

27.301 Definitions.

As used in this subpart-

Invention means any invention or discovery that is or *may* be patentable or otherwise protectable under title 35 of the U.S. Code, or any variety of plant that is or *may* be protectable under the Plant Variety Protection Act ([7 U.S.C. 2321](#), *et seq.*)

Made means-

(1) When used in relation to any invention other than a plant variety, means the conception or first actual reduction to practice of the invention; or

(2) When used in relation to a plant variety, means that the contractor has at least tentatively determined that the variety has been reproduced with recognized characteristics.

Nonprofit organization means a university or other institution of higher education or an organization of the type described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 ([26 U.S.C. 501\(c\)](#)) and exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code ([26 U.S.C. 501\(a\)](#)), or any nonprofit scientific or educational organization qualified under a State *nonprofit organization* statute.

Practical application means to manufacture, in the case of a composition or product; to practice, in the case of a process or method; or to operate, in the case of a machine or system; and, in each case, under such conditions as to establish that the invention is being utilized and that its benefits are, to the extent permitted by law or Government regulations, available to the public on reasonable terms.

Subject invention means any invention of the contractor *made* in the performance of work under a Government contract.

Parent topic: [Subpart 27.3 - Patent Rights under Government Contracts](#)