

CLINICAL ENGINEERING

Facilities Management

GS-1600 Series Standard Revision

Status of the GS-1640 Job Series Standard Revision

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) is in the final stages of reviewing and revising the GS-1600 job family standard. Fact-finding efforts are complete and associated changes are incorporated into the revised standard, including significant format changes. The draft standard is going through final internal review and will be available on the web for government agency review and comment. These final steps can be expected to take a minimum of six months. No official release date has been established.

Facility Manager Position Upgrades

OPM expresses concern about facility manager upgrades being associated with, or discussed in conjunction with, revised job standards. The purpose of reviewing the 1600 series job family standard is not to “upgrade” positions; rather to simplify the classification effort, update standards, and provide grading criteria for series not covered in current standards. OPM does not audit jobs and regrade them. They assume current standards describe grade levels properly. Guidelines for grades are established in Federal law.

The primary standard specifies the levels of work associated with each grade in a very general way. OPM classification standards provide further guidance with illustrations for specific work. Standards are important documents intended to

ensure equal work receives equal pay throughout all government agencies. Position grades change when higher level work is required on a continuing basis. Position classifiers already have descriptions of higher level work (as well as every other level).

In the past, classification standards were written for experienced classifiers in a complicated style. OPM now writes standards in an easier to understand style in order to accommodate agencies where classification expertise has been lost. The job family standards are designed to simplify assigning grades to work. Positions properly classified should not be impacted by the new job family standards.

The revised standard will not describe new criteria for managerial positions. Facility Manager positions will not automatically be upgraded as a result of the new standard. Upgrade actions require a joint effort between civilian personnel classifiers and supervisors. The new standard will use Factor Evaluation System formats which might assist civilian personnel classifiers in making more objective and equitable classifications.

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Quality Assurance

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Recalls/Alert Notices

Attachment 2, paragraph 1, provides information on FDA medical equipment recalls and alerts. Personnel from clinical engineering, biomedical equipment maintenance, quality assurance, and safety should follow the guidance provided to

ensure the effective maintenance and management of medical equipment. (AFMLO/FOM, Capt P.J. Toth, DSN 343-7445, paul.toth@ft-detrick.af.mil)

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