

Biobased Product Evaluation and Green Product Demonstration (Task N.0727)

Statement of Need

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act (FSRIA) of 2002 established the BioPreferred Program that directs all military and civilian agencies to give preference to biobased products in the procurement process. FSRIA also directs the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to develop and implement a comprehensive program for designating biobased products. The Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) contains new provisions that require federal agencies to implement procurement preference for biobased products designated by USDA as established in FSRIA and increase the use of green, environmentally preferable or less toxic alternative products and services. However, before green and biobased products are utilized by federal agencies, their performance must be proven to meet government requirements.

Technical Approach

The Department of Defense (DoD), through the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) and the National Defense Center for Energy and Environment (NDCEE), evaluated biobased hydraulic fluids for use in both military tactical and non-tactical equipment under NDCEE Task N.326. Work was continued under NDCEE Tasks N.0432, N.0476, and N.0540, expanding biobased evaluations to additional product categories as designated by the USDA BioPreferred Program. NDCEE Task N.0556 is evaluating and demonstrating the performance of green products to government requirements to facilitate the identification of alternate products which may result in an increase the utilization of green products within the DoD.

NDCEE Task N.0727 will:

- Evaluate biobased products in the following categories to the requirements of government specifications: heat transfer fluids, multipurpose lubricants, turbine drip oils, slideway lubricants, and animal repellents
- Perform outreach to DoD end users to determine green product need areas
- Identify green products as viable alternatives to non-green products
- Demonstrate the performance of green products as alternatives to non-green products in DoD environments

Anticipated Results and Benefits

The evaluation of biobased products will identify potential biobased alternatives that meet the requirements of government specifications, assisting DLA in complying with FSRIA, FAR, and EO requirements. DoD facility outreach efforts will identify opportunities for the demonstration of green products as alternatives to non-green products. These demonstrations will increase facility awareness of green products, identify viable green product alternatives, and assist in the introduction of new green products into the DoD supply chain.

Technology Transfer and Outreach

Successful biobased product evaluations and green product demonstrations will identify green product alternatives and support DLA in establishing new National Stock Numbers (NSNs) for green products. This effort will expand the awareness, availability, and use of green products throughout the DoD and other government agencies. The NDCEE will continue working with DLA, DoD, USDA, and other government agencies to promote the implementation of green products that meet government requirements.

Government POC

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Status

Ongoing

