I. **GENERAL:** These Alternative End Item Inspection guidelines were developed using the guidance of ANSI/ASQC S1 An Attribute Skip-Lot Sampling Program (with modifications) and the general requirements cited in operational rations contracts. These procedures apply to Government end-item verification inspections only. It is the intent of the Government to rely on the contractor/subcontractor’s inspection and test results and minimize Government end item verification inspection and testing. All requests for clarification/interpretation of the procedures cited herein shall be directed to DSCP-HROS.

A. **End item Inspection Requirement:** All operational rations contractors/subcontractors performing under the higher level contract quality requirements are required to perform or have performed by their suppliers, contractually required component or end item inspections and tests in accordance with the contract/specification/CID.

B. There are three basic states for skip-lot inspection:

1. **State 1: Lot-by-lot inspection.** This is the starting point for skip-lot inspection.

2. **State 2: Skip-lot inspection.** When the contractor and the product qualify for skip lot inspection, the program switches to State 2.

3. **State 3: Skip-lot interrupt.** Skip-lot inspection may be temporarily interrupted, under circumstances described below, resulting in a transfer to state 3.

C. **Product/Characteristic Eligible for Skip-lot Inspection:** Skip-lot procedures, when applied, should be applied to individual examinations independently, and on a product by product basis. An individual examination is defined, in general, as the examination required under each separate paragraph or table of examination listed in the contract/specification/CID (see paragraph VIII.A).

D. **Product/Characteristic Ineligible for Skip-lot Inspection:** Pouch integrity examinations performed on thermostabilized items packaged in flexible pouches and cheese spread (the 200 sample units examined for pouch critical defects, internal pressure, and other pouch examinations/tests) and can examinations performed on ALL products packaged in metal or polymeric tray pack cans (examinations that include visual, tri/quad laminate lid integrity, can seam teardowns, and other packaging examinations cited in the U.S. Standards for Conditions of Food Containers, can manufacturing guidelines, specification/CID, and contract) DO NOT qualify for skip-lot inspection.
E. Approval for Skip-Lot Inspection (Flow # 1): DSCP-HROS will approve and assign QSP ratings. The Government Quality Assurance Representative (GQAR) shall initiate skip-lot inspection when a product becomes eligible for skip-lot inspection based on Government verification inspections results of each product and notification that the contractor’s Quality System Plan (QSP) was rated acceptable by DSCP-HROS.

F. Compliance of Product: Acceptance of material by the Government as complying with required end item requirements cited in the contract/specification should be based on the contractor/subcontractor’s end item inspection results when the skip-lot inspection provisions are met. As long as the contractor/subcontractor’s inspection and testing system is reliable, the Government Quality Assurance Representative (GQAR) will sample product for verification end item inspection and testing on a skip-lot basis. The GQAR for the Government agency having jurisdiction for performing Government QA at the contractor or subcontractor’s plant upon ascertaining end item compliance may permit shipment, provided all other requirements of the contract are met.

G. Standby Component or End Item Samples. The Government reserves the right to withdraw and hold standby samples of component or end item product or both (quantity of which shall be the same sample size as that required for end item inspection and testing for the lot size represented) for Government end item verification inspection purposes. Unused samples will be returned to the contractor/subcontractor after inspection indicates product compliance.

II. DSCP’S RESPONSIBILITIES:

A. Contracting Officers’ Responsibilities: The Contracting Officer can temporarily interrupt, discontinue, or disqualify a contractor from skip-lot inspection if he/she determines that skip-lot is not in the best interest of the Government. The Government verification inspection may also be further decreased (e.g., from skip-lot inspection frequency 1 in 4 to 1 in 6) by the Contracting Officer if he/she determines that this is in the best interest of the Government.

B. DSCP-HROS Quality Systems Audit Team:

1. Provide electronic (e-mail) notification of QSP ratings and evaluations, major noncompliance/deviation to the documented QSP and/or the quality system, and all correspondence submitted to the contractor, as applicable. DSCP-HROS will review all factors of production, inspection, and product failure to determine if the contractor has implemented an adequate quality system that continuously produces conforming products. This determination will be made by obtaining information from the applicable Government inspection agency, feedback from HRA and HRU’s QAS personnel as applicable. The following information is needed in determining skip-lot inspection:
The contractor/subcontractor’s latest documented Quality System Plan (QSP) evaluation rating, and latest compliance audit results; the quality history of the contractor and of the proposed items tentatively qualified for skip-lot inspection; the period of production; and the data required to implement skip-lot inspection (product name, lot numbers and the inspection agencies’ end item inspection results).

2. DSCP-HROS will conduct compliance quality systems audits to evaluate the contractor’s implementation of and compliance with the QSP, as well as the effectiveness of the approved documented QSP and other contractual requirements, on an annual basis (at a minimum). DSCP-HROS will determine if the contractor is still able to understand the current contract requirements (new and old) and follow the quality or other procedures cited in the contractor’s approved QSP.

3. DSCP-HROS will notify the Contracting Officer of the following: Major deficiencies noted in the documented QSP or implemented quality system; if there are significant changes in the contractor’s personnel or quality system; and recommendations concerning whether or not to discontinue skip-lot inspection.

III. INSPECTION AGENCIES’ RESPONSIBILITIES:

A. The designated GQAR shall review the contractor’s documented QSP and verify the quality system for implementation, compliance, and effectiveness in accordance with the approved documented QSP and other contractual requirements. Provide telephonic and written notification (using the Corrective Action Request Report) of a major noncompliance/deviation to the documented QSP and/or the quality system within one working day, as applicable.

B. The designated GQAR shall perform Government verification inspection and testing (lot-by-lot or skip-lot as approved by the Contracting Officer) for products required by the contract to assure that the contractor/subcontractor’s end item results are reliable. Copies of the results of the inspection and tests performed by the Government QAR shall be given to the contractor. The results of nonconforming lots (all nonconformances noted by the GQAR) will be telephoned and/or faxed to the assigned DSCP-HRU or DSCP-HRA’s QAS.

C. The designated GQAR shall maintain product data required for evaluating the contractor’s qualifications for skip-lot inspection and initiate skip-lot inspection when a product becomes eligible for skip-lot inspection. NOTE: Skip-lot inspection does not apply to record review. The GQAR shall review ALL records pertinent to all lots produced (including those not inspected under skip-lot inspection), issue a corrective action request if applicable (addressing a finding or observation), and provide a copy of the record review to the contractor.
During Government joint compliance audits, the GQAR shall make available a
copy (to the Government Audit Team) of the results of record reviews for those lots
randomly selected by the Government Audit Team for record verifications.

D. The designated GQAR shall maintain a running record/skip lot log of the lots
inspected by item, number of item lots by lot number, and the number of
nonconformances found in each lot for all lots inspected during States 2 and 3.

E. The designated GQAR shall annotate the certification document (e.g., USDA-AMS
certificate, DD 250, other) to indicate each end-item inspection which was
“skipped” by the GQAR under the skip-lot procedures describe in this document.
If more than one lot is included on a certification document, the annotation shall
indicate each end-item inspection skipped by the GQAR, if any, for each lot. The
annotation should have a format acceptable to the GQAR, format cited in
paragraph VIII.B., or a format similar to the following:

“Acceptance of the lot or lots listed is based in part on the contractor’s end item
examination results in accordance with skip-lot procedures.”

F. Questions or concerns may be referred to the applicable QAS assigned to DSCP-
HRU for Tray Pack, DSCP-HRA for MRE or DSCP-HROS for quality systems as
applicable, Directorate of Subsistence, Operational Rations CBU, 700 Robbins
Street, Building 6, Philadelphia, PA 19111-5092.

IV. CONTRACTOR/SUBCONTRACTOR’S RESPONSIBILITIES:

A. The contractor/subcontractor shall notify the applicable inspection agency, In-Plant
GQAR and DSCP, in writing, of any change in the following: QSP; change in the
method of manufacture or inspection; significant changes in personnel having an effect
on the production and quality of the product; tools, gauges, or material related to the
production of the product; or implementation of any change in the specification.

B. The contractor/subcontractor shall notify the GQAR of scheduled producer’s end item
verification inspection, specific switching procedure (normal, tightened, reduced) being
utilized for each product qualified under the ANSI /ASQC Standard Z1.4. The GQAR
shall also be immediately notified whenever the contractor/subcontractor finds a lot to be
nonconforming and a disposition is desired under the contractual nonconformance
procedures. All nonconforming lots accepted by the Contracting Officer under the
nonconformance procedures (reinspection, waiver, rework, etc.), in lieu of inspection by
the inspection agency, will be treated as nonexistent for purposes of the skip-lot
sampling program (when the nonconformance is found by the contractor/subcontractor’s
inspection system).
C. Contractor/Subcontractor’s End Item Inspection and Test Reports and other documentation. The contractor shall provide the GQAR the following documentation for all lots to be shipped to substantiate lot conformance, whether or not they are inspected by the GQAR (under the skip-lot inspection): A copy of the current production standard (PDM/First Article) formula (including ratios of ingredients and formulation records for each production lot), copies of all data/records of inspections and tests conducted (in-process and end item and other data applicable to the lot in question as cited in the MPC Clause).

D. The contractor/subcontractor shall not ship any lot or any part of a lot until the GQAR has determined lot conformance with all requirements of the contract that are not qualified for skip-lot inspection. The following certification shall be affixed to the inspection and test reports provided to the GQAR for shipment:

CERTIFICATION:

I certify that the component or end item presented for acceptance under terms of contract/order number ____________ has been inspected and tested, as required by the contract and specification/CID/etc., number ________________, through the inspection and testing of samples that were representative of the lot, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, were found to comply with the all the requirements of the specification and the contract.

The product ________, lot number ________ was inspected using the switching procedures cited in ANSI/ASQC Standard Z1.4, severity of inspection ______________ for the qualified characteristics (see attached end-item inspection results for sampling plans used for the inspection of this lot).

Signature: ____________________
(Type name and title of contractor/subcontractor’s representative who is authorized to sign the report or certificate, and the date)

DISTRIBUTION:
The contractor/subcontractor shall provide a copy to GQAR of which one copy shall be faxed promptly (by the GQAR) to DSCP if the lot is nonconforming.

V. SUPPLIER END ITEM SKIP-LOT INSPECTION AND TESTING QUALIFICATION.

A. Supplier Qualification. The supplier shall:
1. Have a documented QSP that was rated acceptable by DSCP-HROS. Have implemented and maintained the documented QSP for controlling product quality and changes in the system. The quality system shall include inspection by the supplier of every lot produced and recording of inspection results.

2. Have implemented a quality system that is reliable in terms of consistently producing conforming product and that is capable of detecting and correcting shifts in quality levels and monitoring process changes which may adversely affect quality. The supplier’s personnel responsible for the application of the system shall exhibit a clear understanding of the application standards, systems, and procedures to be followed.

3. Not have experienced an organization change that might adversely affect quality.

**B. Product Qualification (Flow # 2):** The product shall have met all contract/specification/CID requirements and ALL of the following requirements:

1. Be of stable design and not a new item (new item is one that has never been produced for the specific ration program). An item is no longer new and can be considered stable of design if it meets 2 through 5 below.

2. Have been manufactured on an essentially continuous basis for a period of not less than six months (whenever production is held pending first article/PDM/PCR/ sample approval, only the time period after approval and resumption of regular production shall be included). Essentially continuous production (for new items) means that “production is at a steady rate.” Production is considered continuous if at least one lot of that product (e.g., chicken and rice) is submitted for inspection at a frequency of every month.

3. Have been on normal inspection at the inspection level cited in the contractual documents (see ANSI ZI.4 and the specific product specification/CID or other contractual document where the inspection levels are given).

4. Have, at a minimum, been maintained at the AQL(s) cited in individual specifications or other contractual documents (see ANSI Z1.4) for a period of not less than six months. This means that there have been no Government end item failures for the item for 6 months.

5. The previous 10 consecutive lots were found conforming with all the requirements cited in the contract/specification/CID and were accepted during the initial inspection performed by the assigned In-Plant GQAR.

**VI. PROCEDURES FOR SKIP LOT INSPECTION (Flow # 3 one-in-four skip-lot frequency and Flow # 4 one-in-six skip-lot frequency):**
A. Determining initial skip-lot inspection frequency (for products that are not new and stable design was previously established):

1. Lot-by-Lot Inspection Procedure (State 1): The inspection program for product starts in State 1, lot-by-lot inspection. When the supplier and the product qualify for skip-lot inspection, the program switches to State 2, skip-lot. Skip-lot inspection may be temporarily interrupted resulting in a transfer to state 3.

2. Data from the last 10 consecutive lots presented for Government verification inspection. This data consists of a running record of the lots inspected by item and examination, number of item lots by lot number, and the number of lots rejected during the 1st Government verification end item inspections results.

3. The initial frequency for skip-lot inspection (State 2) shall be 1 lot inspected in 4 lots submitted. The frequency for skip-lot inspection should be reduced to 1 in 6 lots submitted when a product has been at the 1 in 4 frequency for a minimum of one year with no change in status in skip-lot inspection for all requirements/characteristics eligible for skip-lot inspection (i.e., no Government end item inspection failures). In other words, all product requirements/characteristics eligible for skip-lot inspection shall qualify to go to the frequency of 1 in 6 at the same time. If there is a change in status, the new period begins when the product meets the 1 in 4 re-qualification requirements. Under no circumstances should two different skip-lot inspection frequencies be used for a product at the same time.

4. Other skip-lot frequencies cited in the standard ANS/ASQC S1 shall not be used, unless approved by the Contracting Officer.

B. Lot Selection for Skip-Lot Procedure (State 2):

1. The lots inspected under State 2 (skip-lot) shall be selected in accordance with the inspection agency procedure (e.g. six-sided die or other method provided the contractor does not know which of the lots will be inspected until the lots have been offered for Government inspection). Unless otherwise directed by DSCP, end item inspection skip-lot verification shall be done by randomly selecting not less than one lot in four or one lot in six consecutive lots, as applicable, presented for inspection of a specific item. The sampling procedure under skip-lot places the succeeding lots not chosen for inspection back into the universe available for subsequent inspection. For instance, starting with a group of four lots (i.e., 1-4), randomly select one of them for inspection. If lot 2 were selected, the next lot would be selected from lots 3, 4, 5, or 6. If lot 6 was chosen at random, the next selection would be from lots 7, 8, 9, or 10, and so on.
2. Product must be produced on an essentially continuous basis. Essentially continuous basis (products that are not new) means that at least 1 lot of product is submitted for Government verification inspection every 2 months for that specific product (unless contracted quantity is completed for that line item or as directed by DSCP) or other products of similar nature (produced for the rations programs). Product shipped to other parties (other ration contractors) shall be considered in the determination of essentially continuous production. **NOTE:** Product of similar nature: All MRE placeable and multi-stage entrees can be grouped together and considered of similar nature; All MRE pumpable entrees can be grouped together and considered of similar nature; all MRE thermostabilized fruits can be grouped together and considered of similar nature; all MRE cakes can be grouped together and considered of similar nature; all MRE cookies/brownies can be grouped together and considered of similar nature; all tray pack placeable and multi-stage entrees can be grouped together and considered of similar nature; All tray pack pumpable entrees can be grouped together and considered of similar nature; all tray pack cakes can be grouped together and considered of similar nature; all tray pack hot filled desserts can be grouped together and considered of similar nature; all tray pack thermostabilized desserts can be grouped together and considered of similar nature; and, etc., etc.

3. A running record/skip lot log shall be maintained by the designated GQAR of the lots inspected by item and examination, number of lots by item, and the number of nonconformances found in each lot for all lots inspected during State 2 and 3.

4. Acceptance or rejection of lots identified by the contractor (based on their inspection in lieu of submitting the lot for Government inspection) shall not affect skip-lot status. The contractor may request that the Contracting Officer accept a lot without Government verification inspection (rework/waiver based on the contractors inspection results). Such a lot will be treated as nonexistent for the purpose of the skip-lot procedure. However, paperwork concerning the nonconforming lot and the final disposition shall be placed in the contractor/subcontractor’s quality history file. The contractor shall not, knowingly, submit lots found nonconforming by their end item inspection system for Government inspection. If a lot is inspected by the Government, rejected, and later accepted as nonconforming, the Government initial inspection results shall be used to determine skip-lot status.

C. **Interrupt Procedures (State 3):** Skip lot shall be interrupted and lot-by-lot inspection implemented (for that set of requirements or characteristics) in accordance with the contractual requirements when the data from the last inspected lot does not meet the requirements of the contract.

D. **Requalification Procedures:** Skip lot may be resumed when 4 consecutive lots presented or 6 consecutive lots (if under the 1 in 6 frequency) for Government verification inspection are accepted during State 3 (lot-by-lot inspection).
Upon re-qualification, skip-lot inspection should be resumed using the last skip-lot frequency (1-in-4 or 1-in-6 as applicable).

**E. Disqualification Procedures:** The product shall be disqualified for skip-lot inspection and lot-by-lot inspection procedures reinstated when:

1. Requalification is not achieved within 10 lots of the specific product (e.g., chicken and rice); or the product placed in State 3 is not produced for more than two months; and/or, the procedures shift between State 2 and State 3 more than once within a period of two months.

2. The Government detects irregularity in the following: a) The contractor’s quality system during joint Government compliance audits or verification/audits conducted by the assigned In-Plant GQAR; b) decrease in product quality noted during Government product reviews; c) contractor deviates from the approved documented QSP without Government review and approval or deviates from the contractual requirements; d) a customer complaint received, validated and determined to have a serious effect on the quality of the product; and e) the contractor fails to address corrective action requests (CARs) or to take effective corrective and preventive action to correct deficiencies noted by the inspection agencies (after GQAR’s CAR has been validated by DSCP-HROS), customers, and/or during DSCP-HROS compliance audits.

3. If lot-by-lot inspection is reinstated because of one of the events listed above, the qualification requirements cited in the initial qualification requirements (Para. V.) shall apply. Upon re-qualification under the initial qualification requirements, skip-lot inspection should be resumed using the last skip-lot frequency (1 in 4 or 1 in 6 as applicable).

4. The Contracting Officer determines that skip-lot is not in the best interest of the Government and decides to return to lot-by-lot inspection.

**VII. EXAMPLES OF PRODUCT QUALIFICATIONS:**

**A. MRE Entrees Performance Specifications:** The product requirements cited in the individual MRE’s product performance specifications (Quality Assurance Provisions Paragraph II.A. 4.4. Examination): Product shall be examined for the defects listed in Table I utilizing the double sampling plans indicated in ANSI/ASQC Z1.4. The lot size shall be expressed in pouches. The sample unit shall be one pouch. The inspection level shall be S-3 and the AQL, expressed in terms of defects per hundred units (DHU), shall be 1.5 for major defects and 4.0 for minor defects for product inspection.
SITUATION EXAMPLE (after the contractor satisfies the contractor and product qualification requirements): The last 10 lots range 35,001 - 150,000 pouches; the sample size for each lot was 20 pouches; the last 10 consecutive lots presented for Government verification inspection were accepted with a total sample size equal to 200 pouches; only 1 minor defect was noted during the Government verification inspection for the 10 lots; no other defects were noted.

1. The previous 10 consecutive lots presented for Government verification inspection were found conforming with all the requirements cited in the contract/specification/CID and were accepted during the initial inspection performed by the assigned In-Plant GQAR.

2. The product met the skip-lot requirements. Hence, the product qualifies for skip-lot inspection for all examinations eligible for skip-lot inspection.

B. Tray Pack Military/Performance Specifications: The product requirements cited in individual Tray Pack specifications (Quality Assurance Provisions Paragraph 4.5.3.2. Product Examination): Product shall be examined for the defects listed in Table I utilizing the double sampling plans indicated in ANSI/ASQC Z1.4. The lot size shall be expressed in tray pack cans. The sample unit shall be one tray pack can. The inspection level shall be S-3 and the AQL, expressed in terms of DHU, shall be 4.0 for major defects and 6.5 for minor defects.

SITUATION EXAMPLE (after the contractor satisfies the contractor and product qualification requirements): The last 10 lots range 3,201 - 10,000 tray pack cans; the sample size for each lot was 13 tray pack cans; the last 10 consecutive lots presented for Government verification inspection were accepted with a total sample size equal to 130 tray pack cans; 1 major defect was noted during the Government verification inspection (second sample of lot # 5) for the 10 lots; no other defects were noted.

1. The previous 10 consecutive lots presented for Government verification inspection were found conforming with all the requirements cited in the contract/specification/CID and were accepted during the initial inspection performed by the assigned In-Plant GQAR.

2. The product met the skip-lot requirements. Hence, the product qualifies for skip-lot inspection for all examinations eligible for skip-lot inspection.

VIII. EXAMPLES OF SKIP LOT REFERENCE CODES FOR END ITEM EXAMINATIONS OR GROUPS OF EXAMINATIONS AND ANNOTATION TO BE INCLUDED ON CERTIFICATION DOCUMENT (E.G., USDA-AMS CERTIFICATE, DD 250, OTHER). NOTE: THESE ARE ONLY EXAMPLES, THE INSPECTION AGENCIES MAY ANNOTATE CERTIFICATION DOCUMENTS USING AN AGENCY SOP:

A. Skip Lot Reference Codes for End Item Examinations or Groups of Examinations:
All Flexible Pouches (MRE/Other) Reference MIL-PRF-44073
Packaging of Food in Flexible Pouches

1) II.3. 4.2.1 Examination of Pouch and Carton Assembly
2) II.4. Shipping Container Examination (May also be referenced in the contract technical data package or the item specification/CID)
3) III.A.1.a & b Labeling and Marking (Pouches and Cartons)
4) III.A.1.c Marking of Shipping Containers (May also be referenced in the contract technical data package or the item specification/CID)
5) Para. 4.3.6 Residual Gas Volume Test
6) Unit Load Exam (May also be referenced in the contract technical data package or the item specification/CID)

Individual Products Packaged in Flexible Pouches Under the Requirements of a Military Performance Specification (MIL-PRF)

8) Para. 4.4 Product evaluation (include drained weight and net weight exams) (Table I)

Individual Products Packaged in Flexible Pouches Under the Requirements of a Procurement Contract Requirements (PCR)

9) Section E Product Evaluation (include drained weight and net weight exams) (QAP’s)
   Part B (Table I)

Individual Products Packaged in Flexible Pouches Under the Requirements of a Military Design Specification (Non-fruit)

10) Para. 4.5.4 Net Weight Inspection
11) Para. 4.5.5 Product Evaluation (includes drained weight exam) (Table I)

Fruit Packaged in Flexible Pouches Under the Requirements of Military Design Specification MIL-F-44067D

12) Para. 4.5.4 Net Weight Inspection
13) Para. 4.5.5 Product Evaluation (include drained weight, U.S. Grade, and pineapple tartness exams) (Table I)
*14) Para. 4.5.6 Brix Testing
*15) Para. 4.5.7 pH Testing
*16) Para. 4.5.8 Ascorbic Acid Testing

*These tests may be combined into one for skip-lot purposes
Individual Products Packaged in Flexible Pouches Under the Requirements of a Commercial Item Description (CID)

17) QAP Section  Net Weight Examination

18) QAP Section  Product Evaluation (includes drained weight exam)

Individual Products Packaged in Tray Pack Cans (Metal/Polymeric) Under the Requirements of a Military Specification (PCR or Other Document)

19) Para. 4.5.3.1  Net Weight Inspection
20) Para. 4.5.3.2  Product Evaluation (includes drained weight exam)
21) Para 4.5.6  Vacuum Examination
22) Para. 4.5.7  Shipping Container Examination (May also be referenced in the contract technical data package)
23) Para. 4.5.8  Unit Load Inspection (May also be referenced in the contract technical data package)
24) Para. 5.2.3  Packaging
25) Para 5.4  Labeling of cans
26) Para. 5.5.1  Marking of Shipping Containers (May also be referenced in the contract technical data package)

B. Example of Suggested Certification Statement (the Following Statement Rubber Stamped to Each Copy):

The production lot(s) listed on this certificate were inspected and accepted based on end item skip lot inspection procedures. The examination(s) based on specification paragraph(s) and or table(s) applicable to the referenced lot(s) were skipped as indicated by the code(s) provided.

The following lot description may be individually typed or handwritten:

Lot 9068 Beef with Mushrooms in Sauce PFR: Skip Lot Code(s) 1, 3, 4, and 8.

Lot 9076 Noodles in Buttered Flavored Sauce PCR: Skip Lot Code(s) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 9.

Lot 9078 Pineapple MIL-F-44067D: Skip Lot Code(s) 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 14, and 16.
DSCP-HROS approves QSP and notifies GQAR of QSP rating and other actions

GQAR reviews QSP rating, product QH, requests clarification from supervisor, or DSCP if necessary. Is QSP acceptable?

YES

GQAR inspection results indicates that the last 10 consecutive lots by item presented for 1st Govt. verification inspection were acceptable?

YES

Contractor Does not qualify for skip-lot inspection

NO

Start 1 in 4 skip-lot inspection frequency
INITIAL QUALIFICATION FOR PRODUCT SKIP LOT INSPECTION FLOW 2

ACCEPTABLE QSP?

is product new

YES

NO

Contractor does not qualify for skip-lot inspection

Stable design?
(for new product must first meet cumulative requirements 2-5 below to be considered of stable design)

YES

NO

Were the 10 previous consecutive lots presented for Government verification inspection accepted during the 1st Government verification inspection? (Stable design previously established)

YES

NO

(2) At a minimum 1 lot of the product has been produced per month for a period of NLT 6 months

NO

YES

(3) Has product been on normal inspection at the level cited in the contract

NO

YES

(4) Has product been maintained at the AQL’s cited in the contract/specification for a period of NLT 6 months?

NO

YES

(5) Were the 10 previous consecutive lots presented for Gov. inspection were accepted during the 1st Gov. inspection?

NO

YES

PRODUCT QUALIFIES FOR SKIP-LOT INSPECTION
Skip Lot Inspection (1 in 4 Frequency) Procedures Flow 3

Supplier and product met initial skip-lot qualifications and product is on State 1: Lot-by-Lot Inspection

State 2: Skip-lot inspection
GQAR selects and inspects 1 lot in 4 consecutive lots submitted for Govt. verification inspection

Product/lot conforming IAW contract requirements during the 1st Govt. verification inspection?

YES → Continue with skip Lot inspection

NO → State 3: Interrupt skip-lot inspection and implement lot-by-lot Govt. inspection for that Table of exams or specific requirement

Requalification: Within 10 consecutive lots presented for 1st Govt. inspection, are 4 consecutive lots accepted during the 1st Govt. verification inspection?

YES → Disqualification: Contractor is disqualified from skip-lot inspection for that product or other products if (1) product does not re-qualifies within 10 lots (2) product or product of similar nature not produced for more than 2 months (3) skip lot procedure shifts between State 2 and State 3 more than once within 2 months (4) ineffective CPA (5) degradation in quality of product or system (6) Contracting Officer’s option

NO → If lot-by-lot Govt. inspection reinstated because one of the events in the disqualification procedures, the contractor must re-qualify under the initial qualification requirements. Resume at 1 in 4 frequency after re-qualification
**STATE 2:** Supplier and product met initial skip-lot qualifications and product has been at a 1 in 4 frequency for one year with no change in status for all requirements initially qualified for skip-lot inspection

GQAR selects and inspects 1 lot in 6 consecutive lots submitted for Govt. verification inspection

Product/lot conforming IAW contract requirements during the 1st Govt. verification inspection?

- **YES**
  - Continue with skip lot inspection

- **NO**
  - **State 3:** Interrupt skip-lot inspection and implement lot-by-lot Govt. inspection for that Table of exams or specific requirement

  **Requalification:** Within 10 consecutive lots presented for 1st Govt. inspection, are 6 consecutive lots accepted during the 1st Govt. verification inspection?

  - **YES**
  - Disqualification: Contractor is disqualified from skip-lot inspection for that product or other products if (1) product does not re-qualifies within 10 lots (2) product or product of similar nature not produced for more than 2 months (3) skip lot procedure shifts between State 2 and State 3 more than once within 2 months (4) ineffective CPA (5) degradation in quality of product or system (6) Contracting Officer’s option

  - **NO**

  **If lot-by-lot Govt. inspection reinstated because one of the events in the disqualification procedures, the contractor must re-qualify under the initial qualification requirements. Resume at 1 in 6 skip-lot frequency after re-qualification**