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27.402 Policy.

(a) To carry out their missions and programs, agencies acquire or obtain access to many kinds of *data* produced during or used in the performance of their contracts. Agencies require *data* to-

(1) Obtain competition among suppliers;

(2) Fulfill certain responsibilities for disseminating and publishing the results of their activities;

(3) Ensure appropriate utilization of the results of research, development, and demonstration activities including the dissemination of technical information to foster subsequent technological developments;

(4) Meet other programmatic and statutory requirements; and

(5) Meet specialized *acquisition* needs and ensure logistics support.

(b) Contractors *may* have proprietary interests in *data*. In order to prevent the compromise of these interests, agencies *shall* protect proprietary *data* from unauthorized use and disclosure. The protection of such *data* is also necessary to encourage qualified contractors to participate in and apply innovative concepts to Government programs. In light of these considerations, agencies *shall* balance the Government's needs and the contractor's legitimate proprietary interests.

Parent topic: [Subpart 27.4 - Rights in Data and Copyrights](#)