

# 17.401 General.

Leader company *contracting* is an extraordinary *acquisition* technique that is limited to special circumstances and utilized only when its use is in accordance with agency procedures. A developer or sole producer of a product or system is designated under this *acquisition* technique to be the leader company, and to furnish assistance and know-how under an approved contract to one or more designated follower companies, so they can become a source of supply. The objectives of this technique are one or more of the following:

- (a) Reduce delivery time.
- (b) Achieve geographic dispersion of suppliers.
- (c) Maximize the use of scarce tooling or special equipment.
- (d) Achieve economies in production.
- (e) Ensure uniformity and reliability in equipment, compatibility or standardization of *components*, and interchangeability of parts.
- (f) Eliminate problems in the use of proprietary data that cannot be resolved by more satisfactory solutions.
- (g) Facilitate the transition from development to production and to subsequent competitive *acquisition* of end items or major *components*.

**Parent topic:** [Subpart 17.4 - Leader Company Contracting](#)