

Government



From
MBA USA

A newsletter for GSA Certified Safe and Vault Technicians and GSA Approved Inspectors.

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FED-STD-809 HAS BEEN REVISED AGAIN

For many years, Federal Standard 809 has been the official guidance on what can be done to neutralize lockouts on GSA approved containers and vault doors. More importantly, it is also our bible on how to properly repair GSA approved containers and vault doors. Drilling, cutting, grinding, welding, etc. that is not in FED-STD-809 isn't allowed. The exception would be installing a shipboard container (Class 5-S or Class 6-S). That is covered in Federal Specification AA-F-358.

A little bit of history:

Federal Standard (FED-STD) 809 was originally released **April 1, 1998**. Prior to that day, there was no Federal Government-wide “standard” way of repairing GSA containers and vault doors. The requirements were similar to what they are today, but now they are in one standard.

FED-STD-809A superseded the original document on **May 10, 2005**. It clarified some unclear points and also set a maximum size hole of 3/8” allowed when drilling under the dial ring (Method 1).

FED-STD-809B superseded the “A” revision on **January 15, 2010**. It added an approved method of opening and repair for vault doors and door type containers (M&P, IPS, Weapons) where drilling outside of the dial ring area is necessary.

FED-STD-809C superseded the “B” revision on **January 17, 2017**. The changes focused primarily on limiting work performed on GSA locks, containers, and vault doors to “US Persons”.

FED-STD-809D superseded the “C” revision on **April 4, 2018**. Although it was not a total rewrite, there were many changes made. Mainly, an entire section on maintenance was added along with new rules regarding black label containers.

Now we have **FED-STD-809E**, dated **February 17, 2023**. It extends its reach to include the neutralization of lockouts and repair of pedestrian doors that use GSA approved lock extensions. These are door locks approved under Federal Specification FF-L-2890. (Kaba-Mas CDX-10 and DKX-10, Sargent & Greenleaf 2890 series, and LKM10K series.)

And there is more. The D revision was 31 pages, the E revision is 47 pages. Here are some of the other new things I've noticed:

The black label phaseout is addressed along with a note about continuing the use of black label map & plan containers and vault doors that are used for weapons storage.

- Some of the paragraphs in the Notes section have been expanded.
- There are some new paragraphs in the Notes section regarding the sale of new and used GSA approved security equipment.

- There is a new paragraph regarding the changing of GSA vault door classes.
- There are new paragraphs regarding the shipping of GSA approved security equipment as well as mention of the new US Allies Lock to be approved under Federal Specification FF-L-2938.
- The revision now includes a form to be used for Exemption Requests where special situations may necessitate an opening or repair that is not included in the standard.

A link to FED-STD-809E can be found below.

Regards,

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