



Vendor Pricelist Creation & Update Tool Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

External Use:

For Contractors/Vendors

*Office of Acquisition & Logistics (OA&L)
National Acquisition Center
Written: May 2006
Revised: September 2011*

A Contractor/Vendor is an entity doing business with the Department of Veterans Affairs. In order to do business with the VA, the Contractor/Vendor is obligated to provide a copy of its pricelist. Additionally, they are required to provide an electronic copy of the pricelist so that the NAC can update their database (the NAC CM) and the Contract Catalog Search Tool (CCST).

1. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this SOP is to establish procedural guidelines for our Contractors/Vendors to initiate their new pricelist or update their current pricelist so that your respective Contract Specialist can ensure that it is uploaded to the National Acquisition Center's Contract Management Database (NAC CM - Internal), which ultimately feeds to the Contract Catalog Search Tool (CCST – External). This user-friendly guide shall provide you with detailed instruction on how to effectively and thoroughly complete your EXCEL pricelist. It is absolutely mandatory that the Contractor/Vendor fill out the appropriate information in all columns displayed on the EXCEL pricelist or problems will occur with the uploading of the pricelist.

2. **PROCEDURES:** There are two processes that are internally initiated by the Contract Specialists.

- a. **Uploading New Items (i.e. new contract awards and existing contracts with only new item additions)** – The Contract Specialist provides the Contractor/Vendor with a copy of this SOP and a clean template of the EXCEL pricelist which will automatically display the instructions on how to populate this template correctly.
- b. **Uploading Existing Items (i.e. changes to prices, deletions, etc)** – The Contract Specialist downloads the Contractor/Vendor's already pre-populated EXCEL pricelist from the NAC CM, which consists of the most current edition of the Contractor/Vendor's government pricing.

3. **ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- a. The Contractor/Vendor is responsible for...
 - i. electronically submitting their initial pricelist to their Contract Specialist once a new contract award has been made so that it can be manually entered and/or uploaded
 - ii. completing **ALL** data input in each column on the applicable EXCEL pricelist tabs ('changes' or 'additions' or 'deletions') or all three
 - iii. working directly with their Contract Specialist to ensure their entries are accurate and in the required columns
- b. The Contract Specialist is responsible for...
 - i. providing the Contractor/Vendor with a blank EXCEL pricelist template for new initial uploads and new item additions **ONLY**, via email (electronically)

- ii. verifying all columns are correctly filled out in their entirety by the Contractor/Vendor once the pricelist has been returned via emailed
- iii. verifying and correcting any and all data input problems with the Contractor/Vendor prior to uploading the pricelist

IMPORTANT NOTES TO CONTRACTORS/VENDORS

- *To obtain the **instructions** on how to complete the electronic pricelists, all that needs to be done is to run your mouse pointer across the top of each column heading and the instructions will be displayed. Please remember that if **ALL COLUMNS** are not completed and properly on the pricelist, an “Error Log” (see Q&A below for description) will be automatically generated.*
- *This will be applicable when you have a tremendous amount of line items on your pricelist. When requesting to make revisions to your current pricelist, your Contracting Specialist will download and forward you a copy of your current pre-populated pricelist. Make your revisions accordingly and then go back and ‘delete’ all items that were **NOT CHANGED/REVISED** from that EXCEL copy of your pricelist. This helps to speed up the program used to upload your items to your current pricelist. We have your actual pricelist reflecting all of your contracted items housed in our internal database.*
- ***NEVER ALTER** any formatting such as - Add/delete columns or worksheets (tabs), or link this pricelist or any cells of this pricelist to your internal sources at your site. Additionally when copying information into the cells, **DO NOT** paste formulas, which will cause problems with the uploading of the pricelist and you may have to start the process all over again anew.*

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Question

How long can I expect my pricelist to be uploaded?

Answer

Varies, the Contracting Officer must review the pricelist and send it to their database support team to load into their databases. Once complete and the pricelist is “loaded” the prices will appear on the CCST the next business day.

Question

How soon after the pricelist upload can I actually view the updates in CCST?

Answer

Within 24-48 hours you will be able to view your updates via the CCST.

Question

Who is responsible for expeditiously verifying the uploading of my pricelist?

Answer

The Contract Specialist, as these are his/her Contractors/Vendors. But we also ask that you as a Contractor/Vendor also verify your uploads as well, as a second pair of eyes.

Question

Why did I receive an "Error Log"?

Answer

Because a problem has been found in the pricelist, and correction is needed in order for the next upload to be successful. Please remember that if **ALL REQUIRED COLUMNS** are not completed properly on the pricelist, an "Error Log" will be automatically generated. Sometimes the pricelist will upload partially and sometimes not at all depending on the corrections needed.

Question

Why is it **extremely critical** that I not rename an "Error Log"?

Answer

- The VA uploading system has automatically assigned an ID number to the back of the file name, making it an "Error Log" and the uploading tool will be searching for that assigned ID number once the "Error Log" is uploaded again with the required corrections.
- If and when, Contracting Specialists want to go back to track past changes, it will be extremely difficult to physically track those changes if "Error Log(s)" are not properly filed systematically where they should be.
- In some cases, the items on the pricelist can become duplicated in NAC CM/CCST causing a very tedious line by line deletion of the correct items. So, it is **extremely important** that you **ONLY** make the revisions requested by your Contract Specialist.

*****Please Note: An "Error Log" will continuously be assigned an additional (extended) ID Number each time the "Error Log" has to be sent back to the you to be corrected*****

Question

What will happen if I never make the required corrections to an "Error Log" and I never return it for uploading as per my Contract Specialists request?

Answer

Your pricelist will never be completed as both you and the Contract Specialist agreed. And this could carry over into weeks, months, and even a year. This could possibly cause you ...

- Loss of revenue because price increases were never uploaded as requested.

- Purchase attempts made from that contract of items that are no longer available because items weren't deleted as requested, etc.

Question

How are deletions handled?

Answer

There is a column to "remove" items on the changes tab. Simply enter a "1" in this cell for the corresponding item to be removed.

Samples Pricelists on the following pages:

**SAMPLE
OF
CLEAN EXCEL PRICELIST**

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Excel window titled "Microsoft Excel - Blank Pricelist_template_v3.xls". The spreadsheet is a pricelist template with the following columns:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
	SIN	Catalog Number	Product Description	FSS Price	UOM Priced	Unit of Sale UOM	Number of Inner Packs	Inner Pack UOM	Number of Base Packs	Base Pack UOM	Qty within Base Pack	Date Effective	End Date
1													
2													
3													
4													
5													
6													
7													
8													
9													
10													
11													
12													
13													
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18													
19													
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21													
22													
23													
24													
25													
26													
27													
28													

The status bar at the bottom shows "Ready" and "NUM". The active cell is E1.

**SAMPLE
OF
UNIT OF MEASUREMENT DESRIPTIONS TO BE USED
EXCEL PRICELIST**

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Excel window titled "Microsoft Excel - Blank Pricelist_template_v3.xls". The spreadsheet contains a table with two columns: "Accepted Code" and "Definition". The rows list various units of measurement from "Bag" to "Yard". The cell at row 24, column D is highlighted with a black border.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O
1	Accepted Code	Definition													
2	BG	Bag													
3	BO	Bottle													
4	BX	Box													
5	CA	Case													
6	CR	Cartridge													
7	CT	Carton													
8	DI	Dispenser													
9	DZ	Dozen													
10	EA	Each													
11	FT	Foot													
12	GA	Gallon													
13	KT	Kit													
14	LB	Pound													
15	PC	Piece													
16	PK	Pack													
17	PR	Pair													
18	QT	Quart													
19	RF	Refill													
20	RL	Roll													
21	RM	Ream													
22	SH	Sheet													
23	SL	Sleeve													
24	ST	Set													
25	TB	Tube													
26	TT	Test													
27	TU	Tube													
28	UN	Unit													
29	VI	Vial													
30	YD	Yard													

**SAMPLE
OF
A CONTRACTOR/VENDOR'S PREPOPULATED EXCEL PRICELIST
(APPEARS ON THE CHANGES TAB)**

Index (Do Not Alter)	Contract Number	SIN	Catalog Number	Product Description	FSS Price	UOM As Priced	Unit of Sale UOM	Number of Inner Packs	Inner Pack UOM	Number of Base Packs	Base Pack UOM	Qty Within Base Pack	Removed (Enter 1)	Date Effective	End Date
32	6144560	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-DA RONGEUR3	16.52	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
33	6144561	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-DA RONGEUR4	18.87	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
34	6144562	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-DA RONGEUR5	32.35	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
35	6144563	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-DEFECTIVE	0.01	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
36	6144564	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-DEFIB PADDLE	65.33	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
37	6144565	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-DEMAGNETIZE	1.62	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
38	6144566	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-DENTAL EXTRACTOR1	6.53	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
39	6144567	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-DENTAL SCALER1	3.01	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
40	6144568	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-DIAMOND DUST1	92.82	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
41	6144569	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-DIAMOND DUST2	91.80	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
42	6144570	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-DIAMOND KNIFE	0.01	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
43	6144571	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-DILATOR1	2.16	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
44	6144572	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-DRILLBIT1	1.76	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
45	6144573	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-EBONIZE1	60.75	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
46	6144574	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-ELEVATOR1	3.00	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
47	6144575	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-ELEVATOR2	10.77	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
48	6144576	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-ENT SPECULUM1	4.68	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
49	6144577	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-EYE HOOK1	7.03	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
50	6144578	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-EYE PICK1	7.03	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
51	6144579	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-SCISSOR5	9.62	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
52	6144580	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-SCOPE "REQUIRES QUOTE"	0.01	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
53	6144581	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-SCOPE1	341.16	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
54	6144582	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-SCOPE2	597.99	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
55	6144583	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-SCOPE3	498.92	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
56	6144584	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-SCOPE4	1100.00	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015
57	6144585	V797P-4282B	A-200	RP-SEIF DEF&IM1	3.25	EA	EA	1	EA	1	EA	1		04/01/2010	03/31/2015