



USA misrepresentations on GSA Advantage

Sheri Meadema - Q0A [REDACTED]

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To: Laura Smith <lsmith@truthinadvertising.org>

Cc: Thomas Sharpe - Q [REDACTED], Judith Zawatsky - QDOC [REDACTED]

Good morning, Laura.

We apologize for the late reply. Tom was out on travel all of last week.

Please see below in response to your question about whether we can identify the source of the error as either a GSA input issue or a company representation. In short, GSA cannot, from a technology perspective, manipulate a file submitted by a contractor to be loaded onto GSA Advantage.

1. Upon submitting a solicitation and award of the contract, the contractor makes a set of reps and certs, including around Trade Agreement Act compliance as well as the place of manufacture of the products. These assertions govern the ensuing contract for its life.
2. When uploading a file to GSA Advantage, the contractor provides the file, which includes the place of manufacture for each product. The government does not and cannot manipulate the file in any way, but rather will seek updates or flat out reject the file if there are issues, be it with point of manufacture or any other data field.
3. The contractor under federal contract law has an affirmative responsibility to remain in compliance and understand the statutes and regulations that govern this. If they have a product listed for sale through the government and the place of manufacture is incorrectly cited (and therefore in violation of their contract) -- regardless of how that came to be shown, the contractor has an affirmative requirement to correct it.

We hope this answers your question. As we discussed, we're happy to keep an open dialogue with you. We'll circle back in a few weeks with a larger update, and in the interim, please feel free to reach out with any additional questions.

Thank you,
Sheri



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