

Argonne National Laboratory Prime Contract**Part II. Section I. Contract Clauses**

Last revised: September 29, 1999

Clause I.53 - FAR 52.247-64 Preference for Privately-Owned U.S. Flag Commercial Vessels (Jun 1997)

- (a) The Cargo Preference Act of 1954 (46 U.S.C. 1241(b)) requires that Federal departments and agencies shall transport in privately owned U.S.-flag commercial vessels at least 50 percent of the gross tonnage of equipment, materials, or commodities that may be transported in ocean vessels (computed separately for dry bulk carriers, dry cargo liners, and tankers). Such transportation shall be accomplished when any equipment, materials, or commodities, located within or outside the United States, that may be transported by ocean vessel are:
- (1) Acquired for a U.S. Government agency account;
 - (2) Furnished to, or for the account of, any foreign nation without provision for reimbursement;
 - (3) Furnished for the account of a foreign nation in connection with which the United States advances funds or credits, or guarantees the convertibility of foreign currencies; or
 - (4) Acquired with advance of funds, loans, or guarantees made by or on behalf of the United States.
- (b) The Contractor shall use privately owned U.S.-flag commercial vessels to ship at least 50 percent of the gross tonnage involved under this contract (computed separately for dry bulk carriers, dry cargo liners, and tankers) whenever shipping any equipment, materials, or commodities under the conditions set forth in paragraph (a) above, to the extent that such vessels are available at rates that are fair and reasonable for privately owned U.S.-flag commercial vessels.
- (c) (1) The Contractor shall submit one legible copy of a rated onboard ocean bill of lading for each shipment to both (i) the Contracting Officer and (ii) the Office of Cargo Preference, Maritime Administration (MAR-590), 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20590. Subcontractor bills of lading shall be submitted through the prime Contractor.
- (2) The Contractor shall furnish these bill of lading copies (i) within twenty (20) working days of the date of loading for shipments originating in the United States or (ii) within thirty (30) working days for shipments originating outside the United States. Each bill of lading copy shall contain the following information:

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- (A) Sponsoring U.S. Government agency.
 - (B) Name of vessel.
 - (C) Vessel flag of registry.
 - (D) Date of loading.
 - (E) Port of loading.
 - (F) Port of final discharge.
 - (G) Description of commodity.
 - (H) Gross weight in pounds and cubic feet if available.
 - (I) Total ocean freight revenue in U.S. dollars.
- (d) Except for contracts at or below the simplified acquisition threshold, the Contractor shall insert the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (d), in all subcontracts or purchase orders under this contract.
- (e) The requirement in paragraph (a) does not apply to:
- (1) Contracts at or below the simplified acquisition threshold;
 - (2) Cargoes carried in vessels of the Panama Canal Commission or as required or authorized by law or treaty;
 - (3) Ocean transportation between foreign countries of supplies purchased with foreign currencies made available, or derived from funds that are made available, under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2353); and
 - (4) Shipments of classified supplies when the classification prohibits the use of non-Government vessels.
- (f) Guidance regarding fair and reasonable rates for privately owned U.S.-flag commercial vessels may be obtained from the Office of Costs and Rates, Maritime Administration, 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20590, Phone: (202) 366-4610.