



Comptroller General
of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20548

Decision

Matter of: East West Research, Inc.

File: B-240360

Date: October 18, 1990

Richard Snyder for the protester.
Stephen Stastny, Esq., Defense Logistics Agency, for the agency.
James M. Cunningham, Esq., Paul Lieberman, Esq., and John F. Mitchell, Esq., Office of the General Counsel, GAO, participated in the preparation of the decision.

DIGEST

Contracting agency properly may use manufacturer's part number and national stock number as an item description under a procurement of relatively simple and common items conducted through small purchase procedures where such identification adequately conveys the agency's needs.

DECISION

East West Research, Inc. protests the terms of request for quotations (RFQ) No. DLA400-90-T-8962, issued by the Defense General Supply Center of the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) for 300 pairs of knee pads. The RFQ, issued under Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 13 small purchase procedures, identified the knee pads by national stock number (NSN) 4240-01-216-9409, and a manufacturer's part number. East West contends that DLA's use of a manufacturer's part number as an item description is improper, and that if the use of a federal specification will not satisfy DLA's needs, then DLA is required to draft a detailed purchase description pursuant to FAR § 10.004(b)(1), in order to adequately express the agency's minimum requirements.

The issue presented by East West is identical to the one it raised in East West Research, Inc., B-238234.2; B-239682, Sept. 17, 1990, 90-2 CPD ¶ _____. For the reasons cited in that

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decision, DLA is not required to draft a more detailed purchase description in this case.

We deny the protest.

for Robert P. Murphy
James F. Hinchman
General Counsel