16.203-2 Application.

A fixed-price contract with economic price adjustment *may* be used when (i) there is serious doubt concerning the stability of market or labor conditions that will exist during an extended period of contract performance, and (ii) contingencies that would otherwise be included in the contract price can be identified and covered separately in the contract. Price adjustments based on *established prices should* normally be restricted to industry-wide contingencies. Price adjustments based on labor and material costs *should* be limited to contingencies beyond the contractor's control. For use of economic price adjustment in sealed bid contracts, see <u>14.408-4</u>.

(a) In establishing the base level from which adjustment will be made, the *contracting officer shall* ensure that contingency allowances are not duplicated by inclusion in both the base price and the adjustment requested by the contractor under economic price adjustment clause.

(b) In contracts that do not require submission of *certified cost or pricing data*, the *contracting officer shall* obtain adequate data to establish the base level from which adjustment will be made and *may* require verification of data submitted.

Parent topic: 16.203 Fixed-price contracts with economic price adjustment.