# Contracting eBusiness

**OUARTERLY NEWS BYTES | ISSUE NO. 4 | FY24 O3** 

# Message from DPC/CeB Leadership

We are pleased to announce the success of the 2024 Department of Defense (DOD) Procure-to-Pay (P2P) and Financial Audit Training Symposium, Contract Policy Symposium and Pricing Colloquium held in May.

The Symposium brought together the Department's contracting, logistics, finance, and pricing communities and our industry partners to provide training to procurement, acquisition, logistics, and financial management personnel on how to apply enterprise data standards, policy, and protocols across all functional environments. Accomplishments made against goals outlined in the Department's Strategic Plan for Defense Wide Procurement Capabilities were shared along with identifying initiatives to achieve in upcoming years. New developments were shared including the deployment of our target contract writing capabilities in each of the Military Services and 4th Estate; DPC's expanded capabilities in the Procurement Integrated Enterprise Environment (PIEE) to track government-furnished property and other contract administration processes, support Contracting Officers' Representatives' performance surveillance, and improve the solicitation module; and the tighter integration of PIEE and General Service Administration's (GSA's) Integrated Award Environment (IAE).

We would like to sincerely thank Component procurement, finance, logistics communities and all who attended in support of strengthening the partnership between acquisition and financial management. We hope you found it a valuable training and networking experience. The 2025 Symposium will be held in Orlando, Florida in Spring 2025. Details will be shared as they become available. We look forward to seeing you there!

#### **QUICK BYTES**

- 1. Defense Pricing & Contracting
- 2. DOD Procurement Toolbox
- 3. Defense Pricing & Contracting CeB
- 4. Contracting eBusiness Capabilities
- 5. Mandatory Use of Procurement Data Standard Punch-Out Capability
- 6. Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Service Contract Reporting (SCR) Extension
- 7. Status of PD2 Technology Sunset Date
- 8. Product Service Code to Object Class Code Crosswalk, Version 2.3

2024 P2P Training Symposium Presentations are located on DPC's <u>Procure-to-Pay</u> website! There you can also access presentations from prior symposiums dating back to 2017.

# SAVE THE DATE 2025 Procure-to-Pay and Financial Audit Training Symposium -Spring 2025 ORLANDO-FLORIDA

#### **POLICY MEMO**

#### Required Conventions and Electronic Data Capture for Exhibit Line Items (ELINs)

On 23 May 2024, DPC issued a <u>memorandum</u> to the acquisition workforce as a reminder of the required conventions and electronic data capture for ELINs.

ELINs are especially useful in major systems acquisition and sustainment scenarios when tens, or even tens of thousands, of spare parts need to be separately identified for pricing, delivery, inspection, acceptance, entitlement, inventory management, financial accounting, and reporting purposes. However, when not captured and shared with other DoD systems as discrete data elements, ELINs can introduce errors and limit transparency in these processes. These errors cause a significant amount of manual resources to be expended throughout the Procure-to-Pay environment in order to separately re-enter information in downstream systems.

The Department's modern, target contract writing systems (including Department of the Air Force's Contracting-Information Technology (CON-IT), Department of Army's Contract Writing System (ACWS), Department of the Navy's electronic Procurement System (ePS), and the Fourth Estate's Enterprise Contract Writing Module (ECWM)) have been designed and developed to enable contracting officers to comply with this policy effectively and efficiently. Therefore, contracting officers issuing new awards and/or modifications in these systems shall observe the requirements at Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) Procedures, Guidance and Information (PGI) 204.7105.

Contracting officers issuing awards and/or modifications in legacy/other contract writing systems are also expected to follow these requirements when the structure and capabilities of the contract writing system support them. When legacy/other contract writing systems do not enable compliance, contracting officers shall only use line items and subline items to separately identify deliverables.

## TARGET CONTRACT WRITING ENVIRONMENT

On 28 Sep 2023, the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (OUSD) for Acquisition and Sustainment (A&S) issued a memorandum to the acquisition workforce to reaffirm 30 Sep 2026 as the date by which the Department plans to sunset the Procurement Desktop-Defense (PD2) contract writing technology. Success in sunsetting PD2 across the entire DOD will in large part hinge on migrating high quality Procurement Data Standard (PDS) contract data from PD2 to a next-generation contract writing system. An update from each of the Military Services and DLA for the 4th Estate on the status of the new contract writing capabilities is below.

#### Department of the Air Force (DAF) Contracting-Information Technology (CON-IT)

SAF/AQCI and the CON-IT PMO support the agile software development of CON-IT, a modern contract writing system that is set to replace legacy systems within the DAF. As of FY24 Q2, work on the CON-IT Minimum Viable Product (MVP) for Weapons Systems was completed, meaning that CON-IT now supports the capabilities necessary for this community to perform all contract actions. This MVP is the culmination of years of work and is an important step in bringing the DAF closer to consolidating to a single contract writing system. CON-IT will continue development with new capabilities, such as Classified CON-IT and Grants, Other Transactions, and Assistance Instruments (GOAT) (R&D work) MVP. Functional and regulatory enhancements will continue to deploy every 3 weeks.

# 4th Estate Enterprise Contract Writing Module (ECWM) (Update from the Defense Logistics Agency Program Manager)

ECWM provides the 4th Estate with a new contract writing capability through a single seamless contract management solution that enables contracting operations worldwide. The ECWM is hosted in the PIEE Amazon Web Services (AWS) Government Cloud. The 4th estate agencies will transition over to ECWM in a phased approach, referred to as "Waves". As of early May 2024, Wave 1 agencies have been transitioned and are operational in ECWM. Wave 2 agencies are in final testing and are targeted to go live in late June 2024. The future Waves will start testing and go live in FY25. Once all agencies are operational in ECWM, then data migration from Procurement Desktop-Defense (PD2) will commence.

#### Department of the Army (DA) Army Contract Writing System (ACWS)

ACWS serves as the new standardized and streamlined platform for Army procurement, providing a single source for contract execution spanning from contract award to closure. As of 24 June 2024, the ACWS- General Fund Enterprise Business Systems (GFEBS) integration is live, enhancing the Army Contracting Enterprise (ACE)'s ability to ensure contract-related financial data flows seamlessly between systems. This important milestone advances the Army's next generation contract writing system allowing Army professionals to execute their mission in a more efficient and effective manner. The latest release extends ACWS's reach to 1,200 more users across the National Guard Bureau, U.S. Army Medical Command, and parts of the U.S. Army Contracting Command, increasing the total number of ACWS users to nearly 1,700. Army will continue to roll out new capabilities and deploy to additional user communities throughout FY25.

#### Department of the Navy (DON) Electronic Procurement System (ePS)

The DON's ePS will provide standardized, seamless, end-to-end contract management (i.e., sourcing) of services and supplies for the entire scope of the DON's simple to complex requirements supporting an estimated 16,000 personnel by the end of FY26. ePS went live in September 2023 fielding the capability to multiple Naval Supply Offices and was then enhanced in November to add an interface with the Navy's primary Financial System, Navy ERP. ePS has delivered 20 functional releases since go-live and will add 7 additional contracting offices by the end of FY24. Today, nearly \$100M in Navy dollars have been executed through ePS and more than \$1.5 billion in DON contracts have successfully migrated into the system for full management.

# Clause Logic Service (CLS) Champions

#### What is CLS?

<u>CLS</u> is an application in PIEE designed to aid in the procurement process within the DOD and is an integral part of the Services' and 4th Estate's next generation contract writing systems. CLS provides the functionality for procurement personnel to answer a standard set of questions and receive all provisions and clauses appropriate for that acquisition. The system ensures the uniform application of Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and Defense FAR Supplement (DFARS) provisions and clauses using a standard set of system logic rules, helping to improve the integrity of contracts developed across the DOD.

#### What exactly is a CLS Champion?

Although it sounds like someone who has won a challenge, contest, or competition, a CLS Champion is simply a central point of contact (POC) at your Service/Agency who is there to assist you with functional questions about the CLS system. As your subject matter expert (SME) for CLS, the CLS Champion serves as a critical link in the CLS communication network. With a direct line to the CLS Program Management Office (PMO), CLS Champions share information from your organization to the CLS PMO and the Functional SME's and vice-a-versa. The CLS Champions meet on a regular basis and receive additional training/guidance to assist their organizations in overcoming issues that are functional in nature. The CLS Champions are your organization's primary POC to help your Service/Agency successfully use CLS.

#### How do you find out who your CLS Champion is?

Go to the DOD Procurement Toolbox under <u>CLS</u> to download the latest POC information. If your Service/Agency does not have a POC identified, or the POC identified is not correct and/or is not going to be at the hands-on level to help the CLS functional community, then this is a great opportunity to raise internally so that the correct POC can be established. Identifying the appropriate CLS Champion will be critical in your transition from PD2 to your new contract writing solution as these POCs will be filling the "knowledge gap" for your organization. These CLS Champions will be your first contact if you have any questions about the functions of CLS.

#### How is a CLS Champion different than the PIEE Help Desk?

CLS Champions (and delegates, as applicable) are super users that serve as a good knowledge source for functional questions you may have about the system. Champions are a training and sharing conduit between CLS users and the CLS PMO.

CLS Champions cannot perform code-level fixes or process PIEE helpdesk tickets. However, CLS Champions can assist users with functional questions such as understanding how to use CLS, exploring why a clause was returned via the logic, and assisting users with suggestions for logic change through PMO collaboration.

**Pro Tip:** If you are experiencing a CLS issue but others are using CLS without issue, this typically indicates that CLS is operational. CLS users should contact their CLS Champion prior to calling the PIEE Help Desk.

The PIEE Help Desk is there to address systemic issues that you are experiencing with CLS. Examples of systemic issues include a CLS user receiving a HTTP 500 Error message or CLS returning a validation error. The user should contact the PIEE Help Desk if they do not understand how to fix the issue. The PIEE Help Desk will address and/or elevate systemic issues to the appropriate Tier for resolution.

**Pro Tip:** If CLS is experiencing an issue that is impacting multiple people, this typically indicates that CLS is not operational. CLS users should contact the PIEE Help Desk by phone (1-866-618-5988) or <a href="mailto:e

#### **Additional Resources**

DOD Procurement Toolbox: Clause Logic Service

CLS Champions POC List (June 2024)

**CLS FAQs** 

CLS Job Aid - Creating a TO, DO, Call with a Non-DOD PIID

**CLS Overview Training Video** 

**CLS Overview Training Slides** 

## **Records and Retention**

#### **Records and Retention Background**

<u>PIEE</u> includes applications spanning the procurement process from the creation of a purchase request through contract closeout, and stores documents and data on solicitations, awards, invoicing, payment, government property, closeout, and other procurement processes for contracts, grants, and miscellaneous payments.

Since the PIEE's first application, Electronic Document Access (now Electronic Data Access (EDA)), was established in 1997, over 300 million records have been created and stored within the suite of modules. A systematic records retention and destruction policy was implemented in PIEE to meet audit requirements and comply with the records retention requirements of <u>FAR subpart 4.805</u>, <u>DFARS subpart 204.805</u>, <u>DoD Financial Management Regulation (FMR) Volume 1 Chapter 9</u>, and the <u>National Archives and Records Administration</u>. The systematic records retention and destruction policy has decreased the number of antiquated records in PIEE, while reducing operating costs and improving performance.

#### **Contract Reopen**

A <u>new capability</u> has been added to PIEE for Contract Closeout where Contracting Officers and Contract Specialists can initiate the reopening of a contract closed in error or that needs to be reopened for some other reason. The application will send a closeout cancellation as a Defense Logistics Modernization Standard (DLMS) 567C transaction (an electronic version of the DD Form 1594). EDA will use the 567C from Contract Closeout or external systems that send the closeout cancellation to reopen the contract and reset records retention.

#### **Records Retention and Destruction**

Records have been going into PIEE for over 25 years! Now, an automated capability to manage records retention has been implemented in the system consisting of two parts, a records retention utility, and a record destruction utility. The records retention utility establishes a retention period for each record based on the type of record, the Component that owns the record and triggering date (contract closeout for contracts and grants). The destruction utility uses the retention date and a set of business rule to dispose of records when the retention period has passed. Components have the capability to exclude records from destruction. More information is available at the DoD Procurement Toolbox under Contract Closeout.

#### **Additional Resources**

DoD Procurement Toolbox: PIEE Records & Destruction

**Contract Closeout Training & Resources** 

PIEE Records Retention & Destruction Standard Operating Procedures

FAR and FMR Records Retention Policy

**Contract Closeout FAQs** 

#### PIEE

#### **Automatic Account Archiving**

As of 28 June 2024, PIEE leverages data received from Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting Systems (DEERS) to automatically archive PIEE accounts of users who separated from Government service or changed organizations.

PIEE provides automatic notification to the affected account holder, the account holder's supervisor, and the Government Administrator (GAM) of the account status change. Account holders affected by automatic archiving will not have access to PIEE applications.

#### **Help! My Account Was Archived**

- · If PIEE access is no longer required, no action is required
- If the current access in PIEE should be restored, the user should login to PIEE with their credentials and follow the prompts to request reactivation of their current roles. Please see the <u>User Account Reactivation Process Reference Guide</u> for additional information
- PIEE account holders should contact the PIEE Help Desk by phone (1-866-618-5988) or email if there are questions or concerns





#### Simple Search and the Search Editor

<u>SAM.gov</u> houses many resources available to be searched at any time, such as entity registration information, contract opportunities, wage determinations, etc. The search editor in SAM.gov allows you to refine and filter search results to populate specific results.

#### To use the Search Editor

From the SAM.gov home page, there are three ways to begin your search:

**(Option 1)** You can select "Search" in the menu bar to take you directly to a search page where you can start a search by entering a keyword, a number, or activating a filter. You can select a domain link to search a certain type of data. "All Domains" is selected by default. If you enter a keyword or activate a filter when "All Domains" is selected, your search results could include any type of record from SAM.gov—a contract notice, an entity, a federal hierarchy organization, and so forth. If you only want to see information from one domain, select the specific domain you want to search. (You cannot search wage determinations with the search editor. You will get more filter options for that domain.) Note: If you want to search entity information, such as registrations, you must sign in to your SAM.gov account.

**(Option 2)** You can select a domain link from the home page to search a certain type of data. Domain links take you to a domain landing page. Domain landing pages give you access to a search bar and help locate resources specific to the domain you choose. When you enter a keyword or number in the search bar on a domain landing page, it will search that domain only. You can remain on the "Simple search", or you can select the "Search Editor" option in the keyword search panel. The search editor lets you refine your search results using Boolean terms (such as "and," "or," "not," "or not," and "and not"). For example, "((training AND organization) OR (training AND company)) AND NOT school."

**(Option 3)** You can use the search bar located below the domain links. Start a search is by using the search bar available on the home page. Choose a domain, then enter a keyword or number. Then, you can modify your search by activating filters or changing your keywords on the search results page.



#### **Additional Resources**

Video: Simple Search and the Search Editor (KB0071740)

Do I need to sign in or create an account to search in SAM.gov? (KB0051464)

Guide to using the keyword search (KB0045403)

How do I save a search in SAM.gov? (KB0029889)

How do I edit a saved search in SAM.gov? (KB0053793)

How do I follow items on SAM.gov? (KB0017560)

How can I download my search results in SAM.gov? (KB0017592)

#### **SAM SIDEBAR:**

\*Attention System Account Owners\* Application Programming Interface (API) Deprecation

#### **SAM.gov Exclusions API**

Versions 1, 2, and 3 will deprecate on 13 September 2024, and move to version 4. Act now if not using version 4! No action required if using version 4.

This deprecation does not impact other SAM.gov APIs.

#### **Need More Info?**

Visit GSA Open and navigate to <u>Sam.gov</u> <u>Exclusions API section</u> for version 4 API endpoint and details.

Pro Tip: Federal Acquisition Supply Chain Security Act (FASCA) orders entered by the Department of Defense (DoD), Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI), and Department of Homeland Security (DHS), can be accessed via version 4 exclusions.

Separately, users can navigate to <u>SAM.gov</u> to view exclusions.

#### Additional Resource:

<u>Quick Start Guide Exclusion Data –</u> Search View

#### **Contract Opportunities API**

Contract Opportunities version 2 will be permanently retired and replaced with version 3 on 31 October 2024.

Versions 2 and 3 are operational and available for transitioning to contract writing systems.

Version 3 is available in the alpha environment for testing.

#### **Need More Info?**

Visit GSA Open and navigate to <u>Contract</u> <u>Opportunity</u> section.

FPDS.gov



#### **Latest Service Pack (SP21.0)**

Service Pack (SP) 21.0 was deployed on 27 April 2024. Release notes are located on FPDS.gov under the SP21.0 Status Page.

#### **SP21 Highlights**

- New on-screen warning notification was implemented to alert the user to verify the value for the current "Completion Date" on an 'Exercise
  Option' modification if it is the same date as the previous modification. When an Exercise Option gets executed, the Completion Date usually
  gets extended. Users must report an accurate Completion Date according to the Type of Modification reported
- Two 2 new value options to "Fair Opportunity/Limited Sources" data element (10R) were added to allow for DoD/NASA/ U.S. Coast Guard Exception:
  - LSRC: FAR 16.505(b)(2)(i)(G) Limited Sources
  - SSRC: FAR 16.505(b)(2)(i)(G) Single Source
- New rule DOD4C01 was deployed to prevents FPDS users from reporting unclassified contract actions awarded by DoD organizations and funded by a DoD IC member (e.g., DIA, NGA, NRO, and NSA) in fiscal year 2019 and future years in order to reduce security risks
- The Agency Codes listed below cannot be used as the Funding Agency Code on or after 04/27/2024:
  - 97DL Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA)
  - 97AB National Geospatial Agency (NGA)
  - 97CR National Reconnaissance Agency (NRO)
  - 97CG National Security Agency (NSA)
- New value added for data element (8L) "Recovered Materials/Sustainability" that incorporates the five directives FAR 52.204-4 & FAR 52.223-1
   FAR 52.223-2 & FAR 52.223-15 & FAR 52.223-16
- "Recovered Materials/Sustainability" data element (8L) is now required on Delivery/Task Orders that reference Blanket Ordering Agreements, regardless of the "Date Signed" on the referenced IDV
  - A Control Report listing the affected Delivery/Task Orders that require action from the components was provided for corrections.
- The new minimum threshold was changed from \$3,500 to \$0 in business rule D0D6Q02A for CARs with a "Date Signed" on or after 4/27/2024
  - Revised Rule: If Unique Entity ID is U9X7H1UVY6U5 (GPC Foreign Business), Action Obligation divided by Number of Actions must be greater than \$0 and less than or equal to \$25,000

#### SP21.0 June Fast Path

- FPDS V1.5 Service Pack 21.0 June Fast Path with Production Deployment on 29 June 2024
- The FAADC application used for reporting financial assistance actions was updated to replace the existing validation rule for FAADC:2D3 —
   "Period of Performance End Date" cannot be earlier than the "Action Date"
- The new validation rule will be FAADC:2D6 When the "Action Type" is "New Assistance Award", "Continuation" or "Entity Change", the
  "Period of Performance End Date" cannot be earlier than the "Action Date"
- This rule change will be effective for any Action Date and allow users to report Amendments for administrative changes after the period of performance has ended when the Action Type is "Revision" or "Funding Adjustment to a completed project"

## Product Service Codes (PSC) Updates

#### What are Product and Service Codes (PSC)?

The Product and Service Codes (PSC) Manual provides codes to describe products and services purchased by the federal government. These codes indicate "WHAT" was bought and are required on each contract line item (CLIN) on new awards (see <u>FAR subpart 4.1005</u>), enforced by the Procurement Data Standard (PDS). In addition, the predominant PSC is reported in the Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS) for use in federal-wide reports. The PSC Manual was updated in April 2024 with new, changed, and end dated PSCs. These have been incorporated in SAM, FPDS (via service pack 21), and the <u>DoD PSC Selection Tool</u> and have all been updated to reflect the changes. For more information on the PSC Management Process and the roles and responsibilities of managing the PSC, please reference the PSC Standard Operating Procedures at Acquisition.gov.

#### **Product and Service Codes (PSC) Updates**

The following PSCs (8A) were updated with the latest revisions to the Medical Category PSC data as 27 April 2024.

#### **New PSCs**

PSC 6506 (Blood and Blood Products) shall be made available for selection

PSCs 6555, Q528, Q529, Q530, Q531, Q532, and Q533 shall be added and available for selection

#### **End Dated PSCs**

PSCs Q506, Q512, and Q526 shall be disabled and no longer available for selection

#### **Updated PSCs**

PSCs Q201, Q301, Q401, Q402, Q403, Q501, Q502, Q503, Q504, Q505, Q507, Q508, Q509, Q510, Q511, Q513, Q514, Q515, Q516, Q517, Q518, Q519, Q520, Q521, Q522, Q523, Q524, Q525, Q527, Q601, Q602, Q603, Q701, Q702, Q801, Q802, Q901 have Name, Definition and/or Includes/ Excludes updates

**CALENDAR** 

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

#### Standing Weekly/Monthly Calls

Name	Frequency	Time (Eastern)	Distro Point of Contact (POC)	Meeting Invite POC
PDS Bugzilla	Every Monday	1:30	tyler.a.caron.ctr@mail.mil	christopher.g.adams22.ctr@mail.mil
PRDS Bugzilla	Every other Monday	2:00	kristen.j.humphrey.ctr@mail.mil	kristen.j.humphrey.ctr@mail.mil
Assistance/OT Standard Bugzilla	Every other Monday	2:00	kristen.j.humphrey.ctr@mail.mil	kristen.j.humphrey.ctr@mail.mil
Production PSR Weekly Review	Every Tuesday	2:30	jason.birdsall@dla.mil	jason.birdsall@dla.mil
SAM TWG	Bi-Monthly Fourth Wednesday	1:30	jessica.m.williams126.civ@mail.mil	jessica.m.williams126.civ@mail.mil
DMT	Third Thursday	9:00	tyler.a.caron.ctr@mail.mil	christopher.g.adams22.ctr@mail.mil
PDS IPR	Second Thursday	10:30	tyler.a.caron.ctr@mail.mil	christopher.g.adams22.ctr@mail.mil

#### Acronyms:

PDS - Procurement Data Standard || PRDS - Purchase Request Data Standard || OT - Other Transactions || PSR - Program Support Review || SAM - System for Award Management || TWG - Transition Working Group || DMT - Data Management Team || IPR - Integrated Product Review ||