at Acquisition.Policy@hq.dhs.gov.

Attachments:

1. FAR Part 50 Solicitation Provisions and Contract Clauses Revisions

PART 52—SOLICITATION PROVISIONS AND CONTRACT CLAUSES

Subpart 52.2—Text of Provisions and Clauses

52.250-5 SAFETY ACT-Equitable Adjustment.

As prescribed in 50.206(d), insert the following clause:

SAFETY Act-Equitable Adjustment (AUG 2025) (DEVIATION 25-16)

(a) Definitions. As used in this clause—

Act of terrorism means any act determined to have met the following requirements or such other requirements as defined and specified by the Secretary of Homeland Security:

- (1) Is unlawful.
- (2) Causes harm, including financial harm, to a person, property, or entity, in the United States, or in the case of a domestic United States air carrier or a United States-flag vessel (or a vessel based principally in the United States on which United States income tax is paid and whose insurance coverage is subject to regulation in the United States), in or outside the United States.
- (3) Uses or attempts to use instrumentalities, weapons or other methods designed or intended to cause mass destruction, injury or other loss to citizens or institutions of the United States.

Block certification means SAFETY Act certification of a technology class that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has determined to be an approved class of approved products for homeland security.

Block designation means SAFETY Act designation of a technology class that the DHS has determined to be a Qualified Anti-Terrorism Technology (QATT).

Qualified Anti-Terrorism Technology (QATT) means any technology designed, developed, modified, procured, or sold for the purpose of preventing, detecting, identifying, or deterring acts of terrorism or limiting the harm such acts might otherwise cause, for which a SAFETY Act designation has been issued. For purposes of defining a QATT, technology means any product, equipment, service (including support services), device, or technology (including information technology) or any combination of the foregoing. Design services, consulting services, engineering services, software development services, software integration services, threat

assessments, vulnerability studies, and other analyses relevant to homeland security may be deemed a technology.

SAFETY Act certification means a determination by DHS pursuant to 6 U.S.C. 442(d), as further delineated in 6 CFR 25.9, that a QATT for which a SAFETY Act designation has been issued is an approved product for homeland security, i.e., it will perform as intended, conforms to the seller's specifications, and is safe for use as intended.

SAFETY Act designation means a determination by DHS pursuant to 6 U.S.C. 441(b) and 6 U.S.C. 443(a), as further delineated in 6 CFR 25.4, that a particular Anti-Terrorism Technology constitutes a QATT under the SAFETY Act.

(b) Prices for the items covered by the pre-qualification designation notice, block designation, or block certification in the contract were established presuming DHS will issue a SAFETY Act designation (or SAFETY Act certification) for those items.

(c) In order to qualify for an equitable adjustment in accordance with paragraph (d) of this clause the Contractor shall in good faith pursue obtaining—

(1) SAFETY Act designation (or SAFETY Act certification); and

(2) The amount of insurance DHS requires for issuing any SAFETY Act designation (or SAFETY Act certification).

(d)(1) If DHS denies the Contractor's SAFETY Act designation (or certification) application, the Contractor may submit a request for an equitable adjustment within 30 days of DHS's notification of denial.

(2) The Contracting Officer shall either—

(i) Make an equitable adjustment to the contract price based on evidence of the resulting increase or decrease in the Contractor's costs and/or an equitable adjustment to other terms and conditions based on lack of SAFETY Act designation (or certification); or

(ii) At the sole option of the Government, terminate this contract for the convenience of the Government in place of an equitable adjustment.

(3) A failure of the parties to agree on the equitable adjustment will be considered to be a dispute in accordance with the "Disputes" clause of this contract.

(4) Unless first terminated, the Contractor shall continue contract performance during establishment of any equitable adjustment.

(End of clause)