

Top 50 Questions for Equipment Parts Upgrade/Repair Site Visit: Supplier Sourcing Factors

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We recommend DoD conduct site visits of Fleet Equipment Upgrade/Repair Sites on regular basis to determine patterns of replacement part sourcing techniques in conference call connections with suppliers.

Original supplier sources are often utilised more frequently at Upgrade/Repair sites because sometimes equipment parts from other sources do not fit as well into standardised policies/procedures.

The key factor upgrade/repair administrators cited in our Job Site Visits was availability of replacement equipment parts.

Original Supplier Sources for equipment parts are usually more expensive & mission requirements are another major influence on how upgrade/repair sites establish policy/procedures for Jobs in Work Orders.

Mission requirements decision makes often impose budget restrictions influencing determination of best suppliers to source from for equipment upgrade/repair jobs.

Key objectives for our site visit included establishing how upgrade/repair administrators addressed: 1) Availability of Parts, 2) Parts Prices, 3) Mission Requirements Policy for Parts Sourcing, 4) cost/time to repair or replace equipment, 5) Parts delivery Schedules.

During our site visits, equipment upgrade/repair officials were required to submit responses to Top 50 Equipment Parts Sourcing Questions:

1. Where are you most likely to obtain best price/delivery schedule for replacement parts?
2. Do you keep records of supplier sources for different types of replacement parts?
3. Can you state usual steps you take when replacement parts are required?
4. Do you have standard supplier sources to access certain parts price/delivery schedules?
5. Do you verify if price/delivery schedule are optimised for meeting mission requirements?
6. How do mission requirements teams influence your source selection techniques?
7. If parts are available but also more expensive, do you explore other sourcing options?

8. Do mission requirements teams ever question your price/delivery schedule selection?
9. To expedite upgrade/repair time, do mission requirements teams exert pressure?
10. Does your operation regularly examine specific specs documentation for parts?
11. Do mission requirements teams ever require presence of essential specs?
12. Have you ever been approached with good offers from similar suppliers?
13. What criteria do you use to determine if equipment will be repaired or replaced?
14. Do you estimate percentage of parts obtained from multiple supplier sources?
15. Do you usually contact only current suppliers for information on specs?
16. Do you seek compatible specs from other suppliers when current deal is suboptimal?
17. How do you determine when to use existing parts as opposed to new replacement?
18. Do you find variation in price/availability of parts from different suppliers?
19. How do you assess possible different candidates for sourcing from different suppliers?
20. Are mission requirement teams actively involved in determining utility of existing parts?
21. Can you specifically describe mission requirement team how/when source parts?
22. Do mission requirement teams specify type of parts supplier to use?
23. If mission requirement teams specify type of parts supplier, is price factor?
24. How often do mission requirement teams change policy on supplier type replace specs?
25. Do mission requirement teams usually accept/reject decisions to utilise used parts?
26. Do mission requirement teams usually put ceiling on replacement parts price?
27. If ceilings are put on replacement parts prices, does this affect your choice of suppliers?
28. Over time, have you noticed any changes in mission requirement teams price ceilings?
29. Does degree of mission requirements team participation change with specs standards?
30. Do you directly select equipment parts from supplier catalogs or is it predetermined?

31. Do you document geographic location of supplier source for replacement parts?
32. Do you look for compatible parts from other suppliers when originals not available?
33. Have you determined percentage cost benefit realised with using replacement parts?
34. Do you have predetermined list of preferred supplier sources for used parts?
35. Do you maintain adequate records of preferred supplier sources for used parts?
36. Over time, have you noticed differences between supplier sources based on specs?
37. Do you document if price/delivery schedule are difference between sources?
38. Do mission requirements teams ever question your price/delivery schedules?
39. If mission requirement teams specify type of parts supplier, are they aware of schedule?
40. Do you usually contact only current suppliers for information on price/delivery schedule?
41. How do you assess potential difference in schedule for sourcing from different suppliers?
42. Are their mission requirements team constraints on choosing type of supplier source?
43. Do mission requirements teams ever question your price/delivery schedule selection?
44. Do you usually contact only current suppliers for information on price/delivery schedule?
45. Does your operation regularly examine specific price/delivery schedule for parts?
46. How often do mission requirement teams change specific price/delivery schedule policy?
47. Do mission requirements teams ever exert pressure to influence price/delivery schedule?
48. Have you ever been approached with similar price/delivery schedule offers?
49. Do you find variation in price/delivery schedule of parts from different suppliers?
50. Can you state usual steps you take when price/delivery schedule of suppliers is determined?