

April 5, 2005

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The Honorable Peter Visclosky
2313 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-2461

Dear Representative Visclosky,

I would like to comment on the proposed changes to DFARS 225.7009-1 through 225.7009-4, as set forth in 70 Fed. Reg. 8560 (Feb. 22, 2005). 10 U.S.C. 2534 and annual Defense appropriations acts contain restrictions on the acquisition of foreign ball and roller bearings. These restrictions are implemented in DFARS 225.7009 and in the clause at DFARS 252.225-7016.

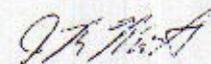
I am employed by Emerson Power Transmission at the McGill Manufacturing Division in Valparaiso, Indiana and am very concerned about the above referenced proposal. We manufacture high quality Commercial and Extra Precision bearings for use in military programs such as Blackhawk Helicopters, C17 aircraft, aircraft carrier arresting gear, submarine sonar arrays and a variety of other military applications. This is a very competitive product and there are several other United States bearing facilities/competitors who produce this type of product.

There are various Buy American DFARS in place that serve to protect the U.S. base of suppliers that produce the very critical bearings used by our military to support our war fighters. I strongly believe that these laws are appropriate and necessary and should not be watered down or eliminated. Thus, I am very concerned by the recent initiative mentioned in the Federal Register Volume 70 RE. 8560 dated February 22, 2005, regarding a proposed change in the regulations to eliminate the requirement for our military procurement to buy only American made bearings and bearing components.

There is no shortage of qualified U.S. bearing plants that produce this product and the pricing is bid competitively in most cases. If it is decided that the restrictions are eliminated, it could lead to a manufacturing decision that a move to a Low Cost Country is the only way to remain competitive with bearing plants in Asia or Eastern Europe.

I strongly believe that bearings are one of the most critical parts used by our military, and we need to protect and insure that a strong manufacturing base remains in the United States. I ask for your support in defeating any actions that jeopardize our jobs and eliminate the solid base of military bearing manufacturers in the United States.

Sincerely


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Emerson Power Transmission
909 N. Lafayette St.
Valparaiso, IN 46383

PETER J. VISCLOSKY
1ST DISTRICT, INDIANA

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April 28, 2005

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
Department of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

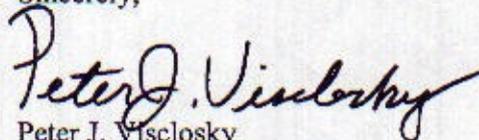
Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

I write on behalf of several constituents of Indiana's First Congressional District.

My constituents have contacted me to express their concerns regarding the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS). Enclosed, please find copies of the correspondence I have received from my constituents. I would appreciate your addressing their concerns and making their correspondence part of the official comments you receive for the proposed changes to DFARS.

Thank you in advance for your serious consideration of this matter. Do not hesitate to let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,


Peter J. Visclosky
Member of Congress

PJV:bjb
Enclosure