CHAPTER 285
TAXABLE AND EXEMPT SALES DETERMINED BY METHOD OF TRANSACTION OR USAGE

[Prior to 12/17/86, Revenue Department[730]]
[Prior to 11/2/22, see Revenue Department[701] Ch 18]

701—285.1(422,423) Tangible personal property purchased from the United States government. Tangible personal property purchased from the United States government or any of the governmental agencies shall be exempt from sales tax, but such purchases shall be taxable to the purchaser under the provisions of the use tax law. Persons making purchases from the United States government, unless exempt from the provisions of Iowa Code section 422.44, shall report and pay use tax at the current rate on the purchase price of such purchases.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.44 and 423.3.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.2(422,423) Sales of butane, propane and other like gases in cylinder drums, etc. Sales of butane, propane and other like gases in cylinder drums and other similar containers purchased for cooking, heating and other purposes shall be taxable.

When gas of this type is sold and motor vehicle fuel tax is collected by the seller, tax shall not be due. If Iowa motor vehicle fuel tax is not collected by the seller at the time of the sale, tax shall be collected and remitted to the department, unless the sale is specifically exempt.

If tax is not collected by the seller at the time of sale, any tax due shall be collected by the department at the time the user of the product makes application for a refund of the motor vehicle fuel tax.

The gross receipts from the rental of cylinders, drums and other similar containers by the distributor or dealer of the gas shall be subject to tax when the title remains with the dealer. Gas converter equipment which might be sold to an ultimate consumer shall be subject to tax.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42, 422.43, 422.45(11), 423.1 and 423.2.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.3(422,423) Chemical compounds used to treat water. Chemical compounds placed in water which is ultimately sold at retail should be purchased exempt from the tax. The chemical compounds become an integral part of property sold at retail. Chemical compounds placed in water which is directly used in processing are exempt from the tax, even if the water is consumed by the processor and not sold at retail.

Chemical compounds which are used to treat water that is not sold at retail or which are not used directly in processing shall be subject to tax. An example would be chlorine or other chemicals used to treat water for a swimming pool.

Special boiler compounds used by processors when live steam is injected into the mash or substance, whereby the steam liquefies and becomes an integral part of the product intended to be sold at retail and does become a part of the finished product, shall be exempt from tax.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(3), 422.43, 423.1, and 423.2.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.4(422) Mortgages and trustees. Pursuant to the provisions of a chattel mortgage, the receipts from the sale of tangible personal property at a public auction shall be taxable even if the sale is made by virtue of a court decree of foreclosure by an officer appointed by the court for that purpose.

The tax applies to inventory and noninventory goods provided the owner is in the business of making retail sales of tangible personal property or taxable services. In Re *Hubs Repair Shop, Inc.* 28 B.R. 858 (Bkrtcy. 1983).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42, 422.43, 423.1 and 423.2.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.5(423) Sales to federal, state, county, municipal, or tribal government or the government's agencies or instrumentalities.

285.5(1) *Sales to government or agencies or instrumentalities.*

a. A sale to a government or an agency or instrumentality of government occurs only if a government or an agency or instrumentality of government pursuant to a contract for sale, takes title or ownership to tangible personal property or a specified digital product, or receives an enumerated taxable service as a buyer from a seller.

b. No sale to a government or an agency or instrumentality of government occurs if a government or an agency or instrumentality of government pays some portion of the sales price of the sale of tangible personal property, a specified digital product, or a taxable service but title to and ownership of the tangible personal property or specified digital product are transferred to or a taxable service is received by another person as a result of the sale.

c. Independent contractors who deal with agencies, instrumentalities, or other entities of government do not, by virtue of their contracting with those entities, acquire immunity or exemption from taxation for themselves. Sales to these contractors are still subject to tax. See rule 701—19.12(422,423) for rules concerning construction contracts with designated exempt entities.

285.5(2) *Sales by or to the federal government or its agencies or instrumentalities.*

a. The sales price of the sale of tangible personal property, specified digital products, or enumerated taxable services made directly by or to the United States government or to recognized agencies, departments, or instrumentalities of the United States government shall not be subject to sales tax.

b. The sales price of retail sales made directly to patients, inmates, or employees of an institution or department of the United States government are taxable, as the sales are not made directly to the government. However, sales similarly made by post exchanges and other establishments organized and controlled by federal authority shall not be subject to sales tax.

EXAMPLE 1: Patient B purchases a hospital bed from a drugstore. A percentage of Patient B's bill is paid by federal funds from Medicaid. Because Patient B, not the federal government, purchased the hospital bed, Iowa sales tax is due.

EXAMPLE 2: Employee C is a federal government employee who eats at a restaurant while on government business. Employee C pays for the meal with a credit card. The credit card was issued in Employee C's name, and the cost of the meal is billed to Employee C, who pays it. The federal government later reimburses Employee C the entire cost of the meal. Because Employee C, not the federal government, purchased the meal, Iowa sales tax is due.

EXAMPLE 3: Similar to Example 2, Employee D is a federal government employee who eats at a restaurant while on government business. Employee D uses a credit card to pay for the meal. However, the credit card is issued in Employee D's name, but the cost of the meal is billed to the federal government, which pays that cost. Here, the federal government is the purchaser of the meal on Employee D's behalf, and the sale is exempt from tax.

285.5(3) *Sales to the state of Iowa or its agencies or instrumentalities.* The sales price of sales to the state of Iowa or agencies, departments, or instrumentalities of the state of Iowa are not taxable when used for public purposes.

EXAMPLE 1: City X, an exempt instrumentality, issues a bond to finance the construction of a school. Corporation Y purchases the bond but is not involved in the project in any other way. Since City X does not enjoy the benefits of earnings of the school, the exemption provided to the city is applicable.

EXAMPLE 2: Corporation Z, an instrumentality of the federal government which Congress has allowed by statute to be subject to state sales and use taxes, purchases tangible personal property. These purchases are subject to tax because the profits of the corporation are distributed to the corporation's stockholders.

285.5(4) *Sales to a tribal government and its agencies or instrumentalities.* The sales price of tangible personal property, specified digital products, or enumerated taxable services furnished to a tribal government as defined in Iowa Code section 216A.161, or an agency or instrumentality of tribal government, shall not be subject to tax when used for public purposes.

285.5(5) *Sales by a municipal utility.*

a. The sales price of tangible personal property, specified digital products, or services used by or in connection with the operation of any municipally owned public utility engaged in selling gas, electricity, pay television service, or heat to the general public shall be subject to tax.

b. Sewage service or solid waste collection and disposal service provided to a county or municipality on behalf of nonresidential commercial operations located within the county or municipality shall also be subject to tax. See rules 701—26.71(423) and 701—26.72(423) for more information.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 423.3(31).

[**ARC 5530C**, IAB 3/24/21, effective 4/28/21; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.6(422,423) Relief agencies.

285.6(1) Relief agency means the state, any county, city and county, city or district thereof, or any agency engaged in actual relief work. Nonexclusive examples of relief agencies are Salvation Army, Royal Neighbors, and Masonic Lodge. The sales of tangible personal property or enumerated services to relief agencies are subject to tax. A relief agency may apply to the director for refund of the amount of tax imposed and paid by it, upon the purchase of goods, wares, merchandise, or services rendered, furnished, or performed that are used for free distribution to the poor and needy.

285.6(2) Persons are determined to be in the poor and needy category when their incomes and resources are at or below poverty level. The department will use federal poverty guidelines in making this determination.

285.6(3) Listed below are some examples where the tax may or may not be refunded to the relief agency:

EXAMPLE: A relief agency purchases clothing for free distribution to a poor and needy person. The tax is refundable.

EXAMPLE: A relief agency pays the gas, light, or telephone bill for a person who is poor and needy. The tax is refundable.

EXAMPLE: An agency purchases items of clothing for residents of their living facility, and is partially reimbursed by the person using the items based upon the recipient's ability to pay. Tax on the portion of cost not recovered by the agency can be claimed as a refund of tax paid by using formula stated in 18.6(6).

285.6(4) Demolition v. repair costs. A nonprofit noneducational relief agency is not entitled to a refund of sales tax paid by contractors on building materials used in the alteration, expansion, repair, remodeling or construction of the facility since the materials were sold tax paid to the contractor who is the consumer of the material by statute. See Iowa Code section 422.42(9). However, the relief agency would be entitled to a refund of sales tax paid on the cost of the demolition of the building since the demolition of the building indirectly benefited the poor and needy. 1968 O.A.G. #841.

EXAMPLE: A relief agency, which is not part of a governmental unit, operates a home or orphanage for persons who are poor and needy or for orphan children. Food, lodging, and necessary items are furnished free-of-charge to the residents. The relief agency would be entitled to a refund of any taxes paid to operate this facility; such as, but not limited to, lights, heat, water, telephone, and repair items or services needed to maintain the facility.

285.6(5) Claims for refund must be filed quarterly with the department within 45 days after the end of the quarter for which the refund is claimed. Claims are to be submitted on forms provided by the department.

The claim shall include the following information:

a. The total amount or amounts, valued in money, expended directly or indirectly for goods, wares, merchandise, or services rendered, furnished, or performed used for free distribution to the poor and needy.

b. List the persons making the sales to the relief agency.

1. Include the date of the sale.
2. Include the total amount expended, itemizing sales tax.
3. Include the date of payment.

4. Include the check number, receipt number, or paid invoice verifying payment.

c. List the total operating income received (residents, donations, etc.)

d. List the operating income received from residents only.

e. The claim shall be signed by an authorized agent of the relief agency.

285.6(6) When a relief agency receives part of its operating income from the poor and needy it is serving, this income will be considered in computing the tax refund paid upon sales to it of products or services used for free distribution to the poor and needy.

To reasonably approximate the correct amount of tax to be refunded, where only a portion of the tax qualifies for refund, a formula will be used by the department. The prescribed formula the department will allow is operating income received from the poor and needy served divided by total operating income received. This percentage will be multiplied by the applicable gross receipts which are considered refundable to arrive at the correct amount of tax to be refunded.

If a person requests an alternative formula, the person shall first list the reasons why an alternative formula is necessary and, secondly, shall outline the proposed formula in detail. If approval is given, the department reserves the right to withdraw the approval or require adjustments in the formula upon notice to the person. Additional refunds or assessments may be made if an audit discloses the formula is incorrect.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(7), 422.43, 422.47, 423.1 and 423.2.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.7(422,423) Containers, including packing cases, shipping cases, wrapping material and similar items. The gross receipts from the sale of containers, labels, cartons, pallets, packing cases, wrapping paper, twine, bags, bottles, shipping cases, garment hangers, and other similar articles and receptacles sold to retailers or manufacturers which are purchased for the purpose of packaging or facilitating the transportation of tangible personal property which is sold either at retail or for resale shall be exempt from the tax.

For the purpose of this rule, producers, wholesalers and jobbers are considered retailers or manufacturers.

285.7(1) *Sales to other than retailers or manufacturers.*

a. Containers and all other specified items delivered with tangible personal property which are sold to a final buyer or ultimate consumer shall be exempt from the tax when no separate charge is made for the container. This group includes such items as boxes, cartons, pallets, paper bags, bottles, shipping cases, wrapping paper and twine. If a separate charge is made for the container, the sale of the container is subject to the tax. The sale of wrapping paper, paper bags and like items are subject to the tax when sold at retail.

EXAMPLE: A meat locker purchases materials such as wrapping paper and tape which it uses to wrap meat for customers to whom meat is sold. The wrapping paper and tape would be exempt from tax as being purchased as a packaging material of tangible personal property sold at retail.

EXAMPLE: A meat locker purchases materials such as wrapping paper and tape which it uses to wrap meat for customers who own the meat. The meat locker only performs the service of processing the meat. The wrapping paper and tape are subject to tax as they were not purchased for packaging or for the facilitating of transportation of tangible personal property sold at retail, but were used in the rendering of a service.

b. Packing paper, lining paper, paper used to line boxes and crates, and similar items shall be exempt from the tax if delivered with tangible personal property ultimately sold at retail when no separate charge is made for the paper.

285.7(2) *Labels, tags and nameplates.* Sales of labels, tags, and nameplates attached to products for the benefit of the vendor such as shipping tags, price tags and instructions to cashiers are subject to the tax, unless such items are sold to manufacturers and retailers for packaging or facilitating the transportation of tangible personal property ultimately sold at retail. Labels, tags or nameplates attached to products for the benefit of the final consumer which describe contents, or which relate to the product and are affixed to the product, are exempt from tax.

285.7(3) *Pallets.* Pallets purchased by manufacturers or retailers which are purchased for the purpose of packaging or facilitating the transportation of tangible personal property ultimately sold at retail shall be exempt from the tax.

285.7(4) *Garment hangers.* Garment hangers purchased by manufacturers or retailers and used to facilitate the transportation of tangible personal property or garment hangers delivered with tangible personal property ultimately sold at retail when no separate charge is made are exempt from tax.

Garment hangers used merely to display tangible personal property are taxable.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(3), 422.45(19) and 423.1(1).
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.8(422) Auctioneers.

285.8(1) An auctioneer in making a sale, whether of tangible personal property or realty, is by virtue of this employment making the sale as the agent of the principal.

285.8(2) Where an auctioneer is conducting a sale and the principal meets the requirement of the casual sale exemption found in Iowa Code section 422.42(12), the gross receipts from the sale are exempt from the tax. See 1970 O.A.G. 774.

285.8(3) When an auctioneer is conducting a sale and the principal is in the business of making sales of tangible personal property or taxable services on a recurring basis, the gross receipts from the sale are taxable.

285.8(4) Where an auctioneer is selling tangible personal property that the auctioneer owns, the sale of the tangible property owned by the auctioneer is taxable.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.43.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.9(422) Sales by farmers. The sale of grain, livestock or any other farm or garden product by the producer thereof ordinarily constitutes a sale for resale, processing or human consumption and shall not be subject to tax.

Farmers selling tangible personal property not otherwise exempt to ultimate consumers or users shall hold a permit and collect and remit sales tax on the gross receipts from their sales.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.10(422,423) Florists.

285.10(1) Florists are engaged in the business of selling tangible personal property at retail and shall be liable for payment of tax measured by the receipts from the sale of flowers, wreaths, bouquets, potted plants and other items of tangible personal property.

285.10(2) When florists conduct transactions through a florists' telephonic delivery association, the following rules shall apply when computing tax liability:

a. On all orders taken by an Iowa florist and telephoned to a second florist in Iowa for delivery in the state, the sending florist shall be liable for tax, measured at the current rate of tax on gross receipts from the total amount collected from the customer, except the cost of a telegram when a separate charge is made therefor.

b. In cases where a florist receives an order pursuant to which the florist gives telephonic instructions to a second florist located outside Iowa for delivery to a point outside Iowa, tax is not owing with respect to any receipts which the florist may realize from the transaction.

c. In cases where Iowa florists receive telephonic instructions from other florists located either within or outside of Iowa for the delivery of flowers, the receiving florist will not be held liable for tax with respect to any receipts which the florist may realize from the transaction.

285.10(3) Florists engaged in selling shrubbery, trees, and similar items. See rule 18.11(422,423).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.43.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.11(422,423) Landscaping materials. The gross receipts from the sale of sod, dirt, trees, shrubbery, bulbs, sand, rock, woodchips and other similar landscaping materials, when used for

landscaping and sold to final consumers, shall be subject to sales tax. For the purpose of this rule, "final consumer" ordinarily means the owner of the land to which the landscaping materials are applied, or a general building contractor when the landscaping contractor contracts with the general building contractor. When a landscaping contractor uses materials to fulfill a contract, the landscape contractor is considered the retailer of the landscaping materials and shall be obligated to collect sales tax on the selling price from the final consumer.

When the retailer of sod, dirt, trees, shrubbery, bulbs, sand, rock, woodchips and other similar landscaping materials installs these items as a part of a contract for landscaping or improving land for a lump sum, the entire gross receipts shall be subject to tax. Any retailer's charges for "landscaping" shall be taxable. See rule 701—26.62(422) for a description of this service. However, a retailer's charges for nontaxable services are not taxable if contracted for separately; or, if no written contract exists, the charges are itemized separately on the invoice.

EXAMPLE: A sodding contractor agrees to furnish and install 20 yards of sod for the lump sum of $20.00 per yard. The sodding contractor must charge the customer $20.00 sales tax (5% x $400.00).

EXAMPLE: XYZ Company enters into a contract for the landscaping of an existing office building. XYZ Company agrees to furnish shrubs at $25.00 each, white rock for $5.00 per bag and woodchips for $4.00 per bag. XYZ Company also contracts to install all of the landscaping materials for a fee of $25.00 per hour. XYZ Company's hourly fee is taxable if paid for the service of "landscaping" or for some other taxable service, e.g., excavation. If the service is not taxable, the charge is excluded from tax because it was separately contracted for.

The gross receipts from the sale of uncut sod and unexcavated trees, shrubs, and rock shall not be subject to sales or use tax. This is considered a sale of intangible property and not the sale of tangible personal property.

This rule does not apply to the gross receipts from the sale of plants and trees which are eligible for purchase with food coupons under rule 701—20.1(422,423).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42, 422.45(12) and 423.1.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.12(422,423) Hatcheries. The gross receipts from the sale of egg-type cockerel chicks, broiler chicks and turkey poults shall be subject to tax. If sale of domestic poultry is for breeding, see rule 701—17.9(422,423).

When pullets and poults are sold for production purposes, the receipts from the sales shall be exempt from tax.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(3), 422.43, 423.1 and 423.2.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.13(422,423) Sales by the state of Iowa, its agencies and instrumentalities. The state of Iowa, its agencies and instrumentalities, are required to collect and remit tax on the gross receipts from taxable retail sales of tangible personal property and taxable services.

This rule does not apply to sales made by cities and counties in the state of Iowa which are specifically exempted from collecting tax by Iowa Code section 422.45(20).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapters 422 and 423.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.14(422,423) Sales of livestock and poultry feeds. Tax shall not apply to the sale of feed for any form of animal life when the product of the animals constitutes food for human consumption. Tax shall apply on feed sold for consumption by pets.

Antibiotics, when administered as an additive to feed or drinking water, and vitamins and minerals sold for livestock and poultry shall be exempt from tax.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(3), 422.43, 423.1 and 423.2.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.15(422,423) Student fraternities and sororities. Student fraternities and sororities are not considered to be engaged in the business of selling tangible personal property at retail within the meaning of the sales tax law when they provide their members with meals and lodging for which a flat rate or lump sum is charged. A person engaged in the selling of foods and beverages to such organizations for use in the preparation of meals is making exempt sales at retail and shall not be liable for tax if the food purchases would be exempt under rule 701—20.1(422,423).

Student fraternities or sororities engaged in the business of serving meals to persons other than members for which separate charges are made, or owning and operating canteens through which tangible personal property is sold are deemed to be making taxable sales.

When student fraternities or sororities do not provide their own meals but are provided by caterers, concessionaires or other persons, such caterers, concessionaires or other persons shall be liable for the collection and remittance of tax with respect to their receipts from meals furnished. A similar liability is attached to persons engaged in the business of operating boarding houses, whether for students or other persons.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(3), 422.43, 423.1 and 423.2.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.16(422,423) Photographers and photostaters. Tax shall apply to the sale of photographs and photostat copies, whether or not produced to the special order of the customer and to charges for the making of photographs or photostat copies out of materials furnished by the customer. A deduction shall not be allowed for the expenses incurred by the photographer, such as rental of equipment or salaries or wages paid to assistants or models, whether or not the expenses are itemized in billings to customers.

Tax shall not apply to the sale of tangible personal property to photographers and photostat producers which becomes an ingredient or component part of photographs or photostat copies sold, such as mounts, frames and sensitized paper; but tax shall apply to the sale of materials to photographers or producers which is used in the processing of photographs or photostat copies.

285.16(1) *Sales of photographs to newspaper or magazine publishers for reproduction.* The sale of photographs by a person engaged in the business of making and selling photographs to newspaper or magazine publishers for reproduction shall be taxable.

285.16(2) Reserved.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(3), 422.43, 423.1 and 423.2.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.17(422,423) Gravel and stone. When a contract is entered between a contractor and a governmental body and the contract calls for a stockpile delivery along a road to be improved, it is a sale of tangible personal property to the governmental body. Transactions of this type are exempt from tax. When a contract not only provides for the sale and delivery of materials but also the conversion of the materials into realty improvements, the contractor is the ultimate consumer of the material used and shall be liable for tax. Tax shall apply on the purchase price of the material.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(3), 422.43, 422.45(5), 423.1 and 423.2.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.18(422,423) Sale of ice. The sale of ice for human consumption which may be purchased with food coupons is exempt from tax. The sale of ice used for cooling is subject to tax. See rule 701—20.1(422,423).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(3), 422.43, 422.45(12), 423.2 and 423.4.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.19(422,423) Antiques, curios, old coins or collector's postage stamps. Curios, antiques, art work, coins, collector's postage stamps and such articles sold to or by art collectors, philatelists,

numismatists and other persons who purchase or sell such items of tangible personal property for use and not primarily for resale are sales at retail and shall be subject to tax.

285.19(1) Stamps, whether canceled or uncanceled, which are sold by a collector or person engaged in retailing stamps to collectors shall be taxable.

285.19(2) The distinction between stamps which are purchased by a collector and stamps which are purchased for their value as evidence of the privilege of the owner to have certain mail carried by the United States government is that which determines whether or not a stamp is taxable or not taxable. A stamp becomes an article of tangible personal property having market value when, because of the demand, it can be sold for a price greater than its face value. On the other hand, when a stamp has only face value, as evidence of the right to certain services or an indication that certain revenue has been paid, it shall not be subject to either sales or use tax.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(3), 422.43, 423.1 and 423.2.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.20(422,423) Communication services. This rule applies to sales of communication services billed prior to November 23, 2011. For communication service, telecommunication service, ancillary service and other related communication service billed on or after November 23, 2011, refer to 701—Chapter 224, Iowa Administrative Code. The gross receipts from the sale of all communication services provided in this state are subject to tax. (Communication services are not subject to use tax prior to July 1, 2001. See rule 701—31.7(423).)

285.20(1) Definitions.

a. Communication service shall mean the act of providing, for a consideration, any medium or method for, or the act of transmission and receipt of, information between two or more points. Each point must be capable of both transmitting and receiving information if "communication" is to occur. The term "communication service" includes, but is not limited to, the transmission and receipt of sound, printed materials (including letters and materials printed by teletype), other images perceived visually and data encoded in computer languages. Any separate charge for the service of transmitting and receiving information between automatic data processing equipment and remote facilities shall be subject to tax, see paragraph 18.34(3)*"c."*

b. Communication service is provided "in this state" only if both the points of origination and termination of the communication are within the borders of Iowa. Communication service between any other points is "interstate" in nature and not subject to tax.

c. "Gross receipts" from the sale of communication service in this state shall mean all charges to any person which are necessary for the ultimate user to secure the service, except those charges which are in the nature of a sale for resale (see subrule 18.20(4)). Such charges shall be taxable if the charges are necessary to secure communication service in this state even though payment of the charge may also be necessary to secure other services. Any charge necessary to secure only interstate communication service shall not be subject to tax if the nature of the service is separately stated and the charge for the service separately billed. For the present, the charges imposed by the Federal Communications Commission and referred to as "access charges for interstate or foreign access services" to an "end user" shall not be subject to tax if separately stated and billed.

Charges imposed or approved by the utilities division of the department of commerce which are necessary to secure long distance service in this state, for example, "end user intrastate access charges," are taxable. Such charges are taxable whether they result from an expense incurred from operations or are imposed by the mandate of the utilities division and unrelated to any expense actually incurred in providing the service.

If company A collects gross receipts from ultimate users for communication services performed in this state by company B, company A shall treat those gross receipts as its own, collect tax upon them, and remit the tax to the department. The situation is similar to a consignment sale of tangible personal property, and tax must be remitted by the company collecting the gross receipts from the users of the communication services.

d. Paging services. A one-way paging service is not a taxable enumerated service in Iowa because one-way paging only receives information and is not capable of transmitting information. As a result, this type of pager service is not a two-way transmission.

285.20(2) This subrule is applicable to various specific circumstances involving the sale of communication services.

a. Companies which bill their subscribers for communication services on a quarterly, semiannual, annual or any other periodic basis shall include the amount of such billings in their gross receipts. The date of the billing shall determine the period for which sales tax shall be remitted. Thus, if the date of a billing is March 31, and the due date for payment of the bill without penalty is April 20, tax upon the gross receipts contained in the bill shall be included in the sales tax return for the first quarter of the year. The same principle shall be used to determine when tax will be included in payment of a sales tax deposit to the department.

b. The gross receipts from the service of transmitting messages, night letters, day letters and all other messages of similar nature between two or more points within this state are subject to sales tax.

c. Receipts from communication services performed for all divisions, boards, commissions, agencies or instrumentalities of federal, Iowa, county or municipal government, and private, nonprofit educational institutions in this state for educational purposes are exempt from tax, except sales to any tax-levying body used by or in connection with the operation of any municipally owned utility engaged in selling gas, electricity or heat to the general public are subject to tax.

285.20(3) This subrule is specifically applicable to companies and other persons providing telephone service in this state. Any reasoning contained in this subrule may also be applied to companies or other persons providing other communication services.

a. All companies must have a permit for each business office which provides communication service in this state. The companies must collect and remit tax upon the gross receipts from the operation of such offices.

b. If a minimum amount is guaranteed to a company from the operation of any coin-operated telephone, tax shall be computed on the minimum amount guaranteed or the actual taxable gross receipts collected whichever is the greater.

c. In computing tax due, the federal taxes identified as such, separately billed and payable by the customer shall be excluded from gross receipts. If the taxes are not separately billed, they shall be subject to Iowa sales tax.

d. Telegrams and like charges made to the accounts of subscribers and billed by companies providing telephone service which appear on the subscribers' toll bills are subject to tax.

e. Charges for directory assistance service rendered in this state shall be subject to tax. Charges for directory assistance service, separately stated and billed, shall not be subject to tax if the service is interstate in nature.

f. The gross receipts from the installation or repair of any inside wire which provides electrical current that allows an electronics device to function shall be subject to tax. Such gross receipts are from the enumerated service of electrical repair or installation, and are thus subject to tax. The gross receipts from "inside wire maintenance charges" for services performed under a service or warranty contract shall also be subject to tax. Depending on circumstances, such receipts are for the enumerated service of "electrical repair" or are incurred under an "optional service or warranty contract" for an enumerated service. In either event, the receipts are subject to tax. See rule 701—18.25(422,423).

g. The gross receipts from the rental of any device for home or office use or to provide a communication service to others shall be fully taxable; such receipts are for the enumerated service of "rental of tangible personal property." The gross receipts from rental include rents, royalties, and copyright and license fees. Any periodic fee for maintenance of the device which is included in the gross receipts for the rental of the device shall also be subject to tax.

h. The sale of any device, new or used, in place at the time of sale on the customer's premises or sold to the customer elsewhere is the sale of tangible personal property, and thus a sale subject to tax. The sale of an entire inventory of devices may or may not be subject to tax, depending upon whether it does or does not come within the purview of the casual sales exemption, see Iowa Code section 422.42(2)

and subrule 18.28(3). Other exemptions may be applicable as well. See Iowa Code section 422.45 and 701—Chapter 17.

i. The gross receipts for the repair or installation of inside wire or the repair or installation of any electronic device, including a telephone or telephone switching equipment shall, as a general rule, be subject to tax whether the customer or purchaser is billed by way of a flat fee or flat hourly charge covering all costs including labor and materials, or by way of a premises visit or trip charge, or by a single charge covering and not distinguishing between charges for labor and materials, or is billed by a charge with labor and material segregated, or is billed for labor only. An exception is this: If the gross receipts are for services on or in connection with new construction, reconstruction, alteration, expansion or remodeling of a building or structure, the gross receipts shall not be subject to tax. For further information concerning the conditions under which such gross receipts for repair or installation would not be subject to tax, see rule 701—19.1(422,423) and 701—subrule 26.2(1).

j. If a company bills a handling charge to a customer for sending the customer an electronic device by mail or by a delivery service, this charge shall constitute a part of the gross receipts from the sale of the device and shall be subject to tax. The gross receipts of a mandatory service rendered in connection with the sale of tangible personal property are considered by the department to be a part of the gross receipts from the sale of the property itself and thus subject to tax.

k. The purchase or rental of tangible personal property by companies providing communication services shall be subject to tax.

l. The amount of any deposit paid by a customer to a company providing communication service if returned to the customer shall not be subject to tax. Any portion of a deposit utilized by a company as payment for the sale of tangible personal property or a taxable service shall be included in gross receipts or gross taxable services and shall be subject to tax.

m. On and after July 1, 1997, the gross receipts from sales of prepaid telephone calling cards and prepaid authorization numbers are subject to tax as sales of tangible personal property.

285.20(4) When one commercial communication company furnishes another commercial communication company services or facilities which are used by the second company in furnishing communication service to its customers, such services or facilities furnished to the second company are in the nature of a sale for resale; and the charges, including any carrier access charges, shall be exempt from sales tax. The charges for services or facilities initially purchased for resale and subsequently used or consumed by the second company shall be subject to tax, and the tax shall be collected and paid by the seller unless the seller has taken a valid exemption certificate in good faith from the purchaser and other requirements of 701—subrule 15.3(2) are met.

285.20(5) Prior to July 1, 1999, charges for access to or use of what is commonly referred to as the "Internet" or charges for other contracted on-line services are the gross receipts from the performance of a taxable service if access is by way of a local or in-state long distance telephone number and if the predominant service offered is two-way transmission and receipt of information from one site to another as described in paragraph *"a"* of subrule 18.20(1). If a user's billing address is located in Iowa, a service provider should assume that Internet access or contracted on-line service is provided to that user in Iowa unless the user presents suitable evidence that the site or sites at which these services are furnished are located outside this state.

On and after July 1, 1999, gross receipts from charges paid to a provider for access to an on-line computer service are exempt from tax. An "on-line computer service" is one which provides for or enables multiple users to have computer access to the Internet. Charges paid to a provider for other contracted on-line services which do not provide access to the Internet and which are communication services remain subject to Iowa tax through May 14, 2000.

On and after May 15, 2000, the furnishing of any contracted on-line service is exempt from Iowa tax if the information is made available through a computer server. The exemption applies to all contracted on-line services, as long as they provide access to information through a computer server.

285.20(6) The gross receipts paid for the performance of the service of sending or receiving any document commonly referred to as a "fax" from one point to another within this state are subject to sales tax. See 18.20(1)*"a."* Gross receipts paid for the service of providing a telephone line or other

transmission path for the use of what is commonly called a "fax" machine are the gross receipts from the performance of a taxable service if the points of transmission and receipt of a fax are in this state. See 18.20(1)*"a"* and *"b."*

EXAMPLE A. Klear Kopy Services is located in Des Moines, Iowa. Klear Kopy charges a customer $2 to transmit a fax (via its machine) to Dubuque, Iowa. The $2 is taxable gross receipts. Midwest Telephone Company charges Klear Kopy $500 per month for the intrastate communications on Klear Kopy's dedicated fax line. The $500 is also gross receipts from a taxable communication service.

EXAMPLE B. The XYZ Law Firm is located in Des Moines, Iowa. The firm owns a fax machine and uses the fax machine in the performance of its legal work to transmit and receive various documents. The firm does not perform faxing services but will, on billings for legal services to clients, break out the amount of a billing which is attributable to expenses for faxing. For example, "bill to John Smith for August, 1997, $1,000 for legal services performed, fax expenses which are part of this billing—$30." The $30 is not gross receipts for the performance of any taxable service, the faxing service performed being only incidental to the performance of the nontaxable legal services.

EXAMPLE C. The TUV Hospital is located in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The surgeons successfully perform delicate brain surgery on patient W. To perform that surgery it was necessary for the surgeons to consult with a number of colleagues; the consultation was via email. After the operation, the TUV Hospital sent patient W a bill for $10,000 of nontaxable hospital services. Listed as an expense is "email—$200." The email services are performed incidentally to the nontaxable hospital services; therefore, the $200 is not taxable gross receipts.

EXAMPLE D. D is a dentist practicing in Mason City, Iowa. D subscribes to an on-line service which, in return for a monthly fee, informs its subscribers of the latest dental surgery techniques and advises them about how these techniques can be applied to individual patients. After consultation on patient E's problem through the on-line service, D performs complex surgery on patient E. D's bill to patient E reads as follows: "dental reconstruction—$2,750; on-line consultation portion—$240." The $240 is not taxable gross receipts, this charge being incidental to the nontaxable charge for dental work.

285.20(7) *Communication service, telecommunications service, ancillary service, and other similar communication service.*

a. Purpose. This subrule covers various provisions related to communication service, telecommunications service, ancillary service, and other similar communication service.

b. Definitions.

(1) *"Air-to-ground radio telephone service"* means a radio service in which common carriers are authorized to offer and provide radio telecommunications service for hire to subscribers in aircraft.

(2) *"Ancillary services"* means services that are associated with or incidental to the provision of a telecommunications service. The term includes, but is not limited to, detailed communications billing service, directory assistance, vertical service, and voice mail services.

(3) *"Call-by-call basis"* means any method of charging for telecommunications services where the price is measured by individual calls.

(4) *"Communications channel"* means a physical or virtual path of communications over which signals are transmitted between or among customer channel termination points.

(5) *"Communication service"* means the act of communicating using any system or the act of transmission and receipt of information between two or more points. Each point must be capable of both transmitting and receiving information if communication is to occur. The term "communication service" includes, but is not limited to, the transmission and receipt of sound, printed materials (including letters and other materials), other images perceived visually and data encoded in computer languages. Communication service also includes telecommunications service, ancillary service and other similar communication service.

(6) *"Conference bridging service"* means an ancillary service that links two or more participants of an audio or video conference call and may include the provision of a telephone number. Conference bridging service does not include telecommunications services used to reach the conference bridge.

(7) *"Customer"* means the person or entity that contracts with the seller of telecommunications services. If the end user of telecommunications services is not the contracting party, the end user of the

telecommunications service is the customer of the telecommunications service. For purposes of sourcing sales of telecommunications services, the end user of the telecommunications service is the customer of the telecommunications service when the end user is not also the contracting party. "Customer" does not include a reseller of telecommunications service or for mobile telecommunications service of a serving carrier under an agreement to serve the customer outside the home service provider's licensed service area.

(8) *"Customer channel termination point"* means the location where the customer either inputs or receives the communications.

(9) *"Detailed telecommunications billing service"* means an ancillary service of separately stating information pertaining to individual calls on a customer's billing statement.

(10) *"Directory assistance"* means an ancillary service of providing telephone number information and address information.

(11) *"End user"* means the person who utilizes the telecommunication service. In the case of an entity, "end user" means the individual who utilizes the service on behalf of the entity.

(12) *"Fixed wireless service"* means a telecommunications service that provides radio communication between fixed points.

(13) *"Home service provider"* means the same as defined in Section 124(5) of Public Law 106-252, 4 U.S.C. § 124(5) (Mobile Telecommunications Sourcing Act). The home service provider is the facilities-based carrier or reseller with which the customer contracts for the provision of mobile telecommunications services.

(14) *"Interstate"* means a telecommunications service that originates in one United States state or a United States territory or possession and terminates in a different United States state or a United States territory or possession.

(15) *"Intrastate"* means a telecommunications service that originates in one United States state or a United States territory or possession and terminates in the same United States state or a United States territory or possession.

(16) *"Mobile telecommunications service"* means commercial mobile radio service; that is, a radio communication service carried on between mobile stations or receivers and land stations and by mobile stations communicating among themselves.

(17) *"Mobile wireless service"* means a telecommunications service that is transmitted, conveyed, or routed regardless of the technology used, whereby the origination and/or termination points of the transmission, conveyance, or routing are not fixed, including, by example only, telecommunications services that are provided by a commercial mobile radio service provider.

(18) *"Paging service"* means a telecommunications service that provides transmission of coded radio signals for the purpose of activating specific pagers. This transmission may include messages and sounds.

(19) *"Pay telephone service"* means a telecommunications service provided through any pay telephone. Pay telephone service also includes coin operated telephone service paid for by inserting money into a telephone accepting direct deposits of money to operate.

(20) *"Place of primary use"* means the street address representative of where the customer's use of the telecommunications service primarily occurs, which must be the residential street address or the primary business street address of the customer. In the case of mobile telecommunications services, the place of primary use must be within the licensed service area of the home service provider.

(21) *"Postpaid calling service"* means the telecommunications service obtained by making a payment on a call-by-call basis, either through use of a credit card or payment mechanism such as a bank card, travel card, credit card or debit card, or by charge made to a telephone number which is not associated with the origination or termination of the telecommunications service. A postpaid calling service includes a telecommunications service, except a prepaid wireless calling service that would be a prepaid calling service except it is not exclusively a telecommunication service.

(22) *"Prepaid calling service"* means the right to access exclusively telecommunications services, which must be paid for in advance and which enable the origination of calls using an access number or

authorization code, whether manually or electronically dialed, and that are sold in predetermined units or dollars of which the number declines with use in a known amount.

(23) *"Prepaid wireless calling service"* means a telecommunications service that provides the right to utilize mobile wireless service as well as other non-telecommunications services, including the download of digital products delivered electronically, content and ancillary services, which must be paid for in advance that is sold in predetermined units or dollars of which the number declines with use in a known amount.

(24) *"Private communication service"* means a telecommunication service that entitles the customer to exclusive or priority use of a communications channel or group of channels between or among termination points, regardless of the manner in which such channel or channels are connected, and includes switching capacity, extension lines, stations, and any other associated services that are provided in connection with the use of such channel or channels.

(25) *"Residential telecommunications service"* means a telecommunications service or ancillary services provided to an individual for personal use at a residential address, including an individual dwelling unit, such as an apartment. In the case of institutions where individuals reside, such as schools or nursing homes, telecommunications service is considered residential if it is provided to and paid for by an individual resident rather than the institution.

(26) *"Service address"* means:

1. The location of the telecommunications equipment to which a customer's call is charged and from which the call originates or terminates, regardless of where the call is billed or paid.

2. If the location in numbered paragraph "1" of this subparagraph is not known, "service address" means the origination point of the signal of the telecommunications services first identified by either the seller's telecommunications system or in information received by the seller from its service provider, where the system used to transport such signals is not that of the seller.

3. If the locations in numbered paragraphs "1" and "2" of this subparagraph are not known, the service address means the location of the customer's place of primary use.

(27) *"Telecommunications service"* means the electronic transmission, conveyance, or routing of voice, data, audio, video, or any other information or signals to a point, or between or among points. The term includes any transmission, conveyance, or routing in which computer processing applications are used to act on the form, code, or protocol of the content for purposes of transmission, conveyance, or routing without regard to whether such service is referred to as voice-over Internet protocol services or is classified by the Federal Communications Commission as enhanced or value-added. "Telecommunications service" does not include the following:

1. Data processing and information services that allow data to be generated, acquired, stored, processed, or retrieved and delivered by an electronic transmission to a purchaser where the purchaser's primary purpose for the underlying transaction is the processed data or information;

2. Installation or maintenance of wiring or equipment on a customer's premises;

3. Tangible personal property;

4. Advertising, including but not limited to directory advertising;

5. Billing and collection services provided to third parties;

6. Internet access service;

7. Radio and television audio and video programming services, regardless of the medium, including the furnishing of transmission, conveyance, or routing of the service by the programming service provider. Radio and television audio and video programming services shall include, but not be limited to, cable service and audio and video programming services delivered by a commercial mobile radio service provider;

8. Ancillary service;

9. Digital products delivered electronically, including but not limited to software, music, video, reading materials or ring tones.

(28) *"Value-added non-voice data service"* means a service that otherwise meets the definition of telecommunications services in which computer processing applications are used to act on the form,

content, code, or protocol of the information or data primarily for a purpose other than transmission, conveyance, or routing.

(29) *"Vertical service"* means an ancillary service that is offered in connection with one or more telecommunications services, which offers advanced calling features that allow customers to identify callers and to manage multiple calls and call connections. Nonexclusive examples of vertical service include call forwarding, caller ID, three-way calling, and conference bridging services.

(30) *"Voice mail service"* means an ancillary service that enables the customer to store, send, or receive recorded messages. Voice mail service does not include any vertical services that the customer may be required to have in order to utilize the voice mail service.

c. Taxable communication service, telecommunications service, ancillary service, and other similar communication service. The sales price from the sale of communication service, telecommunications service, ancillary service, and other similar communication service is subject to the sales or use tax. The following is a nonexclusive list of services subject to the Iowa sales and use tax:

(1) Air-to-ground radio telephone service;
(2) Ancillary services except detailed communications billing service;
(3) Conference bridging service;
(4) Fixed wireless service;
(5) Mobile wireless service;
(6) Pay telephone service;
(7) Postpaid calling service;
(8) Prepaid calling service;
(9) Prepaid wireless calling service;
(10) Private communication service;
(11) Residential telecommunications service.

d. Nontaxable communication service, telecommunications service, ancillary service, and other similar communication service. The following services are not subject to the Iowa sales and use tax:

(1) Detailed communications billing service;
(2) Internet access fees or charges;
(3) One-way paging services that only receive information and are not capable of transmitting information;
(4) Value-added non-voice data service;
(5) Any charge necessary to secure only interstate communication service if the nature of the service is separately stated and the charge for the interstate service is separately billed.

e. Sourcing of telecommunications services.

(1) General sourcing principles apply to telecommunications services unless the service falls under one of the exceptions set out in paragraph *"e."*

(2) Exceptions. The following telecommunications services and products are sourced in accordance with the principles set out in subparagraph (2):

1. Mobile telecommunications service is sourced to the place of primary use, unless the service is prepaid wireless calling service.
2. Prepaid calling service is sourced as provided under Iowa Code section 423.15. However, if the seller has sufficient information available, the sale of prepaid wireless calling service may be sourced to the location of the place of primary use.
3. A sale of a private telecommunications service is sourced as follows:

- Service for a separate charge related to a customer channel termination point is sourced to each level of jurisdiction in which the customer channel termination point is located.
- Service where all customer termination points are located entirely within one jurisdiction or levels of jurisdiction is sourced in the jurisdiction in which the customer channel termination points are located.
- Service for segments of a channel between two customer channel termination points located in different jurisdictions and which segments of channel are separately charged is sourced 50 percent in each level of jurisdiction in which the customer channel termination points are located.

- Service for segments of a channel located in more than one jurisdiction or levels of jurisdiction and which segments are not separately billed is sourced in each jurisdiction based on the percentage determined by dividing the number of customer channel termination points in the jurisdiction by the total number of customer channel termination points.

4. The sale of Internet access service is sourced to the customer's place of primary use.

5. The sale of an ancillary service is sourced to the customer's place of primary use.

6. A postpaid calling service is sourced to the origination point of the telecommunications signal as first identified by either (a) the seller's telecommunications system or (b) information received by the seller from its service provider, where the system used to transport the signals is not that of the seller.

7. The sale of telecommunications service sold on a call-by-call basis is sourced to (a) each level of taxing jurisdiction where the call originates and terminates in that jurisdiction or (b) each level of taxing jurisdiction where the call either originates or terminates and in which the service address is also located.

8. The sale of telecommunications services sold on a basis other than a call-by-call basis is sourced to the customer's place of primary use.

9. The sale of the following telecommunication services is sourced to each level of taxing jurisdiction as follows:

- A sale of mobile telecommunications services, other than prepaid calling service, is sourced to the customer's place of primary use as required by the federal Mobile Telecommunications Sourcing Act.
- A sale of postpaid calling service is sourced to the origination point of the telecommunications signal as first identified by either (a) the seller's telecommunications system or (b) information received by the seller from its service provider, where the system used to transport such signals is not that of the seller.

f. Bundled transaction.

(1) A "bundled transaction" is the retail sale of two or more products where (a) the products are otherwise distinct and identifiable, and (b) the products are sold for one non-itemized price. A bundled transaction does not include the sale of any products in which the sales price varies or is negotiable based on the selection by the purchaser of the products included in the transaction.

(2) In the case of a bundled transaction that includes any of the following: telecommunications service, ancillary service, Internet access, or audio or video programming service:

1. If the price is attributable to products that are taxable and products that are nontaxable, the portion of the price attributable to the nontaxable products will be subject to tax unless the provider can identify by reasonable and verifiable standards such portion from its books and records that are kept in the regular course of business for other purposes, including, but not limited to, nontax purposes.

2. If the price is attributable to products that are subject to tax at different tax rates, the total price may be treated as attributable to the products subject to tax at the highest tax rate unless the provider can identify by reasonable and verifiable standards the portion of the price attributable to the products subject to tax at the lower rate from its books and records that are kept in the regular course of business for other purposes, including but not limited to nontax purposes.

3. The provisions of this subrule shall apply unless otherwise provided by federal law.

g. Direct pay permit. The department may issue a direct pay permit that allows the holder to purchase tangible personal property or taxable services without payment of the tax to the seller. The direct pay permit holder cannot use the direct pay permit for the purchase of communication service, telecommunications service, ancillary services, or other similar communication service. The seller should charge and collect the sales or use tax from the purchaser on the taxable sales of communication service, telecommunications service, ancillary services, and other similar communication service.

h. Credit. A taxpayer subject to sales or use tax on communication service, telecommunications service, ancillary service or other similar communication service who has paid any legally imposed sales or use tax on such service to another jurisdiction outside the state of Iowa is allowed a credit against the sales or use tax imposed by the state of Iowa equal to the sales or use tax paid to the other taxing jurisdictions.

i. Sales of communication service, telecommunications service, ancillary service, or other similar communication service to the United States government or the state government of Iowa. Sales of communication service, telecommunications services, ancillary services, or other similar communication service to the United States government or its agencies or to the state of Iowa or its agencies are not subject to sales or use tax. In order to be a sale to the United States government or to the state government of Iowa, the government or agency involved must make the purchase of the services and pay directly to the vendor the purchase price of the services. Telecommunications service providers should obtain an exemption certificate from each agency for their records.

j. Retailers liable for collecting and remitting tax. Retailers that sell taxable communication service, telecommunications service, ancillary services, or other similar communication service are liable for collecting and remitting the state sales or use tax and any applicable local sales tax on the amounts of the sales.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 34A.7(1)*"c"*(2), 422.42(2), 422.42(3), 422.43(9), 422.45(5), 422.45(8), 422.45 and 422.51(1) and Iowa Code Supplement section 422.45 as amended by 2000 Iowa Acts, chapter 1189, section 29.

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701—285.21(422,423) Morticians or funeral directors. A mortician or funeral director is engaged in the business of selling both tangible personal property and funeral services. Examples of the former are caskets, other burial containers, flowers, and grave clothing. Examples of the latter are cremation, transportation by hearse and embalming. Tax is due only upon gross receipts from the sale of tangible personal property and taxable services, and not upon gross receipts from the sale of nontaxable services.

If a mortician or funeral director separately itemizes charges for tangible personal property, taxable services and nontaxable services, as required by the rules of the Federal Trade Commission, or Iowa Code section 523A.8(1)*"b,"* whichever is applicable, tax is due only upon the gross receipts from the sales of tangible personal property and taxable services. If contrary to the rules or the statute, or if the applicable rules are rescinded or the statute repealed, and the mortician or funeral director charges a lump sum to a customer covering the entire cost of the funeral without dividing the charges for sales of tangible personal property and taxable and nontaxable services, the mortician or funeral director shall report the full amount of the funeral bill less any cash advanced by the mortician or funeral director, with tax due on 50 percent of the difference. *Kistner v. Iowa State Board of Assessment and Review,* 224 Iowa 404, 280 N.W. 587 (1938). Cash advance items may include, but are not limited to, the following: cemetery or crematory services, pallbearers, public transportation, clergy honoraria, flowers, musicians, singers, nurses, obituary notices, gratuities, and death certificates.

The mortician or funeral director is considered to be purchasing caskets, outer burial containers, and grave clothing for resale, and may purchase these items from suppliers without payment of tax. The mortician or director should present the supplier with a certificate of resale as set out in rule 701—15.3(423). A mortician or director is considered to be the user or consumer of office furniture and equipment, funeral home furnishings, advertising calendars, booklets, motor vehicles and accessories, embalming equipment, instruments, fluid and other chemicals used in embalming, cosmetics, and grave equipment, stretchers, baskets, and other items if title or possession does not pass to the customer. *Kistner,* supra.

For purposes of this rule, the terms of morticians or funeral directors shall also include cemeteries, cemetery associations and anyone engaged in activities similar to those discussed in the rule.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(3), 422.43, 423.1 and 423.2.

[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.22(422,423) Physicians, dentists, surgeons, ophthalmologists, oculists, optometrists, and opticians. Physicians, dentists, surgeons, ophthalmologists, oculists, optometrists, and opticians shall not be liable for tax on services rendered such as examinations, consultations, diagnosis, surgery and other kindred services, nor on the applicable exemptions prescribed under 701—Chapter 20.

The purchase of materials, supplies, and equipment by these persons is subject to tax unless the particular item is exempt from tax when purchased by an individual for the individual's own use. For example, the purchase for use in the office of prescription drugs would not be subject to tax nor would the purchase of prosthetic devices such as artificial limbs or eyes.

Sales of tangible personal property to dentists, which are to be affixed to the person of a patient as an ingredient or component part of a dental prosthetic device, are exempt from tax. These include artificial teeth, and facings, dental crowns, dental mercury and acrylic, porcelain, gold, silver, alloy, and synthetic filling materials.

Sales of tangible personal property to physicians or surgeons, which are prescription drugs to be used or consumed by a patient, are exempt from tax.

Sales of tangible personal property to ophthalmologists, oculists, optometrists, and opticians, which are prosthetic devices designed, manufactured, or adjusted to fit a patient, are exempt from tax. These include prescription eyeglasses, contact lenses, frames, and lenses.

The purchase by such persons of materials such as pumice, tongue depressors, stethoscopes, which are not in themselves exempt from tax, would be subject to tax when purchased by such professions.

The purchase of equipment, such as an X-ray machine, X-ray photograph or frames for use by such persons is subject to tax. On the other hand, the purchase of an item of equipment that is utilized directly in the care of an illness, injury or disease, which item would be exempt if purchased directly by the patient, is not subject to tax.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(3), 422.43, 422.45(13-15), 423.2 and 423.4(4).
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.23(422) Veterinarians. Purchase of food, drugs, medicines, bandages, dressings, serums, tonics, and the like, but not to include tools and equipment, which are used in treating livestock raised as part of agricultural production is exempt from tax. Where these same items are used in treating animals maintained as pets for hobby purposes, sales tax is due. See rule 701—18.48(422,423) for an exemption for machinery used in livestock or dairy production which may be applicable to veterinarians but should be claimed only with caution by them.

A veterinarian engaged in retail sales, in addition to furnishing professional services, must account for sales tax on the gross receipts from such sales.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(3) and 422.43.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.24(422,423) Hospitals, infirmaries and sanitariums. Hospitals, infirmaries, sanitariums, and like institutions are engaged primarily in rendering services. These facilities shall not be subject to tax on their purchases of items of tangible personal property exempt under 701—Chapter 20 when the items would be exempt if purchased by the individual and if the item is used substantially for the tax-exempt purpose. See rule 18.59(422,423) for an exemption applicable to sales of goods and furnishing of services on and after July 1, 1998, to a nonprofit hospital.

Hospitals, infirmaries, and sanitariums may be the purchasers for use or consumption of tangible personal property used or consumed in furnishing services. *Modern Dairy Co. v. Department of Revenue,* 413 Ill. 55, 108 N.E.2d 8 (1952). However, tangible personal property can be purchased for resale by these facilities and, if purchased for resale, is exempt from tax on the purchases. *Burrows Co. v. Hollingsworth,* 415 Ill. 202, 112 N.E.2d 706 (1953); *Fefferman v. Marohn,* 408 Ill. 542, 97 N.E.2d 785 (1951). Property is purchased for resale if the conditions in subrule 18.31(1) are applicable. See also 701—subrule 15.3(2) with respect to resale exemption certificates.

Depending upon the circumstances, a nonprofit facility may be a charitable institution or organization; a profit facility is not. *Northwest Community Hospital v. Board of Review of City of Des Moines,* 229 N.W.2d 738 (Iowa 1975); *Readlyn Hospital v. Hoth,* 223 Iowa 341, 272 N.W. 90 (1937).

Sales by these nonprofit facilities would be exempt from tax if the requirements of Iowa Code section 422.45(3) are met. See rule 701—17.1(422,423).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.45 as amended by 1998 Iowa Acts, House File 2513, and chapter 423.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.25(422,423) Warranties and maintenance contracts.

285.25(1) In general—definitions. "Mandatory warranty." A warranty is mandatory within the meaning of this regulation when the buyer, as a condition of the sale, is required to purchase the warranty or guaranty contract from the seller. "Optional warranty." A warranty is optional within the meaning of this regulation when the buyer is not required to purchase the warranty or guaranty contract from the seller.

285.25(2) Mandatory warranties. When the sale of tangible personal property or services includes the furnishing or replacement of parts or materials which are pursuant to the guaranty provisions of the sales contract, a mandatory warranty exists. If the property subject to the warranty is sold at retail, and the measure of the tax includes any amount charged for the guaranty or warranty, whether or not such amount is purported to be separately stated from the purchase price, the sale of replacement parts and materials to the seller furnishing them thereunder is a sale for resale and not taxable. Labor performed under a mandatory warranty which is in connection with an enumerated taxable service is also exempt from tax.

285.25(3) Optional warranties. For periods after June 30, 1981.

a. The sale of optional service or warranty contracts which provide for the furnishing of labor and materials and require the furnishing of any taxable service enumerated under Iowa Code section 422.43 is considered a sale of tangible personal property the gross receipts from which are subject to tax at the time of sale except as described below.

b. On and after July 1, 1995, the sale of a residential service contract regulated under Iowa Code chapter 523C is not considered to be the sale of tangible personal property, and gross receipts from the sales of these service contracts are no longer subject to tax, and the gross receipts from taxable services performed for the providers of residential service contracts are now subject to tax. See the examples below for more detailed explanation. A "residential service contract" is defined in Iowa Code subsection 523C.1(8) to be: a contract or agreement between a residential customer and a service company which undertakes, for a predetermined fee and for a specified period of time, to maintain, repair, or replace all or any part of the structural components, appliances, or electrical, plumbing, heating, cooling, or air-conditioning systems of residential property containing not more than four dwelling units.

EXAMPLE A. John Jones purchases a residential service contract for $3,000 on July 1, 1994. He pays $150 of Iowa state sales tax. On December 1, 1994, his furnace malfunctions. The service company which sold Mr. Jones the contract pays Smith Furnace Repair $700 to fix the furnace. No sales tax is due on the $700 charge.

EXAMPLE B. Bob Jones purchases a residential service contract for $3,000 on July 1, 1995. No sales tax is owing or paid. On December 1, 1995, his furnace becomes inoperable. The service company which sold Mr. Jones the contract pays Smith Furnace Repair $900 to fix Mr. Jones' furnace. Sales tax of $45 is due based on the $900.

c. On and after July 1, 1998, if an optional service or warranty contract is a computer software maintenance or support service contract and the contract provides for the furnishing of technical support services only and not for the furnishing of any materials, then no tax is imposed on the furnishing of those services under this subrule. If a computer software maintenance or support service contract provides for the performance of nontaxable services and the taxable transfer of tangible personal property, and no separate fee is stated for either the performance of the service or the transfer of the property, then state sales tax of 5 percent shall be imposed on 50 percent of the gross receipts from the sale of the contract. If a charge for the performance of the nontaxable service is separately stated, see subrule 18.25(5) below.

285.25(4) A preventive maintenance contract is a contract which requires only the visual inspection of equipment and no repair is or shall be included. The gross receipts from the sale of a preventive maintenance contract is not subject to tax.

285.25(5) Additional charges for parts and labor furnished in addition to that covered by a warranty or maintenance contract which are for enumerated taxable services shall be subject to tax. Only parts and not labor will be subject to tax where a nontaxable service is performed if the labor charge is separately stated.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42 and 423.2 and Iowa Code Supplement section 422.43 as amended by 1998 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2288.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.26(422) Service charge and gratuity. When the purchase of any food, beverage or meals automatically and invariably results in the inclusion of a mandatory service charge to the total price for such food, beverage or meal, the amounts so included shall be subject to tax. The term "service charge" means either a fixed percentage of the total price of or a charge for food, beverage or meal.

The mandatory service charge shall be considered: (1) a required part of a transaction arising from a taxable sale and a contractual obligation of a purchaser to pay to a vendor arising directly from and as a condition of the making of the sale and (2) a fixed labor cost included in the price for food, beverage or meal even though such charge is separately stated from the charge for the food, beverage or meal.

When a gratuity is voluntarily given for food, beverage or meal it shall be considered a tip and not subject to tax.

Cohen v. Playboy Club International, Inc., 19 Ill. App. 3d 215, 311 N.E.2d 336; *Baltimore Country Club, Inc. v. Comptroller of Treasury,* 272 Md. 65, 321 A.2d 308.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.43.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.27(422) Advertising agencies, commercial artists, and designers.

285.27(1) *Nontaxable services.* Tax does not apply to charges by advertising agencies, commercial artists, or designers for services rendered that do not represent services that are a part of a sale of tangible personal property, or a labor or service cost in the production of tangible personal property. Examples of such nontaxable services are: writing original manuscripts and news releases; writing copy for use in newspapers, magazines, or other advertising, or to be broadcast on television or radio, compiling statistical and other information; placing or arranging for the placing of advertising in media, such as newspapers, magazines, or other publications; billboards and other facilities used in public transportation; and delivering or causing the delivery of brochures, pamphlets, cards, and similar items. Charges for such items as supervision, consultation, research, postage, express, transportation and travel expense, if involved in the rendering of such services, are likewise not taxable.

285.27(2) *Agency fee or commission.* When an amount billed as an agency "fee," "service charge," or "commission" represents a charge or part of the charge for any of the nontaxable services described under 18.27(1), the amount so billed is not taxable. Such charge by an advertising agency will be considered to be made for nontaxable services.

285.27(3) *Items taxable.* The tax applies to the entire amount charged to clients for items of tangible personal property such as drawings, paintings, designs, photographs, lettering, assemblies and printed matter. This includes the cost of typography and reproduction proofs when the latter is used as part of a paste-up, "mechanical" or assembly. Whether the items of property are used for reproduction or display purposes is immaterial.

285.27(4) *Preliminary art.* "Preliminary art" as used herein means roughs, visualizations, comprehensives and layouts prepared for acceptance by clients before a contract is entered into or approval is given for finished art. ("Finished art" as used herein means the final art used for actual reproduction by photo-mechanical or other processes.) Tax does not apply to separate charges for preliminary art, except where the preliminary art becomes physically incorporated into the finished art as for example, when the finished art is made by inking directly over a pencil sketch or drawing, or the approved layout is used as camera copy for reproduction.

The charge for preliminary art must be billed separately to the client, either on a separate billing or separately charged for on the billing for the finished art. It must be clearly identified on the billing as preliminary art, of one or more of the types mentioned in the preceding paragraph. Proof of ordering or producing the preliminary art prior to date of contract or approval for finished art shall be evidenced by purchase orders of the buyer, or by work orders or other records of the seller.

The following situations are examples of when the sale of "finished art" is taxable:

a. Finished art which is sold to customers to be used for advertising purposes in newspapers, magazines or the like. After the advertiser contracts with the ad agency for the development of an advertising message or theme, the agency devises ideas (preliminary art) and produces the finished art. The finished art is then delivered to the advertiser or to an agent of the advertiser such as a printer or publisher who is under contract with the advertiser to publish the ad.

b. Finished art which is sold to customers, or their agents (e.g., printers), for use in producing printed material. The charge for finished art is taxable even though the art work may later be returned to the ad agency by the purchaser or the printer or used by the customer or the customer's agent to produce a nontaxable item. Since the finished art is not a part of the printed materials, the ad agency's customer is consuming the material and not buying it for resale, or using it in an exempt manner.

c. Finished art which is used to produce other tangible personal property sold by the ad agency such as letterhead stationery and business cards. The charge for such art is taxable as part of the selling price for such stationery or business cards. This is true whether or not the agency separately itemizes the charge for such stationery or business cards.

285.27(5) *Items purchased by agency, artist or designer.* An advertising agency, artist, or designer is the consumer of tangible personal property used in the operation of its business, such as stationery, ink, paint, tools, drawing tables, T-squares, pens, pencils, and other office supplies. Tax applies to the sale of such property to the agency, artist, or designer. Tax also applies where the agency, artist or designer is the consumer of taxable services.

The agency, artist, or designer is the seller of, and may purchase for resale, any item resold before use, or that becomes physically an ingredient or component part of tangible personal property sold, as, for example, illustration board, paint, ink, rubber cement, flap paper, wrapping paper, photographs, photostats, or art purchased from other artists. Tax also applies where the agency, artist, or designer is the seller at retail of taxable services.

In the event that an agency, artist, or designer is both a consumer and a retailer of such items of tangible personal property as noted in this subsection, such agency, artist or designer should:

a. Purchase such items without tax liability if the majority of the items are sold at retail and remit the tax at the time of resale or at the time such items are consumed in the operation of the business.

b. Pay tax to suppliers at the time of purchase if the majority of the items will be consumed in the operation of the business and deduct the original cost of any such items subsequently sold at retail when reporting tax on their returns.

285.27(6) *Construction.* Nothing contained in this rule shall be construed to provide for an exemption from tax for services expressly taxable in rules 701—26.17(422) and 26.39(422).

285.27(7) *Advertising agencies, commercial artists and designers as agent of client or as a nonagent.*

a. In general. A true agent relationship depends upon the facts with respect to each transaction. An agent is one who represents another, called the principal, in dealings with third persons. Advertising agencies, commercial artists, and designers may act as agents on behalf of their clients in dealing with third persons or they may act on their own behalf. To the extent advertising agencies, artists and designers act as agents of their clients in acquiring tangible personal property, they are neither purchasers of the property with respect to the supplier nor sellers of the property with respect to their principals.

b. When advertising agencies, commercial artists, and designers act as agents of their clients in purchasing property for their clients, the tax applies to the gross receipts from the sale of such property to the advertising agencies, commercial artists, and designers. Unless such advertising agencies, commercial artists and designers act as true agents, they will be regarded as the retailers of tangible personal property furnished to their clients and the tax will apply to the total amount received for such

property. Further, nothing in this rule should be construed to be in variance with the opinion of the Iowa Supreme Court in *Rowe vs. Iowa State Tax Commission,* 249 Iowa 1207, 91 N.W.2d 548 (1958).

c. To establish that a particular acquisition is made in the capacity of an agent for a client, advertising agencies, commercial artists, and designers (collectively herein referred to as agency) shall act as follows:

1. The agency must clearly disclose to the supplier the name of the client for whom the agency is acting as an agent.

2. The agency must obtain, prior to the acquisition, and retain written evidence of agent status with the client.

3. The price billed to the client, exclusive of any agency fee, must be the same as the amount paid to the supplier. The agency may make no use of the property for its own account, such as commingling the property of a client with another, and the reimbursement for the property should be separately invoiced or shown separately on the invoice to the client.

d. Some charges may represent reimbursement for tangible personal property acquired by the agency as agents for its clients and compensation for performing of agency services related thereto. When an advertising agency, commercial artist, or designer establishes that it has acquired tangible personal property as agents for its clients, tax does not apply to the charge made by the agency to its client for reimbursement charges by a supplier or to the charges made for the performance of the agency's services directly related to the acquisition of personal property.

e. Advertising agencies, commercial artists, and designers acting as agents shall not issue resale certificates to suppliers.

f. Advertising agencies, commercial artists, and designers act as retailers of all items of tangible personal property produced or fabricated by their own employees when they sell to their clients. Advertising agencies, commercial artists, and designers are not agents of their clients with respect to the acquisition of materials incorporated into items of tangible personal property prepared by their employees and sold at retail to their clients.

285.27(8) *Scope.* The scope of this rule is not confined simply to advertising agencies, commercial artists and designers, but also applies to all other businesses whose activities would bring them within the scope of this rule (e.g., printers).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.43 and 423.2.

[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.28(422,423) Casual sales.

285.28(1) *Casual sales by persons not retailers or by retailers outside the regular course of business.* Casual sales are exempt from the Iowa sales and use taxes except for the casual sale of vehicles subject to registration, and vehicles subject only to the issuance of a certificate of title. On and after July 1, 1988, the casual sale of aircraft is also taxable. In order for a casual sale to qualify for exemption under this subrule, two conditions must be present: (1) the sale of tangible personal property or taxable services must be of a nonrecurring nature, and (2) the seller, at the time of the sale, must not be engaged for profit in the business of selling tangible goods or services taxed under Iowa Code section 422.43 or, if so engaged, the sale must be outside the regular course of the seller's business (Order of State Board of Tax Review, Martin Development Corporation, Docket No. 136, December 1, 1976, incorporating by reference Order of Department of Revenue Hearing Officer in Docket No. 75-28-6A-A, July 9, 1976). See subrule 18.28(2) for an explanation of the casual sale exemption applicable to the liquidation of a trade or business.

If either of the conditions above are lacking, no casual sale occurs. Moreover, prior to July 1, 1985, the casual sale exemption was limited to sales of tangible personal property, and casual enumerated taxable services did not qualify for the exemption. *KTVO, Inc. v. Bair,* Equity No. 385 Linn County District Court, September 5, 1975.

For the purposes of this subrule, the word "aircraft" refers to any contrivance now known or hereafter invented, which is designed or used for navigation of or flight in the air, for the purpose of transporting persons, property, or both or for crop dusting, aerial surveillance, recreational flying, or for providing

some other service. By way of nonexclusive example, balloons, gliders, helicopters, and "ultra lights" are aircraft. Also included within the meaning of the word "aircraft" is any craft registered under Iowa Code section 328.20 or any successor statute thereto.

Sales of capital assets such as equipment, machinery, and furnishings which are not sold as inventory shall be deemed outside the regular course of business (including sales of capital assets during a retailer's liquidation) and the casual sales exemption shall apply as long as such sales are nonrecurring. This will include transactions exempted from state and federal income tax under Section 351 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Two separate selling events outside the regular course of business within a 12-month period shall be considered nonrecurring. Three such separate selling events within a 12-month period shall be considered as recurring. Tax shall only apply commencing with the third separate selling event. However, in the event that a sale event occurs consistently over a span of years, such sale is recurring and not casual, even though only one sales event occurs each year. *Des Moines Police Department v. Bair,* Equity No. CE3-1591, Polk County District Court, November 1, 1976.

EXAMPLE: Corporation A sells the company copy machine at retail to B. At the time of this sale, Corporation A is engaged in the business for profit of selling clothes at retail. Assuming that the sale of the copy machine constitutes a sale of a nonrecurring nature, there is a casual sale because the sale is outside the regular course of Corporation A's business.

EXAMPLE: Corporation C is engaged in the business of lending money secured by collateral. In the course of such business, Corporation C must repossess some collateral and sell it at retail for purposes of payment of loans. Such sales recur from time to time. Notwithstanding that Corporation C is presumably not engaged in the business of selling tangible goods or services for a profit, since the sales are recurring, there is no casual sale. *S & M Finance Co., Fort Dodge v. Iowa State Tax Commission,* 1968, Iowa 162 N.W.2d 505.

EXAMPLE: F, a farmer, does not sell tangible personal property at retail or engage in the performance of any taxable services. F liquidates the farming business and hires a professional auctioneer to auction off many items of tangible personal property. Assuming this liquidation event is casual, all items sold by the auctioneer at retail are casual sales notwithstanding that many different sales to numerous different buyers may occur. See rule 18.8(422).

EXAMPLE: H, an insurance agency, holds a semiannual event to sell its used office furniture. Even though H does not regularly sell tangible personal property at retail, the casual sale exemption does not apply because the selling events are recurring. *Des Moines Police Department v. Bair,* Equity No. CE3-1591, Polk County District Court, November 1, 1976.

EXAMPLE: I, a corporation, has one sales event every year whereby it auctions off capital assets which it has no use for or desires to replace. This event has been a planned function of I and is conducted regularly and consistently over a span of years. Even though this sale event occurs only once a year, it is of a recurring nature because of the pattern of repetitiveness present and, therefore, the casual sale exemption would not apply, regardless of the number of items sold at such sale event each year.

EXAMPLE: J, a corporation engaged in the sale for resale of tangible personal property, sells three capital assets used in J's trade or business consisting of a copy machine, a desk, and a computer. Each sale is made to different buyers and is unrelated to the other sales. The three sales occur in January, June, and October of the same year. The sale made in October consists of a desk. J has not established a pattern of recurring sales of capital assets prior to aforementioned sales of capital assets. Under these circumstances, the sale of the desk is not a casual sale, but the sales of the copy machine and the computer are casual and exempt.

EXAMPLE: K, a corporation, is primarily engaged in the business of road construction. From time to time, it sells used capital assets and scrap materials reclaimed from its road construction work to individuals and businesses. It does not advertise itself as a retailer of these assets and materials but sells them as a matter of courtesy to persons who cannot purchase them elsewhere. After 42 years of operation, it decides to liquidate. Pursuant to that decision, K employs two auctioneers to sell its capital assets and ceases operation after its assets are sold. K had only one capital asset sale during the 12 months immediately preceding each liquidation auction sale. The auction sales are exempt casual sales

under this subrule (1) because they are nonrecurring, and (2) because K is not a retailer of the capital assets sold during its liquidation. See *Holland Bros. Construction Co., Inc. v. Iowa State Board of Tax Review,* 611 N.W.2d 495 (Iowa 2000).

EXAMPLE: L, a sole proprietorship, engaged in selling automobile parts at retail, incorporated. The assets of L are sold to the new corporation in exchange for stock and the new corporation now engages in selling automobile parts at retail. The casual sale exemption would apply, but only because of the exemption set out in subrule 18.28(2) infra, since the transfer involves a liquidation of L's business and the sale of L's inventory to another person (the corporatin) which will continue to engage in a similar trade or business.

The above examples are not the only ones pertaining to the questions of whether a casual sale did or did not occur. However, because of the myriad of factual situations which can and do exist, it is not possible to formulate more detailed rules on this subject matter.

285.28(2) *Special rules for casual sales involving the liquidation of a trade or business.* When retailers sell all or substantially all of the tangible personal property held or used in the course of the trade or business for which retailers are required to hold a sales tax permit, the casual sale exemption will apply to exempt those sales only when the following circumstances exist: (1) the trade or business must be transferred to another person, and (2) the transferee must engage in a similar trade or business. The trade or business transferred refers to the place where the business is located since each taxable retail business must have a sales tax permit at each location. For purposes of this casual sale circumstance, it is irrelevant whether the retailer actually has a sales tax permit or not; rather, the relevant circumstance is that the retailer was required to have a sales tax permit. See *Holland Bros. Construction Co., Inc. v. Iowa State Board of Tax Review,* 611 N.W.2d 495 (Iowa 2000). One effect of this is that a retailer who is closing as opposed to transferring a business and is selling inventory in the process of this closing is not entitled to claim the casual sale exemption under this subrule, but see subrule 18.28(1), and the resale exemption is always potentially applicable to sales of inventory. See the examples below for further explanation.

EXAMPLE: L, a hardware store, desires to liquidate the business. L had been selling tangible personal property at retail and was required to have an Iowa retail sales tax permit. L hires a professional auctioneer and all items of inventory, equipment, and fixtures are sold to various purchasers. These items consist of all or substantially all of the tangible personal property held or used by L in the course of the business for which a sales tax permit was required to be held. L, however, does not transfer the trade or business to anyone else. Under these circumstances, the casual sales exemption does not apply to the sale of the inventory, but see subrule 18.28(1) for criteria which determine whether the casual sales exemption applies to the equipment and fixtures.

EXAMPLE: The facts are the same as those in the previous example, except that L is liquidating its business because it attempted to build a new store and its entire inventory was destroyed by fire while in storage. An auctioneer sells L's equipment and trade fixtures to various purchasers. The auctioneer's sale of the equipment and trade fixtures is an exempt casual sale of the type described in subrule 18.28(1) because (1) it is nonrecurring, and (2) it is outside the usual course of L's business. See *Holland Bros. Construction Co., Inc.,* supra.

EXAMPLE: M, a sole proprietorship, incorporated. The assets of M are sold to the new corporation for stock. The new corporation engaged in a similar business. The casual sale exemption would apply.

EXAMPLE: N, an oil company, sells all or substantially all of the tangible personal property of ten company-owned service stations which were held or used in the course of its business, for which N was required to hold a sales tax permit, by bulk sales or otherwise. The sales were made to O, P, and Q and occurred at different times during the same year, each sale being unrelated. N was required to have a sales tax permit for each service station. N transferred its trade or business (each service station) to O, P, and Q, each of whom will engage in the same business N did, i.e., operation of service stations. Even though under these circumstances, the sales by N are recurring, the casual sales exemption would apply since each trade or business was transferred to another person who did engage in a similar trade or business.

EXAMPLE: R, an operator of a restaurant, auctions off to various purchasers who are not engaged in the restaurant business all or substantially all of the tangible personal property held or used in the business for which R was required to hold a retail sales tax permit. R transfers the trade or business to S who then operates a restaurant at the same location R did. Even if S did not purchase any of the tangible personal property, under these circumstances, the casual sales exemption applies. The tangible personal property held or used in the trade or business need not be sold to the same person to whom the trade or business is sold for the exemption to apply.

EXAMPLE: T, a restaurant, sells all of its tangible personal property held or used in the course of its business for which it was required to hold a sales tax permit to U. T also sells its trade or business to U. U engages in the business of operation of a dance hall and does not continue to operate the restaurant. This subrule's casual sales exemption will not apply, but see subrule 18.28(1) for the criteria of a casual sale exemption which could apply.

The above examples are not the only ones pertaining to the questions of whether a casual sale did or did not occur. However, because of the myriad of factual situations which can and do exist, it is not possible to formulate more detailed rules on this subject matter.

285.28(3) *Casual sales of services.* Special rule for services rendered, furnished, or performed on or after July 1, 1985. The "casual sale" of an enumerated service has occurred if the following circumstances exist:

a. The service was rendered, furnished, or performed on or after July 1, 1985; and

b. The service was rendered, furnished, or performed on a nonrecurring basis by a seller who, at the time of the sale of the service, is not engaged for profit in the business of selling tangible goods or services taxed under Iowa Code section 422.43, or, if so engaged, the sale was outside the regular course of the seller's business; or

c. The sales of all, or substantially all of the services held or used by a retailer in the course of the retailer's trade or business for which the retailer is required to hold a sales tax permit, if the retailer sells or otherwise transfers the trade or business to another person who engages in a similar trade or business.

EXAMPLE: V ordinarily engages in janitorial and building maintenance or cleaning which are taxable services; see rule 701—26.60(422). Once, as a favor to customer W, V cut customer W's lawn and otherwise performed the taxable service of "lawn care" for customer W. Since this performance of lawn care was not "within V's regular course of business" and was not "recurring," gross receipts from the lawn care are not subject to tax.

EXAMPLE: Corporation X rents a piece of equipment from Y. Y does not otherwise rent equipment and does not engage in the business for profit of selling tangible goods or taxable enumerated services. A casual sale qualifying for the exemption exists.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(12), 422.45(6) and 423.4.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.29(422,423) Processing, a definition of the word, its beginning and completion characterized with specific examples of processing.

285.29(1) *Processing—a definition.* For the purpose of these rules, "processing" means an operation or a series of operations whereby tangible personal property is subjected to some special treatment by artificial or natural means which changes its form, context, or condition, and results in marketable tangible personal property. These operations are commonly associated with fabricating, compounding, germinating, or manufacturing. *Linwood Stone Products Co. v. State Department of Revenue,* 175 N.W.2d 393 (Iowa 1970).

285.29(2) *The beginning of processing.* Processing begins when the "form, context, or condition" of tangible personal property is changed with the intent of eventually transforming the property into a saleable finished product. The severance of raw material from real estate is not processing, even if this severance results in a change in the form, context, or condition of the real estate. *Linwood Stone Products Co. v. State Department of Revenue,* 175 N. W.2d 393 (Iowa 1970). Furthermore, transportation of raw material after it is severed from real estate but prior to the time the initial change in the form, context,

or condition of the raw material occurs is not processing. *Southern Sioux County Rural Water System, Inc. v. Iowa Department of Revenue,* 383 N.W.2d 585 (Iowa 1986).

285.29(3) *The completion of processing.* Processing ends when the property being processed is in the form in which it is ultimately intended to be sold at retail, *Hy-Vee Food Stores v. Iowa Department of Revenue,* 379 N.W.2d 37 (Iowa App. 1985). The storage or transport of property after that property is transformed into a finished product is not a part of processing.

285.29(4) *Examples of when processing begins and ends.* The following examples are intended to clarify but not to contradict the explanation of processing set out in subrules 18.29(2) and 18.29(3).

EXAMPLE A: A company blasts limestone from the ground, bulldozers pick the limestone up and put it in trucks; these trucks transport the limestone to a crusher some distance from the quarry site. The first change in the "form" or "condition" of the limestone, while it is tangible personal property, occurs when the stone is crushed in the crusher. The blasting of the stone from the ground and its transport to the crusher would be acts preparatory to and not a part of processing. Thus, fuel used in the bulldozers and transport trucks would not be fuel used in processing, *Linwood Stone Products,* supra.

EXAMPLE B: Pumps remove water from underground wells and pump that water through pipes to a water treatment plant. At the treatment plant, the water passes initially through an aeration system which adds oxygen to it. At other points in the plant, potassium and chlorine are added to the water and iron is removed. After these acts are performed, clean, drinkable water exists. The first change, however, in the condition of the water occurs when it passes through the aeration system and oxygen is added to it. The withdrawal of the water from the ground and its transport to the aeration system would not be a part of processing. Thus, electricity used by the pumps which pump the water to the aeration system would not be used in processing. However, by way of contrast, electricity used to transport the water between, for example, the aeration system and the point where potassium is added to the water would be used in processing. *Southern Sioux Rural Water System, Inc.,* supra.

EXAMPLE C: Water is processed in a treatment plant. The last act at the plant necessary to render the water drinkable or a "finished product" is the addition of chlorine. After the addition of chlorine, the water is pumped first into wells and later into water towers where it is held for distribution. The pumping of this drinkable water from the point where the chlorine is added to the wells and the tower is not a part of processing because processing of the water ended with the addition of the chlorine; thus, electricity used in these pumps is not electricity used in processing. *Southern Sioux County Rural Water System, Inc.,* supra.

285.29(5) *Integral part of the production of the product test.* Certain activities may be exempt as part of processing if those activities are very closely interconnected with, or an integral part of, the operation of the processing equipment while processing is occurring. *Southern Sioux Rural Water System, Inc.,* supra. Merely because an activity is vital or essential to a processing operation does not make that activity exempt as part of processing unless the activity itself is closely interconnected with, or an integral part of, the operation of the processing equipment while processing is occurring. *Mississippi Valley Milk Producers Ass'n v. Iowa Dept. of Revenue,* 387 N.W.2d 611 (Iowa App. 1986). See the nonexclusive example below.

A manufactures nails. In A's factory is a machine which draws steel into long rods the width of whatever nail A may wish to manufacture. After this machine draws the steel into the desired-size rods, the rods are moved to a second machine by a conveyor belt. This second machine cuts the rods into the length of nail which A desires. A second conveyor belt then transports these cut rods to a third machine which sharpens one end of the rod to a point and puts a "nail head" on the other end of the rod. The activities of the three machines are clearly processing, in that they are activities which change the form, context or condition of raw material, and as a result of those activities, marketable tangible personal property or a finished product is created. The two conveyor belts move the partially finished nails from one piece of processing equipment to another while processing is occurring. Since the activities of the conveyors are very closely interconnected with and an integral part of the operation of the various pieces of processing equipment while processing is occurring, the conveyor belts are involved in processing as well.

285.29(6) *Other specific examples of processing.* The Iowa Supreme Court has also stated that the following activities are processing: manufacturing ice, refrigerating cheese to age it from "green" to edible, refrigerating eggs to change their flavor, pasteurizing and subsequent refrigeration of milk, "hard" freezing of meat and butter for aging, canning vegetables and cooking foodstuffs; *Fischer Artificial Ice & Cold Storage Co. v. Iowa State Tax Commission,* 248 Iowa 497, 81 N.W.2d 437 (1957); and, *Mississippi Valley Milk Producers v. Iowa Dept. of Revenue and Finance,* 387 N.W.2d 611 (Ia. App. 1986), also crushing of "flat rock" limestone and treating limestone in kilns. *Linwood Stone Products Co. v. State Dept. of Revenue,* 175 N.W.2d 393 (Iowa 1970). See 701—subrule 17.3(2) for an expanded definition of processing with regard to food manufacturing.

285.29(7) *Other department rules concerned with processing.* Various sections of the Iowa Code set out activities that are defined by statute to be "processing." The rules interpreting these statutes for the purposes of sales and use tax law are the following:

a. 701—15.3(423) Exemption certificates, direct pay permits, fuel used in processing, and beer and wine wholesalers.

b. 701—17.2(422) Fuel used in processing—when exempt.

c. 701—17.3(422,423) Processing exemptions.

d. 701—17.9(422,423) Sales of breeding livestock, fowl, and certain other property used in agricultural production. See 701—subrules 17.9(4), 17.9(5), 17.9(6), and 17.9(7) for processing exemptions.

e. 701—17.14(422,423) Chemicals, solvents, sorbents, or reagents used in processing.

f. 701—18.3(422,423) Chemical compounds used to treat water.

g. 701—18.45(422,423) Sale or rental of computers, industrial machinery and equipment; refund of and exemption from tax paid for periods prior to July 1, 1997.

h. 701—18.58(422,423) Sales or rentals of machinery, equipment, and computers and sales of fuel and electricity to manufacturers and sales or rentals of computers to commercial enterprises for periods on and after July 1, 1997, but before July 1, 2016.

i. 701—26.2(422) Enumerated services exempt. See 701—subrule 26.2(2) for the processing exemption.

j. 701—28.2(423) Processing of property defined.

k. 701—33.3(423) Fuel consumed in creating power, heat, or steam for processing or generating electric current.

l. 701—33.7(423) Property used to manufacture certain vehicles to be leased.

m. For property sold on or after July 1, 2016, computers, machinery, equipment, replacement parts, and supplies used for an exempt purpose under Iowa Code section 423.3(47). See rules 701—230.14(423) to 701—230.22(423).

[**ARC 2349C**, IAB 1/6/16, effective 2/10/16; see Rescission note at end of chapter; **ARC 2768C**, IAB 10/12/16, effective 11/16/16; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.30(422) Taxation of American Indians.

285.30(1) *Definitions.*

"American Indians" means all persons of Indian descent who are members of any recognized tribe.

"Settlement" means all lands within the boundaries of the Mesquakie Indian settlement located in Tama County, Iowa and any other recognized Indian settlement or reservation within the boundaries of the state of Iowa.

285.30(2) *Retail sales tax—tangible personal property.* Retail sales of tangible personal property made on a recognized settlement or reservation to Indians who are members of the tribe located on that settlement or reservation, where delivery occurs on the reservation, are exempt from tax *(Bryan v. Itasca County,* 426 U.S. 373, 376-77 (1976); *Moe v. Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes,* 425 U.S. 463, 475-81 (1976)). Retail sales of tangible personal property made on a recognized settlement or reservation to Indians where delivery occurs off the reservation are subject to tax. Retail sales of tangible personal property made to non-Indians on a recognized settlement or reservation are subject to tax regardless

of where the delivery occurs. Sales made to non-Indians are taxable even though the seller may be a member of a recognized settlement or reservation.

285.30(3) *Retail sales tax—services.* Sales of enumerated taxable services and sales made by municipal corporations furnishing gas, electricity, water, heat, or communication services to Indians who are members of the tribe located on the recognized settlement or reservation where delivery of the service occurs are exempt from tax *(Bryan v. Itasca County,* 426 U.S. 373, 376-77 (1976); *Moe v. Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes,* 425 U.S. 463, 475-81 (1976)). Sales of enumerated taxable services or sales made by municipal corporations furnishing gas, electricity, water, heat, or communication services to Indians where delivery of the services occurs off a recognized settlement or reservation are subject to tax.

285.30(4) *Off-reservation purchases.* Purchases made by Indians off a recognized settlement or reservation are subject to tax if delivery occurs off the reservation. Purchases made by Indians off a recognized settlement or reservation are not subject to tax if delivery is made on the reservation to Indians who are members of the tribe located on that reservation.

See rule 701—33.5(423) for the taxation of tangible personal property and services where the state use tax may be applicable.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42, 422.43, and 422.45(1).

[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.31(422,423) Tangible personal property purchased by one who is engaged in the performance of a service.

285.31(1) *In general. (Effective July 1, 1990)*

a. On and after July 1, 1990, tangible personal property purchased by one who is engaged in the performance of a service is purchased for resale and not subject to tax if (1) the provider and user of the service intend that a sale of the property will occur, and (2) the property is transferred to the user of the service in connection with the performance of the service in a form or quantity capable of a fixed or definite price value, and (3) the sale is evidenced by a separate charge for the identifiable piece or quantity of property.

b. Prior to July 1, 1990, in those circumstances in which tangible personal property is purchased by one who is engaged in the performance of a service and the property is transferred to the customer in conjunction with a performance of the service in a form or quantity which is capable of any fixed or definite price value, but the actual sale of the property is not indicated by a separate charge for the identifiable item, the burden of proving that the property was purchased for resale by one engaged in the performance of a service and not subject to tax at the time of purchase is upon the person engaged in the performance of a service who asserts this.

c. Tangible personal property which is not sold in the manner set forth in *"a"* or *"b"* above is not purchased for resale and thus is subject to tax at the time of purchase by one engaged in the performance of a service. Such tangible personal property is considered to be consumed by the purchaser who is engaged in the performance of a service and the person performing the service shall pay tax upon the sale at the time of purchase.

EXAMPLE: An investment counselor purchases envelopes. These envelopes are used to send out monthly reports to the investment counselor's clients regarding their accounts. Tax is due at the time the investment counselor purchases the envelopes if the clients are not billed for these items. Each envelope is transferred to a client in a form or quantity which is capable of a fixed or definite price value. However, there must also be an actual sale to the client (customer) of an item of personal property in order that there be a "resale" of the item.

An automobile repair shop purchases solvents which are used in cleaning automobile parts and thus in performing its automobile repair service. Tax is due at the time the automobile repair shop purchases the solvent since the solvents are not sold to the customer and, in this case, the item is not transferred to a customer in a form or quantity which is capable of a fixed or definite price value. Thus, the solvent is deemed consumed by the purchaser engaged in the performance of the service.

EXAMPLE: A retailer purchases television tubes tax-free where the retailer makes a separate charge for the tube to the customer and since the tube is transferred to the customer in a form or quantity capable of a fixed or definite price value.

EXAMPLE: A beauty or barber shop purchases shampoo and other items to be used in the performance of its service. Tax is due at the time the beauty or barber shop purchases such items from its supplier, where the customers of the beauty or barber shop are not separately billed for the item, and because it is not transferred to the customer in a form or quantity capable of a fixed or definite price value, it is being consumed by the beauty or barber shop.

EXAMPLE: A car wash purchases water, electricity, or gas used in the washing of a car. The car wash would be the consumer of the water, electricity, or gas and tax is due at the time of purchase. The items purchased by the car wash are not transferred to the customer in a form or quantity capable of a fixed or definite price value, and the customer is not billed for the item.

EXAMPLE: An accounting firm purchases plastic binders which are used to cover the reports issued to its customers. These binders would be subject to tax at the time of purchase by the firm where the customer of the firm is not billed for the item, there being no sale to the customer in such a case.

EXAMPLE: A meat locker purchases materials such as wrapping paper and tape which it uses to wrap meat for customers who provide the locker with the meat. These materials would be subject to tax at the time of purchase by the meat locker because they are not sold to the customer in a form or quantity capable of a fixed or definite price value.

EXAMPLE: A jeweler purchases materials such as main springs and crystals to be used in the performance of a service. These items are purchased by the jeweler for resale where they are transferred to the customer in a form or quantity capable of a fixed or definite price value and each item is actually sold to the customer as evidenced by a separate charge therefor.

EXAMPLE: A lawn care service applies fertilizer, herbicides, and pesticides to its customers' lawns. The following are examples of invoices to customers which are suitable to indicate a lawn care service's purchase of the fertilizer, herbicides, and pesticides for resale to those customers: "Chemicals...31 Gal....$60"; "Fertilizer...50 lbs....$100"; and "Materials applied to lawn...4 bushel...$40". The following are examples of information placed upon an invoice which would not indicate a purchase for resale to the customers invoiced: "Fifty percent of the charge for this service is for materials placed on a lawn," or "Lawn chemicals...$30" or "Fifty pounds of fertilizer was applied to this lawn."

285.31(2) *Purchases made by automobile body shops or garages with body shops (effective October 1, 1980).*

Tangible personal property purchased by body shops can be purchased for resale provided both of the following conditions are met:

1. The property purchased for resale is actually transferred to the body shop's customer by becoming an ingredient or component part of the repair work. See Iowa Code section 422.42(2) and *Cedar Valley Leasing Inc. v. Iowa Department of Revenue,* 274 N.W.2d 357 (Iowa 1979).

2. The property purchased for resale is itemized as a separate item on the invoice to the body shop's customer and is transferred to the customer in a form or quantity capable of a fixed or definite price value.

If either of the above two events is missing, there is no purchase for resale and the body shop is deemed the consumer of the item purchased.

When body shops purchase items which will be resold (see list of items in this rule) in the course of the repair activity, the vendors selling to the body shops are encouraged to accept a valid resale certificate at the time of purchase. See rule 701—15.3(423). Failure of the vendor to accept a valid resale certificate may subject that vendor to sales tax liability since the burden of proof would be on the vendor that a sale was made for resale. If the vendor cannot meet that burden, the vendor will be liable for the sales tax. Such burden is not met merely by a showing that the purchaser had obtained from the department an Iowa retail sales tax or retail use tax permit.

For insurance purposes, body shops are reimbursed by insurance companies for "materials" which such shops consume in rendering repair services. Some of the materials are transferred to the recipients of the repair services and some are not. Of those so transferred, such transfer is in irregular quantities

and is not in a form or quantity capable of a fixed or definite price value. Therefore, body shops are generally deemed to be the consumers of materials and must pay tax on these items at the time of purchase. Nonexclusive examples of items most likely to be included in this category of "materials," whether actually transferred to customers of body shops or not, are as follows:

Abrasives
Accessories
Battery water
Body filler or putty
Body lead
Bolts, nuts and washers
Brake fluid
Buffing pads
Chamois
Cleaning compounds
Degreasing compounds
Floor dry
Hydraulic jack oil
Lubricants
Masking tape
Paint
Polishes
Rags
Rivets and cotter pins
Sand paper
Sanding discs
Scuff pads
Sealer and primer
Sheet metal
Solder
Solvents
Spark plug sand
Striping tape
Thinner
Upholstery tacks
Waxes
White sidewall cleaner

The following are nonexclusive examples of parts which can be purchased for resale since they are generally transferred to the body shop's customer during the course of the repair in a form or quantity capable of a fixed or definite price value and are generally itemized separately as parts.

Batteries
Brackets
Bulbs
Bumpers
Cab corners
Chassis parts
Doors
Door guards
Door handles
Engine parts
Fenders
Floor mats
Grills

Headlamps
Hoods
Hub caps
Radiators
Rocker panels
Shock absorbers
Side molding
Spark plugs
Tires
Trim
Trunk lids
Wheels
Window glass
Windshield ribbon
Windshields

The following are nonexclusive examples of tools and supplies which are generally not transferred to the body shop's customer during the course of the repair and therefore could not be purchased for resale. The body shop is deemed the consumer of these items since they are not transferred to a customer and therefore the body shop must pay tax to the vendor at the time of purchase.

Air compressors and parts
Body frame straightening equipment
Brooms and mops
Buffers
Chisels
Drill bit
Drop cords
Equipment parts
Fire extinguisher fluids
Floor jacks
Hand soap
Hand tools
Office supplies
Paint brushes
Paint sprayers
Sanders
Spreaders for putty
Signs
Washing equipment and parts
Welding equipment and parts

Because of the nature of their business and the formulas devised by the insurance industry to reimburse body shops for cost of "materials," it is possible for body shops, in their invoices to their customers, to separately set forth labor, resold parts, and materials. While the materials can be separately invoiced as one general item, there is no way to ascertain a definite and fixed price for each item of the materials listed in this rule and consumed by the body shops and some of such individual materials are not even transferred by body shops to their customers. Therefore, the body shops are generally the "consumers" of "materials" and do not purchase them for resale. *W.J. Sandberg Co. v. Iowa State Board of Assessments and Review,* 225 Iowa 103, 278 N.W. 643 (1938). Thus, body shops should pay tax to their suppliers on all materials purchased and consumed by them. If materials are purchased from non-Iowa suppliers who do not collect Iowa tax from body shops, such body shops should remit consumer use tax to the Department of Revenue on such materials.

Body shops must collect sales tax on the taxable service of repairing motor vehicles. See rule 701—26.5(422). However, due to the nature of the insurance formulas, it is possible for body shops

to itemize that portion of their billing which would be for repair services and that portion relating to consumed "materials." It is also possible for body shops to itemize that portion of their charges for parts which they purchase for resale to their customers. Body shops do not and cannot resell the tools and supplies previously listed in this rule and are taxable on their purchases of such items.

Therefore, as long as body shops separately itemize on their invoices to their customers the amounts for labor, parts, and for "materials," body shops should collect sales tax on the labor and the parts, but not on the materials as enumerated in this rule.

EXAMPLE: A body shop repairs a motor vehicle by replacing a fender and painting the vehicle. In doing the repair work, the body shop uses rags, sealer and primer, paint, solder, thinner, bolts, nuts and washers, masking tape, sandpaper, waxes, buffing pads, chamois, solder and polishes. In its invoice to the customer, the labor is separately listed at $300, the part (fender) is separately listed at $300, and the category of "materials" is separately listed for a lump sum of $100, for a total billing of $700. The Iowa sales tax computed by the body shop should be on $600 which is the amount attributable to the labor and the parts. The materials consumed by the body shop were separately listed and would not be included in the tax base for "gross taxable services" as defined in Iowa Code subsection 422.42(16), which is taxable in Iowa Code section 422.43.

In this example, if the "materials" were not separately listed on the invoice, but had been included in either or both of the labor or part charges by marking up such charges, the body shop would have to collect sales tax on the full charges for parts or labor even though tax was paid on materials by the body shop to its supplier at time of purchase.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42, 422.43 and 423.2.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.32 Reserved..

701—285.33(422,423) Printers' and publishers' supplies exemption with retroactive effective date.

285.33(1) For the purposes of this rule, a "printer" is any person, a portion of whose business involves the completion of a finished, printed product for sale at retail by that person or another person. A "printer" is also any person, a portion of whose business involves the completion of a finished printed packaging material used to package products for ultimate sale at retail. The term "printer" does not include any person printing or copyrighting printed material for its own use or consumption and not for resale. A "publisher" means and includes any person who owns the right to produce, market, and distribute printed literature and information for ultimate sale at retail.

285.33(2) Effective May 4, 1995, and retroactive to July 1, 1983, the gross receipts from the sale or rental of the following to a printer or publisher are exempt from tax: acetate; antihalation backing; antistatic spray; back lining; base material used as a carrier for light sensitive emulsions; blankets; blow-ups; bronze powder; carbon tissue; codas; color filters; color separations; contacts; continuous tone separations; creative art; custom dies and die cutting materials; dampener sleeves; dampening solution; design and styling; diazo coating; dot etching; dot etching solutions; drawings; drawsheets; driers; duplicate films or prints; electronically digitized images; electrotypes; end product of image modulation; engravings; etch solutions; film; finished art or final art; fix; fixative spray; flats; flying pasters; foils; goldenrod paper; gum; halftones; illustrations; ink; ink paste; keylines; lacquer; lasering images; layouts; lettering; line negatives and positives; linotypes; lithographic offset plates; magnesium and zinc etchings; masking paper; masks; masters; mats; mat service; metal toner; models, modeling; mylar; negatives; nonoffset spray; opaque film process paper; opaquing; padding compound; paper stock; photographic materials: acids, plastic film, desensitizer emulsion, exposure chemicals, fix, developers, paper; photography, day rate; photopolymer coating; photographs; photostats; photo-display tape; phototypesetter materials; pH-indicator sticks; positives; press pack; printing cylinders; printing plates, all types; process lettering; proof paper; proofs and proof processes, all types; pumice powder; purchased author alterations; purchased composition; purchased phototypesetting; purchased stripping and paste-ups; red litho tape; reducers; roller covering; screen tints; sketches; stepped plates; stereotypes; strip types; substrate; tints; tissue overlays; toners; transparencies; tympan;

typesetting; typography; varnishes; Veloxes; wood mounts; and any other items used in a similar capacity to any of the above-enumerated items by the printer or publisher to complete a finished product for sale at retail. Expendable tools and supplies not enumerated in this subrule are subject to tax.

285.33(3) Claim for refunds of tax, interest, or penalty paid for the period of July 1, 1983, to June 30, 1995, must be limited to $25,000 in the aggregate and will not be allowed unless filed prior to October 1, 1995. If the amount of claimed refunds for this period totals more than $25,000, the department must prorate the $25,000 among all claims.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.34(422,423) Automatic data processing.

285.34(1) *In general.*

a. Applicability of tax. For the purposes of this rule, the tax on automatic data processing is applicable to the gross receipts of:

(1) Sales and rentals of data processing equipment (hardware).

(2) Sales and rentals of tangible personal property produced or consumed by data processing equipment or prewritten (canned) computer software used in data processing operations.

(3) Certain enumerated services performed on or connected with data processing such as rental of tangible personal property, machine repair, services of machine operators, office and business machines repair, electrical installation, and any other taxable service enumerated in Iowa Code section 422.43.

b. Definitions.

(1) Reserved.

(2) *"Hardware"* means the physical computer assembly and peripherals including, but not limited to, such items as the central processing unit, keyboards, consoles, monitors, memory, disk and tape drives, terminals, printers, plotters, modems, tape readers, document sorters, optical readers and digitizers.

(3) *"Canned software"* is prewritten computer software which is offered for general or repeated sale or rental to customers with little or no modification at the time of the transaction beyond specifying the parameters needed to make the program run. Canned software is tangible personal property. The term also includes programs offered for general or repeated sale or rental which were initially developed as custom software. Evidence of canned software includes the selling or renting of the software more than once. Software may qualify as custom software for the original purchaser or lessor but is canned software with respect to all others. Canned software includes program modules which are prewritten and later used as needed for integral parts of a complete program.

(4) *"Custom software"* is specified, designed, and created by a vendor at the specific request of a customer to meet a particular need and is considered to be a sale of a service rather than a sale of tangible personal property. It includes those services represented by separately stated charges for the modification of existing prewritten software when the modifications are written or prepared exclusively for a customer. Modification to existing prewritten software to meet the customer's needs is custom computer programming only to the extent of the modification and only to the extent that the actual amount charged for the modification is separately stated. Examples of services that do not result in custom software include loading parameters to initialize program settings and arranging preprogrammed modules to form a complete program.

When the charges for modification of a prewritten program are not separately stated, tax applies to the entire charge made to the customer for the modified program unless the modification is so significant that the new program qualifies as a custom program. If the prewritten program before modification was previously marketed, the new program will qualify as a custom program if the price of the prewritten program was 50 percent or less of the price of the new program. If the prewritten program was not previously marketed, the new program will qualify as a custom program if the charge made to the customer for custom programming services, as evidenced by the records of the seller, was more than 50 percent of the contract price to the customer.

The department will consider the following records in determining the extent of modification to prewritten software when there is not a separate charge for the modification: logbooks, timesheets,

dated documents, source codes, specifications of work to be done, design of the system, performance requirements, diagrams of programs, flow diagrams, coding sheets, error printouts, translation printouts, correction notes, and invoices or billing notices to the client.

(5) *"Storage media"* includes hard disks, compact disks, floppy disks, diskettes, diskpacks, magnetic tape, cards, or other media used for nonvolatile storage of information readable by a computer.

(6) *"Rental"* includes any lease or license agreement between a vendor and a customer for the customer's use of hardware or software.

(7) *"Program"* is interchangeable with the term "software" for purposes of this rule.

285.34(2) *Taxable sales, rentals and services.*

a. Sales of equipment. Tax applies to sales of automatic data processing equipment and related equipment.

b. Rental or leasing of equipment. Where a lease includes a contract by which a lessee secures for a consideration the use of equipment which may or may not be used on the lessee's premises, the rental or lease payments are subject to tax. See rule 701—26.18 on tangible personal property rental.

c. Canned software. The sale or rental for a consideration of any computer software which is not custom software is a transfer of tangible personal property and is taxable. Canned software may be transferred to a customer in the form of diskettes, disks, magnetic tape, or other storage media or by listing the program instructions on coding sheets.

(1) Tax applies whether title to the storage media on which the software is recorded, coded, or punched passes to the customer or the software is recorded, coded, or punched on storage media furnished by the customer. A fee for the temporary transfer of possession of canned software for the purpose of direct use to be recorded, coded, or punched by the customer or by the lessor on the customer's premises, is a sale or rental of canned software and is taxable.

(2) Tax applies to the entire amount charged to the customer for canned software. Where the consideration consists of license fees, royalty fees, right to use fees or program design fees, whether for a period of minimum use or for extended periods, all fees includable in the purchase price are subject to tax.

d. Training materials. Persons who sell or lease data processing equipment may provide a number of training services with the sale or rental of their equipment. Training services, per se, are not subject to tax. Training materials, such as books, furnished to the trainees for a specific charge are taxable.

e. Services a part of the sale or lease of equipment. Where services, such as programming, training or maintenance services, are provided to those who purchase or lease automatic data processing and related equipment, on a mandatory basis as an inseparable part of the sale or taxable lease of the equipment, charges for the furnishing of the services are includable in the measure of tax from the sale or lease of the equipment whether or not the charges are separately stated. (Where the purchaser or lessee has the option to acquire the equipment either with the services or without the services, charges for the services may not be excluded from the measure of tax if they are taxable enumerated services.)

f. Materials and supplies. The transfer of title, for a consideration, of tangible personal property, including property on which or into which information has been recorded or incorporated is a sale subject to tax.

Generally service bureaus are consumers of all tangible personal property, including cards and forms, which they use in providing services unless a separate charge is made to customers for the materials, in which case, tax applies to the charge made for the materials.

g. Additional copies. When additional copies of records, reports, tabulation, etc., are sold, tax applies to the charges made for the additional copies. "Additional copies" are all copies in excess of those produced on multipart carbon paper simultaneously with the production of the original and on the same printer, whether the copies are prepared by rerunning the same program, by using multiple simultaneous printers, by looping a program such that the program is run continuously, by using different programs to produce the same output product, or by other means. Where additional copies are prepared, the tax will be measured by the charge made by the service bureau to the customer. If no separate charge is made for the additional copies, tax applies to that portion of the gross receipts which the cost of the additional computer time (if any) and the cost of materials and labor cost to produce the additional copies bear to the

total job cost. Charges for copies produced by means of photocopying, multilithing, or by other means are subject to tax. Tax applies to a contract where data on magnetic tape are converted into combinations of alphanumeric printing, curve plotting or line drawings, and put on microfilm or photorecording paper.

h. Mailing lists. Addressing (including labels) for mailing. Where the service bureau addresses, through the use of its automatic data processing equipment or otherwise, material to be mailed, with names and addresses furnished by the customer or maintained by the service bureau for the customer, tax does not apply to the charge for addressing. Similarly, where the service bureau prepares, through the use of its automatic data processing equipment or otherwise, labels to be affixed to material to be mailed, with names and address furnished by the customer or maintained by the service bureau for the customer, tax does not apply to the charge for producing the labels, regardless of whether the service bureau itself affixes the labels to the material to be mailed. However, tax would be due on any tangible personal property, such as labels, consumed by the service bureau. (See *"f"* above.) Mailing lists in the form of Cheshire tapes, gummed labels, and heat transfers which are attached to envelopes and placed in the mail by a service bureau constitute tangible personal property and are subject to tax.

i. Services of a machine operator. The services of a machine operator, such as a key punch operator or the operator of any other data processing equipment, when hired to operate another person's machinery or equipment, are subject to tax when contracted for and performed by someone other than an employee of the owner of the machinery and equipment.

j. Maintenance contracts. Maintenance contracts sold in connection with the sale or lease of canned software generally provide that the purchaser will be entitled to receive storage media on which prewritten program improvements have been recorded. The maintenance contract may also provide that the purchaser will be entitled to receive certain services, including error corrections and telephone or on-site consultation services.

(1) Nonoptional maintenance contract. If the maintenance contract is required as a condition of the sale or rental of canned software, it will be considered as part of the sale or rental of the canned software, and the gross sales price is subject to tax whether or not the charge for the maintenance contract is separately stated from the charge for software.

(2) Optional maintenance contracts prior to July 1, 1998. If the maintenance contract is optional to the purchaser of canned software, then only the portion of the contract fee representing improvements delivered on storage media is subject to sales tax if the fee for other services, including consultation services and error corrections, is separately stated. If the fee for other services, including consultation services and error corrections, is not separately stated from the fee for improvements delivered on storage media, the entire charge for the maintenance contract is subject to sales tax.

(3) Optional maintenance contracts on and after July 1, 1998. If an optional software maintenance or support contract provides for technical support services only, then no tax is imposed on the gross receipts from the performance of those services. If an optional software maintenance or support contract separately states the charges which represent improvements delivered on storage media from charges which represent other services, including consultation services and error correction, then only that portion of the contract fee representing improvements delivered on the storage media is subject to sales tax. If an optional software maintenance or support contract provides for the taxable transfer of tangible personal property and the provision of nontaxable services, and there is no separately stated charge for the taxable transfer of property or for the nontaxable service, then state sales tax of 5 percent shall be imposed on 50 percent of the gross receipts from the sale of such contracts. See 701—paragraph 18.25(3)*"c"* for more information.

285.34(3) *Nontaxable items and activities.*

a. Custom programs. These are programs prepared to the special order of a customer. Tax does not apply to the transfer of custom programs in the form of written procedures, such as program instructions listed on coding sheets. Tax applies to the sale of material transferred to the customer in the form of typed or printed sheets if separately invoiced.

b. Processing a client's data. Generally speaking, if a person enters into a contract to process a client's data by the use of a computer program, or through an electrical accounting machine programmed by a wired plugboard, the processing of a client's data is nontaxable. Such contracts usually provide that

the person will receive the client's source documents, record data in machine readable form, such as in punch cards or on magnetic tape, make necessary corrections, rearrange or create new information as the result of the processing and then provide tabulated listings or record output on other media. This service will be considered nontaxable even if the total charge is broken down into specific charges for each step. The furnishing of computer programs and data by the client for processing under direction and control of the person providing the service is nontaxable even though charges may be based on computer time. The true object of these contracts is considered to be a service, even though some tangible personal property is incidentally transferred to the client. However, tax will apply to tangible personal property separately invoiced to the client.

c. Time sharing. Charges made for the use of automatic data processing equipment, on a time-sharing basis, where access to the equipment is by means of remote facilities, are not subject to tax. Time sharing which is, in fact, a rental of equipment and the lessee exercises the right of possession or control over the equipment is subject to tax. See 18.34(2)*"b"* and rule 701—26.18(422).

d. Designing of systems, converting of systems, consulting, training, and miscellaneous services. These services consist of the developing of ideas, concepts and designs. Common examples of these nontaxable services are:

(1) Designing and implementing computer systems (e.g., determining equipment and personnel required and how they will be utilized).

(2) Designing storage and data retrieval systems (e.g., determining what data communications and high speed input-output terminals are required).

(3) Converting manual systems to automatic data processing systems, converting present automatic data processing systems to new systems (e.g., changing a second generation system to a third generation system).

(4) Consulting services (e.g., studies of all or part of a data processing system).

(5) Feasibility studies (e.g., studies to determine what benefits would be derived if procedures were automated).

(6) Evaluation of bids (e.g., studies to determine which manufacturer's proposal for computer equipment would be most beneficial).

(7) Providing technical help such as analysts and programmers, usually on an hourly basis.

(8) Writing (coding) and testing of programs—contract programming. These services result in the production of customized programs. This type of service is not taxable because programming requires the development or ascertainment of information, and the evaluation of data, in addition to other development skills.

Persons engaged in providing nontaxable computer services are the consumers of all tangible personal property used in such activities, and the tax must be paid on their acquisition of such property.

This paragraph, 18.34(3)*"d,"* shall become effective for periods beginning on or after April 1, 1992.

e. Installation charges. Where installation charges are separately contracted for or where no contract exists, are separately invoiced, or do not constitute enumerated taxable services, they are exempt from tax. See rule 701—15.14(422,423).

f. Pickup and delivery charges. The tax will not apply to pickup and delivery charges which are separately contracted for or where no contract exists, are separately invoiced.

g. Rental of computer programs. Prior to July 1, 1984, the rental of computer programs was not subject to tax since the program did not constitute equipment. *KTVO, Inc. vs. Bair,* 1977, Iowa 225 N.W.2d, 111. For the rule regarding prewritten (canned) programs subsequent to that date, see 18.3(2)*"c."*

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42, 422.45 and 423.2 and Iowa Code Supplement section 422.43 as amended by 1998 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2288.

[see Rescission note at end of chapter]

[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.35(422,423) Drainage tile. The sale or installation of drainage tile which is to be used in disease control, weed control, or the health promotion of plants or livestock produced as part

of agricultural production for market is exempt from tax. Drainage tile, when purchased for these purposes, is therefore not subject to tax. In all other cases, drainage tile will be considered a building material and subject to tax under the provisions of Iowa Code subsection 422.42(9).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(3), 422.42(9), and 423.2.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.36(422,423) True leases and purchases of tangible personal property by lessors.

285.36(1) *True leases and purchases by lessors prior to, on, and subsequent to July 1, 1978.* The definition of a sale specified in Iowa Code subsection 422.42(2) does not include leases. Hence, the exemption from tax on sales for resale is inapplicable to the purchase of tangible personal property for the purpose of leasing such property to others, but not for the purpose of reselling such property. *Cedar Valley Leasing, Inc. v. Iowa Department of Revenue,* 274 N.W.2d 357 (Iowa 1979). However, even though the general rule is that the acquisition cost of tangible personal property purchased for the purpose of leasing it to others is subject to the Iowa sales or use tax, certain transactions are exempted from tax by statute. See subrule 18.36(4).

285.36(2) *General.* Prior to July 1, 1984, tax is due on the lease or rental payments derived from the service of equipment rental only and not from the lease or rental of other tangible personal property. See 701—subrule 26.18(1). Tax would also be due on the gross receipts received on the disposal of the tangible personal property provided no exemption exists. When property is purchased for the purpose of financing under a conditional sales contract, the property is purchased for resale, and the acquisition of the property is not subject to Iowa tax. See rule 701—16.47(422,423).

The gross receipts from the leasing of property for subletting purposes is exempt from tax as a resale of a service, but the lessee must collect tax on the gross receipts from subletting unless such subletting is otherwise exempt from tax.

a. Where a resident or nonresident lessor leases equipment to a resident or nonresident lessee and the lease contract is executed in Iowa and the equipment is delivered to the lessee in Iowa, the rental payments are subject to Iowa sales tax, even if the equipment is taken by the lessee to another state. *Williams Rentals, Inc. v Tidwell,* 516 S.W.2d 614 (Tenn. 1974).

b. Where a nonresident lessor leases equipment to a resident or nonresident lessee and the lessee uses the equipment in Iowa, the nonresident lessor has the responsibility of collecting Iowa use tax on the lease payments, provided the lessor maintains a place of business in Iowa as provided in Iowa Code sections 423.1(6) and 423.9. Whether the lease agreement is executed in Iowa or not is irrelevant. *State Tax Commission v. General Trading Co.,* 322 U.S. 335, 64 S.Ct. 1028,88 L.Ed 1309, (1944).

c. Where a lessee is the recipient of equipment rental services as defined in *"a"* and *"b"* above and no tax has been collected from such lessee by the lessor, the lessee should remit Iowa use tax to the department of revenue. In the event no tax is remitted, the department, in its discretion, may seek to collect the tax from the lessor or lessee. In the event that the lessee is the recipient of equipment rental services, and the lessor does not maintain a place of business in Iowa and does not collect use tax pursuant to Iowa Code section 423.10, such lessee shall remit tax on its rental payments to the department.

d. Where a resident lessor leases equipment to a nonresident lessee outside of Iowa, and the equipment is delivered to the lessee outside Iowa, the act of leasing is exempt from the Iowa sales tax on the rental payments. However, in the event the lessee brings the equipment into Iowa and uses it in Iowa, Iowa use tax applies to rental payments, but see *"g"* below.

e. Where a resident or nonresident lessor purchases tangible personal property in Iowa for subsequent lease in or out of Iowa and takes delivery of the equipment in Iowa, the lessor's purchase is subject to Iowa sales tax. *Dodgen Industries, Inc. v. Iowa State Tax Commission,* 160 N.W.2d 289 (Iowa 1968).

f. When a resident or nonresident lessor purchases tangible personal property outside of Iowa for the purpose of leasing it in Iowa and the equipment is brought into Iowa and used by the resident or nonresident lessee in this state, the lessor is considered as having a "use" of the property in Iowa and Iowa use tax will apply to the lessor's purchase price of the property, regardless whether or not the lessor

makes any physical use of the property in Iowa. *Union Oil Company of California v. State Board of Equalization,* 1963, 34 Cal. Rpts. 872, 386 P.2d 496.

g. If a sales or use tax has already been paid to another state on the purchase price of equipment prior to the use of that equipment in Iowa, a tax credit against the Iowa use tax on the purchase price will be given. After the equipment is brought into Iowa, if a sales or use tax is properly payable and is paid to another state on the rental payments of equipment, for the same time the Iowa tax is imposed on such rentals, a tax credit against the Iowa use tax on such rental payments will be given. *Henneford v. Silas Mason Co.,* 1937, U.S.577, 57 S.Ct. 524, S1 L.Ed. 814.

285.36(3) *Leases relating to vehicles subject to registration.*

a. Vehicles as defined in Iowa Code subsections 321.1(4), (6), (8), (9), and (10) (motor trucks, truck tractors, road tractors, trailers, and semitrailers), except when designed primarily for carrying persons, can be purchased free of use tax when purchased for lease and actually leased for use outside Iowa if the subsequent sole use in Iowa is in interstate commerce or interstate transportation.

b. Tangible personal property which by means of fabrication, compounding, or manufacturing becomes an integral part of vehicles as defined in 18.36(3)*"a"* when manufactured for lease and actually leased to a lessee for use outside the state of Iowa, can be purchased free of use tax provided the sole subsequent use of the vehicle in Iowa is in interstate commerce or interstate transportation. (Iowa purchases which would be subject to Iowa sales tax do not qualify for this exemption.) See rule 701—33.7(423).

The provisions of *"a"* and *"b"* are effective for periods beginning on January 1, 1973. Also see 701—Chapter 34 of the rules relating to vehicles subject to registration.

285.36(4) *Special rules for lessors on or after July 1, 1978.* If tangible personal property is purchased for leasing, the purchase of the property is exempt from tax if the following conditions are met:

a. The person (lessor) purchasing the property is regularly engaged in the business of leasing,

b. The period of the lease is for more than one year for sales or property occurring from July 1, 1978, to May 18, 1997, inclusive; for sales of property occurring on and after May 19, 1997, the period of the lease must be for more than five months, and

c. The lease or rental receipts must be subject to tax under the service of equipment rental.

All three conditions must be met before the exemption applies.

If the exemption is properly claimed, it is lost when the property is made use of for any purpose other than leasing and the person claiming the exemption is liable for the tax based on the original purchase price. Tax paid on the leasing or rental payments would be allowed as a credit against the tax due on the purchase price.

In the following examples, assume, unless stated to the contrary, that the lease or rental receipts are subject to tax. The examples are written on the assumption that the period for an exempt lease is five months or longer. Thus, these examples are basically applicable to the period beginning May 19, 1997; however, the examples illustrate principles which are applicable to the purchase for lease exemption for periods longer than one year which was the requirements for exemption prior to May 19, 1997.

EXAMPLE: A restaurant makes a one-time purchase of office furniture which it leases to an insurance company for a period of four years. The purchase of office furniture by the restaurant would be subject to tax because the restaurant is not regularly engaged in the business of leasing. However, if the restaurant established a pattern of regularly purchasing office furniture or other tangible personal property for lease, the exemption would apply.

EXAMPLE: A company purchases a computer which will be leased for a period of three years, at which time the computer is returned to the company. The sole business of the company is to purchase this one computer for lease. The purchase of the computer is exempt from tax because the company is regularly engaged in the business of leasing.

EXAMPLE: A leasing company purchases three lawn mowers which will be leased to individuals for periods of time less than five months. The purchase of the lawn mowers by the leasing company would be subject to tax because the periods of the leases are for less than five months.

EXAMPLE: A leasing company purchases a computer which will be leased for a period of three years. The purchase of the computer is exempt from tax because the period of the lease is for more than five months.

EXAMPLE: A leasing company buys a computer. The company claims the exemption from tax, but the company uses the computer in its own operations. Tax is due on the original purchase price and the leasing company is liable for the tax due.

EXAMPLE: A leasing company purchases a copying machine which will be leased for a period of two years. After four months, the machine is returned to the leasing company and then the machine is immediately re-leased without being used by the leasing company for any other purpose. The exemption would apply because it was properly claimed and nothing occurred to cause loss of the exemption.

EXAMPLE: A leasing company purchases a copying machine which will be leased for a period of two years. After four months, the machine is returned and the leasing company then uses the machine in its own business. The exemption would no longer apply and the leasing company would be liable for the tax based on the original purchase price. Credit would be allowed against the tax due on the purchase price for any tax paid on the lease or rental payments. Assume the leasing company paid $2,000 for the copying machine and charged $200 per month plus $10 in tax per month. Since the machine is returned and the exemption is not applicable, the leasing company would owe $100 on the $2,000 acquisition cost. However, the leasing company collected $40 (four months x $10) tax on the monthly rental charges. Allowing the credit for tax collected of $40 against the total tax liability of $100 leaves a net tax liability of $60 owed by the leasing company.

EXAMPLE: A manufacturer and seller of office furniture also leases office furniture. The leases always run for a period longer than five months and the company usually has only two leases per year. The leasing operation only accounts for 1 percent of the company's total business. The company still qualifies for the exemption because it is regularly engaged in the business of leasing and the period of the lease is for more than five months.

EXAMPLE: A leasing company purchases an airplane from an aircraft dealer and leases it for a period of three years. The lease or rental payments are not taxed because of the exemption for transportation services. The leasing company would owe tax based on the acquisition cost because the lease or rental payments are not subject to tax under the service of equipment rental.

EXAMPLE: A leasing company purchases equipment and leases it to a lessee for a period of 18 months. For the first 3 months, the equipment is used by the lessee in making repairs to existing structures and the lease receipts are taxable. For the remainder of the lease period, the equipment is used in new construction of buildings and structures and the lease receipts are exempt from tax. The acquisition cost of the equipment is exempt because the exemption was properly claimed and was not subsequently lost by a use other than leasing.

EXAMPLE: A leasing company purchases from an Iowa retailer equipment on May 18, 1997, for the purpose of leasing it for a period of six months. The lease receipts will be taxable. The sales tax exemption on the acquisition cost to the lessor cannot be claimed because the sale occurred before May 19, 1997, and, at the time of the sale, no sales tax exemption applied to such acquisition cost. The exemption for acquisition cost should not be given a retroactive effect. *Jones v. Gordy,* 1935, 169 Md. 173, 180 Atl. 272.

EXAMPLE: A leasing company purchases equipment outside of Iowa on May 1, 1997. The lessee brings the equipment into Iowa on June 1, 1997, and uses it in Iowa. The lease period is nine months, and the lessee's use in Iowa is subject to Iowa use tax on the lease payments. Under these circumstances, the Iowa use tax exemption on the lessor's acquisition cost applies because it is the law in effect at the time of use in Iowa, not at the time of sale, which determines whether a use tax exemption applies. *City of Ames v. Iowa State Tax Commission,* 1955, 246 Iowa 1016, 71 N.W.2d 15; *Allis-Chalmers Mfg. Co. v. Iowa State Tax Commission,* 1958, 250 Iowa 193, 92 N.W.2d 129.

EXAMPLE: A leasing company purchases equipment not for resale and leases it to the lessee for a period of more than five months. After three months, the equipment is returned to the leasing company which then sells the equipment. Such sale is not part of the regular course of the leasing company's business. The exemption, though properly claimed, is lost because, by reason of such sale, the leasing

company made use of the property for a purpose other than leasing or renting. Had the equipment been returned to the leasing company on or after five months and one day from the commencement of the lease period, and the leasing company then sold the equipment outside the regular course of its business or used the equipment in its business, the exemption for acquisition cost would not be lost. Had the equipment been purchased for resale and leased prior to such resale, the acquisition cost to the leasing company would be exempt from tax. *Herman M. Brown Co. v. Johnson,* 1957, 248 Iowa 1143, 82 N.W.2d 134. If the equipment is traded in toward the purchase price of other equipment by the leasing company, or if the leasing company disposes of the equipment after it is fully depreciated, the exemption for acquisition cost is not lost. Where sale of equipment outside the regular course of business is made by the leasing company, see also rule 18.28(422) to determine whether the casual sale exemption applies to the receipts from such sale.

EXAMPLE: A leasing company purchases equipment which is leased to the lessee. Assume that the exemption for acquisition cost of the equipment was properly claimed. Thereafter, the lessee makes an assignment of the lease. The exemption is not lost since the assignee stands in the same position as the original lessee and such an assignment does not change the nature of the original lease period. *Berg v. Ridgway,* 1966, 258 Iowa 640, 140 N.W.2d 95.

EXAMPLE: A leasing company purchases equipment which is leased to the lessee in accordance with the criteria creating the acquisition cost exemption. The leasing company sells the lease contracts, as commercial paper, to others. The exemption for acquisition cost can still be claimed and such sales of lease contracts do not cause loss of the exemption.

EXAMPLE: A leasing company purchases equipment which is leased to the lessee in accordance with the criteria creating the acquisition cost exemption. Thereafter, the lease can no longer be performed because the property is destroyed by an act of God. The acquisition cost exemption is not lost.

EXAMPLE: A leasing company purchases equipment which is leased to the lessee in accordance with the criteria creating the acquisition cost exemption. Thereafter, the lessee is adjudged bankrupt and the equipment is returned to the leasing company and is re-leased without being used by the leasing company for any other purpose. The acquisition cost exemption is not lost since the leasing company makes no use for any purpose other than leasing or renting.

EXAMPLE: A leasing company purchases equipment which is leased to a lessee. The criteria for the acquisition cost exemption are present. The lessee then sublets the equipment to another for a period less than five months. The acquisition cost exemption is not lost.

285.36(5) *Lease or rental of all tangible personal property now subject to tax.* On and after July 1, 1984, the lease or rental of all tangible personal property is subject to tax. See rule 701—26.18(422) for information concerning additional transactions subject to tax after that effective date.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(2), 422.43, 422.45, 423.1, and 423.4.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.37(422,423) Motor fuel, special fuel, aviation fuels and gasoline.

285.37(1) *In general.* The gross receipts from the sale of motor fuel and special fuel are exempt from sales tax under Iowa Code section 422.45(11) if (1) the fuel is consumed for highway use, in watercraft, or in aircraft, (2) the Iowa fuel tax has been imposed and paid, and (3) no refund or credit of fuel tax has been made or will be allowed. However, beginning July 1, 1985, the gross receipts from the sale of special fuel for diesel engines used in commercial watercraft on rivers bordering Iowa are exempt from sales tax, even though no fuel tax has been imposed and paid, providing the seller delivers the fuel to the owner's watercraft while it is afloat. Prior to July 1, 1988, retail sales of aviation gasoline were not exempt from sales tax under Iowa Code subsection 422.45(11). See subrule 18.37(4).

285.37(2) *Refunds or credits of motor fuel and special fuel.* Claims for refund or credit of fuel taxes under the provisions of Iowa Code chapter 452A must be reduced by any sales or use tax owing the state unless a sales tax exemption is applicable. Generally, refund claims or credits are allowed where fuel is purchased tax paid and used for purposes other than to propel a motor vehicle or used in watercraft.

285.37(3) *Refunds of tax on fuel purchased in Iowa and consumed out of Iowa.* Even though fuel is purchased in Iowa, fuel tax paid in Iowa, and the fuel tax is subject to refund under the provisions

of division III of Iowa Code chapter 452A relating to interstate motor vehicle operations, the refund of the fuel tax does not subject the purchase of the fuel to sales tax. Subjecting the purchase to sales tax has the effect of imposing sales tax when fuel is consumed in interstate commerce while fuel consumed on Iowa highways in intrastate commerce is exempt from sales tax pursuant to Iowa Code subsection 422.45(11). The effect for sales tax purposes is to impose a greater tax burden on non-Iowa highway fuel consumption than Iowa highway fuel consumption thereby discriminating against interstate commerce. In addition, the effect of imposing sales tax on interstate excess purchases where intrastate highway use is not subject to the tax constitutes an export duty for purchasing fuel in Iowa and exporting it for use in another state. Such effects are in violation of the commerce clause of the United States Constitution. *Boston Stock Exchange v. State Tax Commission,* 1977, 429 U.S. 319, 97 S.Ct. 599,50 L.Ed.2d 514 and *Coe v. Errol,* 1886, 116 U.S. 517, 6 S.Ct. 475, 29L.Ed. 715.

285.37(4) *Aviation gasoline.* Tax treatment prior to July 1, 1988. Prior to July 1, 1988, all Iowa fuel tax paid on aviation gasoline used in aircraft was refundable under Iowa Code section 452A.17. Generally, aviation gasoline is not purchased for highway use or for use in watercraft, therefore, the exemption from sales and use tax found in Iowa Code subsection 422.45(11) was generally not applicable to purchases of aviation gasoline. However, Iowa Code subsection 422.52(4) provides for the collection of sales tax by way of deduction from motor fuel tax refunds allowable under Iowa Code chapter 452A. Therefore, sales tax is not assessed at the retail level but only in instances where the fuel tax paid on aviation gasoline has been refunded. If no application for a fuel tax refund relating to aviation fuel has been made, no sales tax is assessed on the aviation gasoline purchase.

285.37(5) *Ethanol.* For tax periods after April 30, 1981. Retail sales of ethanol are exempt from Iowa sales or use tax.

285.37(6) *Tax base.* The basis for computing the Iowa sales tax will be the retail selling price of the fuel less any Iowa fuel tax included in such price. Federal excise tax should not be removed from the selling price in determining the proper sales tax due. *W.M. Gurley v. Arny Rhoden* supra. Also see rule 701—15.12(422,423).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.31, 422.43, 422.45(11), 422.45(22), 422.52(4), 423.1, 452A.3, and 452A.17.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.38(422,423) Urban transit systems. A privately owned urban transit system which is not an instrumentality of federal, state or county government is subject to sales tax on fuel purchases which are within the urban transit systems charter.

Tax shall not apply to fuel purchases, made by a privately owned urban transit company, for use outside the urban transit system charter in which a fuel tax has been imposed and paid and no refund has been or will be allowed.

Whether an urban transit company will be considered an instrumentality of federal, state or county government for the purpose of receiving sales tax exemption on its fuel purchases, which are also exempted from fuel tax and used for public purposes, depends upon consideration of the following:

1. Whether it is created by government.
2. Whether it is wholly owned by government.
3. Whether it is operated for profit.
4. Whether it is primarily engaged in the performance of some essential governmental function.
5. Whether the payment of tax will impose an economic burden upon the corporation, or that payment of tax serves to materially impair the usefulness or efficiency of the corporation or the payment of tax materially restricts the corporation in the performance of its duties.

These above enumerated considerations are not all inclusive and the presence of some and absence of others does not necessarily establish the exemption. *Unemployment compensation of North Carolina v. Wachovia Bank and Trust Company,* 2 S.E.2d 592, 595, 215 No. Car. 491 (1939); 1976 O.A.G. 823, 827, 828.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code subsection 422.45(1).
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.39(422,423) Sales or services rendered, furnished, or performed by a county or city. The gross receipts from the sales, furnishing, or service of gas, electricity, water, heat, and communication service rendered, furnished, or performed by a county or city are subject to the tax. On and after July 1, 1985, the gross receipts from fees paid to cities and counties for the privilege of participating in any athletic sports are also subject to tax. On or after July 1, 1991, the gross receipts from any municipally owned pay television service are taxable as well. On and after April 1, 1992, the gross receipts from a county or municipality furnishing sewage service or solid waste collection and disposal service to nonresidential commercial operations are taxable (see rules 701—26.71(422,423) and 26.72(422,423) for more information).

Any other sales or services rendered, furnished, or performed by a county or city are not subject to the tax.

A "sport" is any activity or experience which involves some movement of the human body and gives enjoyment or recreation. An "athletic" sport is any sport which requires physical strength, skill, speed, or training in its performance. The following activities are nonexclusive examples of athletic sports: baseball, football, basketball, softball, volleyball, golf, tennis, racquetball, swimming, wrestling, and foot racing.

The following is a list of various fees which would be considered fees paid to a city or county for the privilege of participating in any athletic sport, and thus subject to tax under this rule. The list is not exhaustive.

1. Fees paid for the privilege of using any facility specifically designed for use by those playing an athletic sport: fees for use of a golf course, ball diamond, tennis court, swimming pool, or ice skating rink are subject to tax. These fees are subject to tax whether they allow use of the facility for a brief or extended period of time, e.g., a daily fee or season ticket for use of a swimming pool or golf course would be subject to tax. Group rental of facilities designed for playing an athletic sport would also be subject to tax.

2. Fees paid to enter any tournament or league which involves playing an athletic sport would be subject to tax. Both team and individual entry fees are taxable. Fees paid to enter any marathon or foot race of shorter duration would be subject to tax under this rule.

Not subject to tax as fees paid to a city or county for the privilege of participating in any athletic sport under this rule are the following charges. The list is not intended to be exhaustive.

1. Fees paid for lesson or instruction in how to play or to improve one's ability to play an athletic sport are not subject to tax. Golf and swimming lesson fees are specific examples of such nontaxable charges. The fees are excluded from tax regardless of whether the person receiving the instruction is a child or an adult. Fees charged for equipment rental, regardless of whether this equipment is helpful or necessary to participation in an athletic sport, are not subject to tax. The rental of a golf cart or moveable duck blind would not be subject to tax. The rental of a recreational boat is a transportation service, the gross receipts of which are not subject to tax if provided by a city or county.

2. Sales of merchandise, e.g., food or drink, to persons watching or participating in any athletic sport are not subject to tax.

3. Fees charged to improve any facility where any athletic sport is played are not subject to tax, unless such a fee must be paid to participate in an athletic sport which can be played within the facility.

4. Fees paid by any person or organization to rent any county or city facility or any portion of any county or city park shall not be subject to tax unless the portion of the park or facility is specifically designed for the playing of an athletic sport.

EXAMPLE: A local bridge club pays a fee to use a shelter house and the surrounding grounds at a county park for a picnic. During the course of the picnic, the club members set up a net and use the surrounding grounds to play volleyball. They also improvise a softball field and play a softball game there. The fee which the bridge club has paid to rent the shelter house and surrounding grounds would not be subject to tax.

5. Fees paid for the use of a campground or hiking trail are not subject to tax.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.43 and 422.45.

[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.40(422,423) Renting of rooms. The gross receipts from the renting of any and all rooms, including but not limited to sleeping rooms, banquet rooms or conference rooms in any hotel, motel, inn, public lodging house, rooming or tourist court, or in any place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to transient guests, whether with or without meals, are subject to the tax. The rental of a mobile home or of manufactured housing which is tangible personal property is treated as room rental rather than tangible personal property rental. The renting of all rooms would be exempt from the tax if rented by the same person for a period of more than 31 consecutive days. The renter must contract to rent for a single period of 31 days or more. The renter may not accumulate these 31 days by contracting for two or more rental transactions. The incremental manner in which the hotel, motel, inn, public lodging house, rooming or tourist court, or any place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to transient guests bills its customers does not influence the accumulation of days that is required to claim the exemption.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.43.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.41(422,423) Envelopes for advertising.

285.41(1) Some envelopes which contain advertising are exempt from tax. Envelopes which are not primarily used for advertising are taxable. The primary use of the envelopes should control whether they will be taxable or exempt. *Iowa Movers and Warehouseman's Assn. v. Briggs,* 237 N.W.2d 759 (Iowa 1976).

EXAMPLE 1: XYZ mails coupons and advertisements to persons giving discounts on a certain item which is sold at retail. The envelope used to package these materials is exempt from tax since it is primarily used to contain advertising materials.

EXAMPLE 2: XYZ mails a monthly billing statement to its charge account customers. In addition to the billing statement, XYZ Company encloses an advertisement in the envelope. The envelope has a dual purpose: (1) the collection of accounts receivable and (2) the distribution of advertising. However, the envelope is not primarily used for advertising but for billing the customer, therefore, the exemption does not apply.

285.41(2) Because of the difficulty of administering this exemption, purchasers of envelopes may petition to the department for permission to use a formula to represent to the seller the portion of taxable and exempt gross receipts from envelope purchases.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code subsection 422.45(9).
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.42(422,423) Newspapers, free newspapers and shoppers' guides.

285.42(1) *General observations.* The gross receipts from the sales of newspapers, free newspapers, and shoppers' guides are exempt from tax. The gross receipts from the sales of magazines, newsletters, and other periodicals which are not newspapers are taxable. Recent cases decided by the United States Supreme Court and the Supreme Court of Iowa prohibit exempting from taxation the sale of any periodical if that exemption from taxation is based solely upon the contents of that periodical. See *Arkansas Writers' Project, Inc. v. Ragland,* 481 U.S. 221, 107 S.Ct. 1722, 95 L.Ed.2d 209 (1987) and *Hearst v. Iowa Department of Revenue & Finance,* 461 N.W.2d 295 (Iowa 1990).

285.42(2) *General characteristics of a newspaper.* "Newspaper" is a term with a common definition. A "newspaper" is a periodical, published at short, stated, and regular intervals, usually daily or weekly. It is printed on newsprint with news ink. The format of a newspaper is that of sheets folded loosely together without stapling. A newspaper is admitted to the U.S. mails as second-class material. Other frequent characteristics of newspapers are the following:

a. Newspapers usually contain photographs. The photographs are more often in black and white rather than color.

b. Information printed on newspapers is usually contained in columns on the newspaper pages.

c. The larger the cross section of the population which reads a periodical in the area where the periodical circulates, the more likely it is that the department will consider that periodical to be a "newspaper."

285.42(3) *Characteristics of newspaper publishing companies.* Companies in the business of publishing newspapers are differently structured from other companies. Often, companies publishing larger newspapers will subscribe to various syndicates or "wire services." A larger newspaper will employ a general editor and a number of subordinate editors as well, for example, sports and lifestyle editors; business, local, agricultural, national, and world news editors; and editorial page editors. A larger newspaper will also employ a variety of reporters and staff writers. Smaller newspapers may or may not have these characteristics or may consolidate these functions.

285.42(4) *Characteristics which distinguish a newsletter from a newspaper.* A "newsletter" is generally distributed to members or employees of a single organization and not usually to a large cross section of the general public. It is often published at irregular intervals by a volunteer, rather than the paid individual who usually publishes a newspaper. A newsletter is often printed on sheets which are held together at one point only by a staple, rather than folded together.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.45(9).
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.43(422,423) Written contract. On and after July 1, 1985, the gross receipts from certain additional services are subject to tax. However, these newly taxable services are exempt from tax if performed pursuant to a written services contract in effect on April 1, 1985. The exemption from taxation for these services expires June 30, 1986. The services to which this "written contract" exemption is applicable are the following: cable television; campgrounds; gun repair; janitorial and building maintenance or cleaning; lawn care, landscaping and tree trimming and removal; lobbying service; pet grooming; reflexology; security and detective services; tanning beds or salons; water conditioning and softening; the rental of recreational vehicles, recreational boats or motor vehicles subject to registration which are registered for a gross weight of 13 tons or less; and fees paid to cities and counties for the privilege of participating in any athletic sports.

A "written contract" is one which is entirely in writing, so that all of its essential terms and provisions exist in writing, and oral statements are not necessary to set out any essential term or provision, such as who the parties to the contract are or what their rights and duties are under the contract. However, if it is necessary to resort to oral statements to explain the meaning of a written provision in a contract, a "written contract" can still exist. A written contract need not consist of one document or instrument only. It can consist of two or more writings, if all the necessary provisions of the contract are contained in those writings. For the purposes of this rule, the following must be stated in writing if a written contract is to exist: The nature and specification of the service to be provided, the name of the party providing the service, the name of the party receiving the service, the "consideration" (amount and method of payment) for providing the service, the signature of one or both of the parties to the contract, depending upon circumstances, and the date upon which the contract became effective.

The written contract must be in effect on April 1, 1985, if the service to which the contract pertains is to be exempt from tax. If a contract is signed by only one of the parties to it, that contract is still a "written contract" if the party which has not signed the contract acquiesces in the promises which the party who has signed the document makes within it. *McDermott v. Mahoney,* 139 Iowa 292, 115 N.W. 32, (Iowa 1908).

EXAMPLE: A security agency sends a proposed agreement to a potential customer promising to provide the services of a uniformed security guard for the customer's business premises beginning March 15, 1985, and continuing until March 15, 1987. The agreement is signed by the security agency's president and dated February 15, 1985. The agreement is received by the potential customer's president, who does not sign it, but, on March 15, 1985, allows the security agency's uniformed guard on the premises, and makes payment for those services as stipulated in the agreement. This agreement is a "written contract"; the services of the uniformed guard are not subject to tax for the period beginning July 1, 1985, and ending June 30, 1986. The services performed between July 1, 1986, and March 15, 1987, would be subject to tax.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code subsection 422.43(11).
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.44(422,423) Sale or rental of farm machinery and equipment. On and after July 1, 1987, the gross receipts from the sale or rental of farm machinery and equipment will be exempt from tax. Effective July 1, 1996, the gross receipts from the sale of property which is a container, label, carton, pallet, packing case, wrapping, baling wire, twine, bag, bottle, shipping case or other similar article or receptacle sold for use in agricultural, livestock or dairy production are not subject to sales tax.

285.44(1) *Characteristics of and limitations upon farm machinery and equipment.* To be eligible for exemption from or refund of tax under this rule the machinery or equipment must:

a. Be directly and primarily used in production of agricultural products; and

b. Be one of the following:

(1) A self-propelled implement; or

(2) An implement customarily drawn or attached to a self-propelled implement; or

(3) A grain dryer; or

(4) An auxiliary attachment which improves the performance, safety, operation, or efficiency of a qualifying implement or grain dryer if sale or first use in Iowa is on or after July 1, 1995; or

(5) A replacement part for any item described in subparagraph (1), (2), (3), or (4).

(6) Effective July 1, 1996, the gross receipts from the sale of property which is a container, label, carton, pallet, packing case, wrapping, baling wire, twine, bag, bottle, shipping case, or other similar article or receptacle sold for use in agricultural, livestock or dairy production.

c. No vehicle subject to registration, as defined in Iowa Code subsection 423.1(7), implement customarily drawn or attached to a vehicle, auxiliary attachment, or any replacement part for a vehicle, implement, or auxiliary attachment is eligible for the exemption or refund allowed under this rule.

285.44(2) *Definitions and characterizations.* For the purposes of this rule, the following definitions apply.

a. Production of agricultural products means the same as the term "agricultural production" which is defined in 701—subrule 17.9(3), paragraph *"a,"* to mean a farming operation undertaken for profit by raising crops or livestock. Production of agricultural products begins with the cultivation of land previously cleared for planting of crops or with the purchase or breeding of livestock or domesticated fowl. Not included within the meaning of the phrase are the clearing or preparation of previously uncultivated land, the creation of farm ponds or the erection of machine sheds, confinement facilities, storage bins or other farm buildings. See *Trullinger v. Fremont County,* 223 Iowa 677, 273 N.W. 124 (1937). Machinery and equipment used for these purposes would be used for activities which are preparatory to but not a part of the production of agricultural products. The production of agricultural products ceases when an agricultural product has been transported to the point where it will be sold by the farmer or processed.

EXAMPLE. Farmer Brown uses a tractor and wagon to haul harvested corn from a field to a grain dryer located on the farm. After the corn is dried, the same tractor and wagon are used to move the grain to a storage bin, also located on the farm. Later the same tractor and wagon are used to deliver the corn from the farm to the local elevator where it is sold. After Farmer Brown deposits the corn there, the local elevator uses its own tractor and wagon to move the corn to a place of relatively permanent storage. Farmer Brown has used the tractor and wagon in the production of agricultural products and the refund or exemption would apply. The elevator has not used its tractor and wagon in such production; refund or exemption would not be lawful.

b. Farm machinery and equipment means machinery and equipment specifically designed for use in the production of agricultural products or equipment and machinery not specifically designed for this use but which are directly and primarily used in the production of agricultural products.

EXAMPLE. Farmer Jones raises livestock and the farming operation requires that fences be built to confine the livestock. Farmer Jones purchases a posthole digger that is customarily attached to a tractor and uses the digger to construct the fences used to confine the livestock. The posthole digger is not specifically designed for use in the production of agricultural products but would be directly and primarily used in the production of agricultural products. Therefore, the exemption or refund applies.

c. Self-propelled implement has the same meaning as in 701—subrule 17.9(5), paragraph *"c,"* where the term is defined to mean an implement which is capable of movement from one place to another

under its own power. The term self-propelled implement includes but is not limited to the following items: skidloaders and tractors; and the following machinery if capable of movement under its own power: combines, corn pickers, fertilizer spreaders, hay conditioners/windrowers, sprayers, and bean buggies.

d. Implements customarily drawn or attached to self-propelled implements. The following is a nonexclusive, representative list of implements which are customarily drawn or attached to self-propelled implements: Augers, balers, blowers, combines, conveyers, cultivators, disks, drags, dryers (portable), farm wagons, feeder wagons, fertilizer spreaders, front- and rear-end loaders, harrows, hay loaders, mowers and rakes, husking machines, manure spreaders, planters, plows, rotary blade mowers, rotary hoes, sprayers and tanks, and tillage equipment.

e. Direct use in agricultural production. In determining whether farm machinery, equipment or any grain dryer is directly used in agricultural production, the fact that particular machinery or equipment is essential to the production of agricultural products because its use is required either by law or practical necessity does not, of itself, mean that the machinery or equipment is directly used in the production of agricultural products. Machinery or equipment coming into actual physical contact with the soil or crops during the operations of planting, cultivating, harvesting, and soil preparation will be presumed to be machinery or equipment used in agricultural production.

f. Grain dryer. The term grain dryer includes the heater and the blower necessary to force the warmed air into a grain storage bin. It does not include equipment used in grain storage or movement such as augers and spreaders or any other equipment that is not a grain dryer. Equipment other than a grain dryer which is used in grain drying may be exempt or subject to refund if the equipment is a self-propelled implement or customarily drawn or attached to a self-propelled implement.

g. Replacement parts, differing meanings of the term for the period ending June 30, 1988, and for the period beginning July 1, 1988.

(1) For the period beginning July 1, 1985, and ending June 30, 1988, a replacement part is refundable or exempt only if its cost is depreciable for state and federal income tax purposes. Replacement parts which are depreciable for state and federal income tax purposes include only those replacement parts which either materially add to the value of machinery or equipment or appreciably prolong its life. Replacement parts which only keep the machinery or equipment in its ordinarily efficient operating condition are not eligible for exemption or refund. Included within the meaning of replacement parts is any part the cost of which is depreciable for state and federal income tax purposes but which may also be deducted as a current expense. So long as the cost is depreciable the sale or lease of the replacement part is eligible for refund or exemption from tax. However, the person claiming the refund or exemption must show that the replacement part which was deducted as an expense could have been depreciated under state and federal income tax law.

(2) On and after July 1, 1988, the sale or lease of a replacement part is exempt from tax if the replacement part is essential to any repair or reconstruction necessary to farm machinery or equipment's exempt use in the production of agricultural products. The term "replacement part" does not include attachments and accessories which are not essential to the operation of the farm machinery or equipment. Nonexclusive examples of attachments or accessories are: cigarette lighters, radios, and add-on air-conditioning units.

285.44(3) *Taxable and nontaxable transactions.* The following are nonexclusive examples of sales and leases of farm machinery and equipment which are or are not subject to exemption and refund.

a. A lessor's purchase of farm machinery and equipment is not subject to tax, or is taxable subject to refund, if the machinery or equipment is leased to a lessee who uses it directly and primarily in the production of agricultural products and if the lessee's use of the machinery or equipment is otherwise exempt or subject to refund. To claim exemption from tax or a refund of tax paid, the lessor need not make exempt use of the machinery or equipment so long as the lessee does.

b. To claim refund or exemption, the owner or lessee of farm machinery or equipment need not be a farmer so long as the machinery and equipment is directly and primarily used in the production of agricultural products, and the owner or lessee and the equipment or machinery meet the other requirements of this rule. For example, a person who purchases an airplane designed for use in

agricultural aerial spraying and so used after purchase is entitled to the benefits of this rule even though that person is not the owner or occupant of the land where the airplane is used.

c. The sale or lease, within Iowa, of any farm machinery, equipment, or replacement part for direct and primary use in agricultural production outside of Iowa is a transaction eligible for refund or exemption if those transactions are otherwise qualified under this rule.

285.44(4) *Auxiliary attachments.* The following is a list (not inclusive) of auxiliary attachments described in 18.44(1)*"b"*(4), the sale or first use in Iowa which is exempt from tax on and after July 1, 1995: auxiliary hydraulic valves, cabs, coil tine harrows, corn head pickup reels, dry till shanks, dual tires, extension shanks, fenders, fertilizer attachments and openers, fold kits, grain bin extensions, herbicide and insecticide attachments, kit wraps, no-till coulters, quick couplers, rear wheel assists, rock boxes, rollover protection systems, rotary shields, stalk choppers, step extensions, trash whips, upperbeaters, silage bags, and weights.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code subsections 422.43(3) and 422.45(26), Iowa Code chapter 422, Division IV, and Iowa Code section 422.45 as amended by 1996 Iowa Acts, chapter 1145.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.45 Reserved.

701—285.46(422,423) Automotive fluids. The gross receipts from the sales of certain automotive fluids are exempt from tax. To be considered exempt, the sale must possess the following characteristics: (1) the sale must be to a retailer who will install the automotive fluid in or apply the automotive fluid to a motor vehicle; and (2) the installation or application must be done while the retailer is providing a taxable enumerated service (e.g., automobile lubrication); or (3) the automotive fluid must be installed in or applied to a motor vehicle which the retailer intends to sell and the sale of which will be subject to Iowa use tax.

Specific but nonexclusive examples of "automotive fluids" are motor oil and other automobile lubricants, hydraulic, brake, and transmission fluids, sealants, undercoatings, antifreeze, and gasoline additives.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.45(33).
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.47(422,423) Maintenance or repair of fabric or clothing.

285.47(1) As of July 1, 1987, sales of chemicals, solvents, sorbents, or reagents consumed in the maintenance or repair of fabric or clothing are exempt from tax. See 701—subrule 17.14(1) for definitions of the terms "chemical, solvent, sorbent or reagent." This subrule's exemption is mainly applicable to dry-cleaning and laundry establishments; however, it is also applicable to soap or any chemical or solvent used to clean carpeting. The department presumes that a substance is "directly used" in the maintenance or repair of fabric or clothing if the substance comes in contact with the fabric or clothing during the maintenance or repair process. Substances which do not come into direct contact with fabric or clothing may, under appropriate circumstances, be directly used in the maintenance or repair of the fabric or clothing but direct use will not be presumed.

The following are examples of substances directly used and consumed in the maintenance or repair of fabric or clothing: perchloroethlyene "perch" or petroleum solvents used in dry-cleaning machines and coming in direct contact with the clothing being dry-cleaned. Substances used to clean or filter the "perch" or petroleum solvents would also be exempt from tax, even though these substances do not come in direct contact with the clothing being cleaned. The sale of soap or detergents especially made for mixing with "perch" or petroleum solvents is exempt. The sale of stain removers to dry cleaners is exempt from tax.

A commercial laundry's purchase of detergents, bleaches, and fabric softeners is exempt from tax. A commercial laundry's purchase of water, which is a solvent, is also exempt from tax if purchased for use in the cleaning of clothing.

The purchase of starch by laundries and "sizing" by dry cleaners is not exempt from tax.

285.47(2) Also, on and after July 1, 1987, the sale of property which is a container, label, or similar article or receptacle for transfer in association with the maintenance or repair of fabric or clothing is exempt from tax. In general, the sale of any article which protects dry-cleaned or laundered clothing from dirt or helps the dry-cleaned or laundered clothing to maintain its proper shape or form in the same fashion as a container does would be exempt from tax under this subrule. By way of nonexclusive example, the sale of plastic garment bags, which protect clothing from dirt, is exempt from tax. The sale of "shirt boards" and garment hangers, both of which help clothing to maintain its proper shape, would also be exempt.

A container, label, or similar article's sale is exempt from tax only if the item is transferred to the customer of a commercial laundry, dry cleaner, or other retailer. Thus, "bundle bags" and "meese carts," used to transfer or transport clothing within a dry-cleaning establishment, are not subject to the exemption because these bags and carts remain with the dry cleaner and are not transferred to a customer.

Concerning labels, the sale of which would be exempt from tax, these labels must be affixed to the dry-cleaned or laundered clothing and transferred to the customer of the dry-cleaning or laundering establishment. By way of nonexclusive example, the sale to dry cleaners, of "special attention," "invoice" and "sorry" tags would be exempt from tax.

The sale of safety pins and other types of clips used to hang skirts and other garments from hangers would not be exempt from tax. These items do not sufficiently resemble containers or labels to the extent that their sale is exempt from tax.

This rule is intended to implement Division IV of Iowa Code chapter 422.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.48(422,423) Sale or rental of farm machinery, equipment, replacement parts, and repairs used in livestock, dairy, or plant production. Sales or rental of farm machinery and equipment used in livestock or dairy production and replacement parts which occur on or after July 1, 1988, are exempt from sales and use tax. On and after July 1, 1995, machinery, equipment, and replacement parts used in the production of flowering, ornamental, or vegetable plants are exempt from tax. See rule 701—18.57(422,423).

285.48(1) *Definitions and characterizations.* For the purposes of this rule, the following definitions and characterizations of words apply.

a. "Machinery" means major mechanical machines or major components thereof which contribute directly and primarily to the livestock or dairy production process. Usually, a machine is a large object with moving parts which performs work by the expenditure of energy, either mechanical (e.g., gasoline or kerosene) or electrical.

b. "Equipment" is tangible personal property (other than a machine) directly and primarily used in livestock or dairy production. It may be characterized as property which performs a specialized function which, of itself, has no moving parts or if it does possess moving parts, its source of power is external to it. The following examples attempt to differentiate between machinery and equipment:

EXAMPLE A. An electric pump is used to pump milk into a bulk milk tank. The electric pump is machinery; the bulk milk tank is equipment.

EXAMPLE B. An auger places feed into a cattle feeder. If not "real property" (see 18.48(1)*"c"*) the auger is a piece of machinery; the cattle feeder is a piece of equipment.

c. Property used in livestock or dairy production which is neither "equipment" nor "machinery."

(1) Real property. The ground or the earth is not machinery or equipment. A building is not machinery or equipment, *Mid-American Growers, Inc. v. Dept. of Revenue,* 493 N.E.2d 1097 (Ill. App. Ct. 1986). Therefore, tangible personal property which is sold for incorporation into the ground or a building in such a manner that it will become a part of the ground or the building is taxable. Generally, property incorporated into the ground or a building has become a part of the ground or the building if removal of the property from the ground or building will substantially damage the property, ground, or building or substantially diminish the value of the property, ground, or building. Fence posts embedded in concrete and electrical wiring, light fixtures, fuse boxes, and switches are examples of property sold for incorporation into the ground or a building, respectively. The property referred to in

18.48(1)*"c"*(1) can be identified by applying the following test: Assume that the property is being sold to a contractor rather than a person engaged in livestock or dairy production. If sold to a contractor, would the retailer be required to consider the property "building material" and charge the contractor sales tax upon the purchase of this building material. If this is the case, sale of the property is not exempt from Iowa tax law. Iowa department of revenue rule 701—19.3(422,423) contains a characterization of "building material" and a list of specific examples of building material.

(2) "Supplies" are neither machinery nor equipment. Tangible personal property is part of farm supplies if it is used up or destroyed by virtue of its use in livestock or dairy production or, because of its nature, can only be used once in livestock or dairy production. A light bulb is an example of a farm supply which is not machinery or equipment. The sale of some farm supplies is exempt from tax. See 701—subrule 17.9(3). See List B in subrule 18.48(7) for examples of farm supplies which could be mistaken for equipment and are not exempt from tax on other grounds.

d. "Hand tools" are tools which can be held in the hand or hands and which are powered by human effort. Hand tools specifically designed for use in livestock or dairy production are exempt from tax as "equipment." Mechanical devices that are held in the hand and driven by electricity or some source other than human muscle power are, if otherwise qualified, exempt from tax as "farm machinery." See subrule 18.48(7), List C, for examples of "hand tools" exempt and not exempt from tax.

e. Directly used in livestock or dairy production. To determine if machinery or equipment is "directly" used in livestock or dairy production, one must first ensure that the machinery or equipment is used during livestock or dairy production and not before that process has begun or after it has ended. Subrule 18.48(1), paragraph *"g,"* describes when livestock or dairy production begins and ends. If the machinery or equipment is used in livestock or dairy production, to be "directly" so used, that use must constitute an integral and essential part of production as distinguished from a use in production which is incidental, merely convenient to or remote from production. The fact that machinery or equipment is essential or necessary to livestock or dairy production does not mean that it is also "directly" used in production. Machinery or equipment may be necessary to livestock or dairy production but so remote from it that it is not directly used in that production.

(1) In determining whether machinery or equipment is used directly, consideration should be given to the following factors:

1. The physical proximity of the machinery or equipment to other machinery or equipment whose direct use is unarguable. The closer the machinery or equipment whose direct use is questioned is to the machinery or equipment whose direct use is not questioned, the more likely it is that the former is directly used in livestock or dairy production.

2. The proximity in time of the use of machinery or equipment whose direct use is questionable to the use of machinery whose direct use is not questioned. The closer in time the use, the more likely that the questioned machinery or equipment's use is direct rather than remote.

3. The active causal relationship between the use of the machinery or equipment in question and livestock or dairy production. The fewer intervening causes between the use of the machinery or equipment and the production of the product, the more likely it is that the machinery or equipment is directly used in production.

(2) The following are examples of machinery and equipment directly used in livestock or dairy production:

1. Machinery and equipment used to transport or limit the movement of livestock and dairy animals (e.g., electric fence equipment, head gates, and loading chutes).

2. Machinery and equipment used in the conception, birth, feeding, and watering of livestock or dairy animals (e.g., artificial insemination equipment, portable farrowing pens, feed carts, and automatic watering equipment).

3. Machinery and equipment used to maintain healthful or sanitary conditions in the immediate area where livestock are kept (e.g., manure gutter cleaners, automatic cattle oilers, fans, and heaters if not real property).

4. Machinery or equipment used to test or inspect livestock or dairy animals during production.

(3) The following are nonexclusive examples of machinery or equipment which would not be directly used in livestock or dairy production.

1. Machinery or equipment used to assemble, maintain, or repair other machinery or equipment directly used in livestock or dairy production (e.g., welders, paint sprayers, and lubricators).

2. Machinery used in farm management, administration, advertising, or selling (e.g., a recordkeeping computer, calculating machine, office safe, telephone, books, and farm magazines).

3. Machinery or equipment used in the exhibit of livestock or dairy animals (e.g., blankets, halters, prods, leads, and harnesses).

4. Machinery or equipment used in safety or fire prevention, even though the machinery or equipment is required by law.

5. Machinery or equipment for employee or personal use. Machinery or equipment used for the personal comfort, convenience, or use by a farmer, the farmer's family or employees, or persons associated with the farmer are not exempt from tax. Examples of such machinery and equipment include the following: beds, mattresses, blankets, tableware, stoves, refrigerators, and other equipment used in conjunction with the operation of a farm home or of a migrant labor camp, or other facilities for farm employees.

6. Machinery and equipment used for heating, cooling, ventilation, and illumination of farm buildings generally rather than specifically in the immediate area where livestock are kept.

7. Vehicles subject to registration.

f. "Primarily" used in livestock or dairy production. Machinery or equipment is "primarily used in livestock or dairy production" if of the total time that unit of machinery or equipment is used, more than 50 percent of the time is in livestock or dairy production. If a unit of machinery or equipment is used more than 50 percent of the time for production and the balance of time for other business purposes, the exemption applies. If a unit of equipment is used 50 percent or more of the time for business purposes other than livestock or dairy production, the exemption does not apply. Any unit of machinery or equipment used more than 50 percent of the time directly in livestock or dairy production is subject to the exemption.

g. Beginning and end of livestock or dairy production. Livestock or dairy production begins with the purchase or breeding of livestock or dairy animals. Livestock and dairy production ceases when an animal or the product of an animal's body (e.g., wool or milk) has been transported to the point where it will be sold by the farmer or processed.

h. Farm machinery and equipment means machinery and equipment specifically designed for use in livestock and dairy production or equipment and machinery not specifically designed for this use but which are directly and primarily used in livestock or dairy production except for common or ordinary hand tools. See 18.48(1)*"d"* for a definition of "hand tools."

EXAMPLE. Farmer Jones raises livestock and fans must be used to cool the animals. Farmer Jones buys fans designed for use in a residence which he uses directly and solely to cool the livestock. The exemption applies.

i. "Self-propelled implement" has the same meaning as in 701—subrule 17.9(5), paragraph *"c"* where the term is defined to mean an implement which is capable of movement from one place to another under its own power. The term self-propelled implement includes but is not limited to the following items: skidloaders and tractors; and the following machinery if capable of movement under its own power: combines, corn pickers, fertilizer spreaders, hay conditioners/windrowers, sprayers, and bean buggies.

j. Implements customarily drawn or attached to self-propelled implements. The following is a nonexclusive, representative list of implements which are customarily drawn or attached to self-propelled implements: augers, balers, blowers, combines, conveyers, cultivators, disks, drags, dryers (portable), farm wagons, feeder wagons, fertilizer spreaders, front- and rear-end loaders, harrows, hay loaders, mowers and rakes, husking machines, manure spreaders, planters, plows, posthole diggers, rotary blade mowers, rotary hoes, sprayers and tanks, and tillage equipment.

k. The term "grain dryer" includes the heater and the blower necessary to force the warmed air into a grain storage bin. It does not include equipment used in grain storage or movement such as augers

and spreaders or any other equipment that is not a grain dryer. Equipment other than a grain dryer which is used in grain drying may be exempt or subject to refund if the equipment is a self-propelled implement or customarily drawn or attached to a self-propelled implement.

l. The term "replacement parts essential to any repair or reconstruction necessary to farm machinery or equipment's exempt use in the production of agricultural products" does not include attachments and accessories not essential to the operation of the machinery or equipment itself (except when sold as part of the assembled unit) such as cigarette lighters, radios, canopies, air conditioning units, cabs, deluxe seats, and tools or utility boxes.

285.48(2) and **285.48(3)** Reserved.

285.48(4) *Packing material used in agricultural, livestock, or dairy production.* For sales occurring on or after July 1, 1996, the gross receipts from the sale of property which is a container, label, carton, pallet, packing case, wrapping, baling wire, twine, bag, bottle, shipping case, or other similar article or receptacle sold for use in agricultural, livestock, or dairy production are not subject to sales tax. This exemption also applies to producers of ornamental, flowering, or vegetable plants in commercial greenhouses or other places which sell such items in the ordinary course of business since that activity is considered to be agricultural.

285.48(5) Reserved.

285.48(6) *Auxiliary attachments exemption.* On and after July 1, 1995, sales of auxiliary attachments which improve the performance, safety, operation, or efficiency of machinery or equipment are exempt from tax. Sales of replacement parts for these auxiliary attachments are also exempt on and after that date.

285.48(7) *Lists.* Lists (representative but not all-inclusive) of tangible personal property for which sales or use tax paid is or is not refundable.

LIST A. Property Used in Livestock and Dairy Production Which is Usually Real Property. See 18.48(1)*"c"*(1). Its sale is usually taxable.

barn ventilators*	livestock feeders*
conveyers*	silos
farrowing crates*	specialized flooring*
fence posts	sprinklers
fencing wire	stanchions
furnaces*	watering tanks*
gestation stalls*	ventilators*

*These items also appear in List D. Tax paid on their sale can be refundable or their sale exempt if the items are not real property.

LIST B. Taxable Farm Supplies Which Are Not Machinery or Equipment

burlap*	lubricants
disposable hypodermic syringes	marking chalk
ear tags	packages for one-time use
hog rings	

*Burlap is exempt when used in the form of a bag, container, wrap or other receptacle or packaging material.

LIST C. Hand Tools—Taxable and Nontaxable

axes
brooms
buckets
cleaning brushes
dehorners (nonelectric)*
garden hoses
grease guns
hammers
hay hooks*
hog ringers*
lamps
lanterns
milk cans*
mops
paintbrushes
pliers
scrapers
screwdrivers
shovels
wheelbarrows
wrenches

*Hand tools specially designed for use in livestock or dairy production are equipment. Tax paid on the sale or use of these hand tools is refundable.

LIST D. Farm Machinery and Equipment Directly and Primarily Used in Livestock or Dairy Production. Tax Paid is Usually Refundable or the Sale Exempt.

artificial insemination equipment
augers*
automatic feeding systems*
bulk feeding tanks*
bulk milk coolers
bulk milk tanks
cattle weaners and feeders
cattle currying and oiling machines
cattle feeders*
conveyers*
dehorners, electric
electric fence equipment
fans*
farrowing crates, houses and stalls*
feed bins*
feed carts
feed elevators*
feed grinders
feed tanks*
feeders
foggers
furnaces*
gates*
grain augers
head gates
heating pads and lamps
hog feeders*
hypodermic syringes and needles, nondisposable
livestock feeding, watering and handling equipment*
loading chutes*
LP gas tanks
manure handling equipment*
milk coolers
milk strainers
milking machines
refrigerators used to cool raw milk
silo unloaders
specialized flooring*
space heaters
sprayers
squeeze chutes*
vacuum coolers
ventilators*

If not real property. See 18.48(1)"c"*(1).

285.48(8) *Seller's and purchaser's liability for sales tax.* The seller shall be relieved of sales tax liability if the seller takes from the purchaser an exemption certificate stating that the purchase is of machinery or equipment meeting the requirements of subrule 18.48(4). An exemption certificate can take the form of a stamp imprinted onto one of the documents of sale. If items purchased tax-free pursuant to an exemption certificate are used or disposed of by the purchaser in a nonexempt manner, the purchaser is solely liable for the taxes and shall remit the tax directly to the department.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.45 as amended by 1996 Iowa Acts, chapter 1145.

[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.49(422,423) Aircraft sales, rental, component parts, and services exemptions prior to, on, and after July 1, 1999.

285.49(1) Prior to July 1, 1999, sales in Iowa of aircraft subject to registration were subject to sales tax. On and after July 1, 1999, sales of aircraft in Iowa are subject to Iowa use tax rather than Iowa sales tax. See rule 701—31.6(423). Also, on and after that date, the use tax imposed on sales of aircraft in Iowa is collected by the Iowa department of transportation at the time of the aircraft's registration. Sales of certain aircraft parts in Iowa, the performance of taxable services in Iowa on or in connection with the repair, remodeling, or maintenance of aircraft, and the rental of aircraft in Iowa remain subject to Iowa sales tax on and after July 1, 1999. See subrule 18.49(3).

285.49(2) For the purposes of this subrule only, an "aircraft" is any contrivance known or hereafter invented which is designed for navigation of or flight in the air and is used in a scheduled interstate Federal Aviation Administration certified air carrier operation.

a. Exempt aircraft sales. As of July 1, 1988, and up to and including June 30, 1999, gross receipts from the sale of aircraft are exempt from tax.

b. Exempt rental of aircraft. Effective May 1, 1995, and retroactive to July 1, 1988, the taxable rental (see 701—26.74(422,423)) of aircraft, as defined in the introductory paragraph of this subrule, is exempt from tax.

c. Exempt sale or rental of aircraft parts. Effective May 1, 1995, and retroactive to July 1, 1988, gross receipts from the sale or rental of tangible personal property permanently affixed to any aircraft as a component part of that aircraft are exempt from tax. The term "component parts" includes, but is not limited to, repair or replacement parts and materials.

d. Exempt performance of services. Effective May 1, 1995, and retroactive to July 1, 1988, gross receipts from the rendering, furnishing, or performing of services in connection with the repair, remodeling, or maintenance of aircraft (including aircraft engines and component materials or parts) are exempt from tax.

285.49(3) For the purposes of this subrule only, an "aircraft" is any aircraft used in a nonscheduled interstate Federal Aviation Administration certified air carrier operation conducted under 14 CFR ch. 1, pt. 135. On and after July 1, 1998, the gross receipts from the sale or rental of tangible personal property permanently affixed or permanently attached as a component part of these aircraft, including but not limited to repair or replacement materials or parts, are exempt from tax. Also exempt, on and after that date, are the gross receipts from the performance of any service used for aircraft repair, remodeling, or maintenance when the service is performed on an aircraft, aircraft engine, or aircraft component material or part exempt under this subrule. Gross receipts from the sale or rental of aircraft are not exempt from tax under this subrule.

285.49(4) For the purposes of this subrule only, an "aircraft" is any contrivance known or hereafter invented which is designed for navigation of or flight in the air. On and after July 1, 1998, and up to and including June 30, 1999, the gross receipts from the sale of an aircraft to an aircraft dealer who rents or leases the aircraft to another are exempt from tax if all of the following circumstances exist:

a. The aircraft is kept in the inventory of the dealer for sale at all times.

b. The dealer reserves the right to immediately take the aircraft from the renter or lessee when a buyer is found.

c. The renter or lessee is aware that the dealer will immediately take the aircraft when a buyer is found.

As soon as an aircraft, the sale of which is exempt under this subrule, is used for any purpose other than leasing or renting, or the conditions set out in paragraphs *"a," "b,"* and *"c"* are not continuously met, the dealer claiming the exemption is liable for the tax which would have been due but for the exemption set out in this subrule. Tax will be computed on the original purchase price paid by the dealer.

See rule 701—32.13(423) for a description of the manner in which transactions described in this subrule are exempted from tax on and after July 1, 1999.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.45, subsections 38, 38A, 38B and 38C and Iowa Code section 423.2 as amended by 1999 Iowa Acts, chapter 168.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.50(422,423) Property used by a lending organization. On and after July 1, 1988, the gross receipts from the sale of tangible personal property to a nonprofit organization organized for the purpose of lending the tangible personal property to the general public for use by the public for nonprofit purposes are exempt from tax. The exemption contained in this rule is applicable to tangible personal property only, and not to taxable services. It is applicable to the sale of that property and not to its rental to a nonprofit organization. Finally, the exemption is applicable only to property purchased by a nonprofit organization for subsequent rental to the general public. The exemption is not applicable to other property (e.g., office equipment) which the nonprofit organization might need for its ongoing existence.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.45(36).
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.51(422,423) Sales to nonprofit legal aid organizations. On and after July 1, 1988, the gross receipts from the sale or rental of tangible personal property or from services performed, rendered, or furnished to a nonprofit legal aid organization are exempt from tax.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code subsection 422.45(37).
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.52(422,423) Irrigation equipment used in farming operations. On and after July 1, 1989, the gross receipts from the sale or rental of irrigation equipment used in farming operations are exempt from tax. The term "irrigation equipment" includes, but is not limited to, circle irrigation systems and trickle irrigation systems. The term "farming operations" has the same meaning as the term "agricultural production" set out in 701—subrule 17.9(3), paragraph *"a,"* and as further characterized in 18.44(2)*"a."*

Effective May 18, 2001, and retroactive to April 1, 1995, the gross receipts from the sale or rental of irrigation equipment, as defined above, whether installed above or below ground are exempt from tax as long as the equipment is sold or rented by a contractor or farmer and the equipment is primarily used in agricultural operations.

Contractors or farmers entitled to the exemption set forth in the previous paragraph may apply for a refund of taxes, interest or penalties paid on the sale or rental of qualifying irrigation equipment for transactions that occurred between April 1, 1995, and May 18, 2001. To be eligible for refund, refund claims must be filed with the department prior to October 1, 2001. Refund claims are limited to $25,000 in the aggregate and will not be allowed if not timely filed. If the amount of refund claims totals more than $25,000 in the aggregate, the department will prorate the $25,000 among all claimants in relation to the amounts of the claimants' valid claims.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.45 and 2001 Iowa Acts, House File 723.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.53(422,423) Sales to persons engaged in the consumer rental purchase business. On and after July 1, 1989, the gross receipts from the sale of tangible personal property, except vehicles subject to registration, to persons regularly engaged in the consumer purchase business are exempt from tax if the property (1) is sold for the purpose of utilization in a transaction involving a "consumer rental

purchase agreement" as defined in Iowa Code subsection 537.3604(8), and (2) the gross receipts from the consumer rental of the property are subject to Iowa sales or use tax.

If property exempt under this rule is made use of for any purpose other than a consumer rental purchase, the person claiming the exemption is liable for the tax that would have been due had the exemption not existed. The tax shall be computed on the original purchase price to the person claiming the exemption. The aggregate of the tax paid on the consumer rental purchase of the property, not exceeding the amount of sales or use tax owed, shall be credited against the tax.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.45(18).
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.54(422,423) Sales of advertising material. On and after July 1, 1990, gross receipts from the sales of advertising material to any person in Iowa are exempt from tax if that person, or any agent of that person, will, after the sale, send that advertising material outside of Iowa and subsequent sole use of that material will be outside this state.

For the purposes of this rule "advertising material" is tangible personal property only, including paper. "Advertising material" is limited to the following: brochures, catalogs, leaflets, fliers, order forms, return envelopes, floppy discs, CD-ROMs, videotapes, and any similar items of tangible personal property which will be used to promote sales of property or services.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.45.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.55(422,423) Drop shipment sales. A "drop shipment" generally involves two sales transactions and three parties. The first party is a consumer located inside Iowa. The second party is a retailer located outside the state. The third party is a supplier who may be located inside or outside of Iowa. The two sales transactions in question are the sale of property from the supplier to the out-of-state retailer, and the further sale of that property from the out-of-state retailer to the consumer in Iowa.

A "drop shipment sale" occurs when the consumer places an order for the purchase of tangible personal property with the out-of-state retailer. The retailer does not own the property ordered at the same time the consumer's order is placed. The retailer then purchases the property from the supplier. The supplier in turn ships the property directly to the consumer in Iowa. Under Iowa law the supplier in a drop shipment sale cannot be required to collect tax (either sales or use) from the consumer, even if the requisite "nexus" to require collection exists. See the next to last paragraph of this rule for a characterization of "nexus." The supplier transfers possession of the goods to the consumer; however, transfer of possession alone has never been held to be a "sale" for the purposes of Iowa sales and use tax law. *Sturtz v. Iowa Department of Revenue,* 373 N.W.2d 131 (Iowa 1985) and *Cedar Valley Leasing v. Iowa Department of Revenue,* 274 N.W.2d 357 (Iowa 1979).

With reference to drop shipment sales: If delivery of the goods under the contract for sale has occurred outside of Iowa, sale of the goods has occurred outside of Iowa. If delivery of the goods under the contract for sale has occurred within Iowa, the sale has occurred here. See *Sturtz* above for more information regarding sales and delivery. If the sale has occurred in Iowa and the retailer possesses the requisite nexus to require it to collect Iowa tax, the retailer is obligated to collect Iowa sales tax upon the "gross receipts" from its sale of the goods to the consumer. If the sale has occurred outside this state, and the retailer possesses the nexus to require it to collect Iowa tax, the retailer is obligated to collect Iowa retailer's use tax upon the purchase price of the goods. If the retailer does not have nexus sufficient to require it to collect either Iowa sales or Iowa use tax, or if the retailer fails to collect either tax, the consumer is obligated to pay a consumer use tax directly to the department upon the purchase price of the goods. These rules are illustrated in the following examples.

EXAMPLE A: A consumer in Des Moines, Iowa, purchases goods from a retailer in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Minneapolis retailer contracts with a supplier in Iowa to manufacture and ship the goods to the consumer. The retailer has nexus with Iowa, and delivery under the contract for sale has occurred in this state. In this case, the consumer is obligated to pay and the retailer is obligated to collect Iowa sales tax. The supplier is not obligated to collect any Iowa tax.

EXAMPLE B: A consumer in Des Moines, Iowa, purchases goods from a retailer in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Minnesota retailer contracts with a supplier in Iowa to manufacture and ship the goods to the consumer. The retailer has no nexus with Iowa. Delivery under the contract of sale is in Iowa. Under these circumstances, the consumer is obligated to pay consumer's use tax directly to the department. Neither the retailer nor the supplier is obligated to collect any Iowa tax.

EXAMPLE C: A consumer in Des Moines, Iowa, purchases goods from a retailer in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The retailer contracts with a supplier in Minneapolis to manufacture and ship the goods to the consumer in Des Moines. The retailer has nexus with Iowa, and delivery under the contract for sale occurs in Iowa. Under these circumstances, the consumer is obligated to pay and the retailer is obligated to collect Iowa sales tax. The supplier is not obligated to collect any Iowa tax.

EXAMPLE D: A consumer in Des Moines, Iowa, purchases goods from a retailer in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The retailer contracts with a supplier in Minneapolis to manufacture and ship the goods to the consumer in Des Moines. The retailer has nexus with this state; delivery under the contract for sale is in Minnesota. Under the circumstances, the consumer is obligated to pay and the retailer is obligated to collect Iowa retailer's use tax. The supplier is not obligated to collect or pay any Iowa tax.

EXAMPLE E: A consumer in Des Moines, Iowa, purchases goods from a retailer in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The retailer contracts with a supplier in Minneapolis to manufacture and ship the goods to the consumer in Des Moines. The retailer has no nexus with this state. Delivery can occur in either Minnesota or Iowa. In this example, the consumer is obligated to pay Iowa consumer's use tax directly to the department. Neither the retailer nor the supplier is obligated to collect any Iowa tax.

EXAMPLE F: A consumer in Des Moines, Iowa, purchases goods from a retailer in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The retailer contracts with a supplier located in Madison, Wisconsin, to ship the goods to the consumer in Des Moines. The retailer has nexus with Iowa, and delivery under the contract for sale is in Iowa. Under these circumstances, the retailer is obligated to collect and the consumer obligated to pay Iowa sales tax. The supplier is not obligated to collect any Iowa tax.

EXAMPLE G: A consumer in Des Moines, Iowa, purchases goods from a retailer in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The retailer contracts with a supplier located in Madison, Wisconsin, to ship the goods to the consumer in Des Moines. The retailer has nexus with Iowa with delivery in Madison, Wisconsin. Under these circumstances, the retailer is obligated to collect and the consumer obligated to pay Iowa retailer's use tax. The supplier is not obligated to collect any Iowa tax.

EXAMPLE H: A consumer in Des Moines, Iowa, purchases goods from a retailer in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The retailer contracts with a supplier located in Madison, Wisconsin, to ship the goods to the consumer in Des Moines. The retailer has no nexus with Iowa. Delivery under the contract for sale may be in Iowa or Wisconsin. Under these circumstances, the consumer is obligated to pay Iowa consumer's use tax directly to the department. Neither the retailer nor the supplier is obligated to collect any Iowa tax.

As used in these examples, the requirement of "nexus" is discussed in *Good's Furniture House Inc. v. Iowa State Bd. of Tax Review,* 382 N.W.2d 145 (Iowa 1986); cert. den. 479 U.S. 817; *State Tax Commission v. General Trading Co.,* 10 N.W.2d 659, 233 Iowa 877 (1943) affd. 64 S.Ct. 1028, 322 U.S. 335, 88 L.Ed. 1309; and *Nelson v. Sears, Roebuck & Co.,* 292 N.W. 130, 228 Iowa 1273 (1940) reversed 61 S.Ct. 586, 312 U.S. 359, 85 L.Ed. 522, as well as other judicial decisions, and Iowa Code section 422.43(12).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code subsections 422.42(2) and 422.42(5).
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.56(422,423) Wind energy conversion property. On and after July 1, 1993, the gross receipts from the sale of property used to convert wind energy to electrical energy or the gross receipts from the sale of materials used to manufacture, install, or construct property used to convert wind energy to electrical energy shall be exempt from tax.

For the purposes of this rule, "property used to convert wind energy to electrical energy" means any device which converts wind energy to usable electrical energy including, but not limited to, wind

chargers, windmills, wind turbines, pad mount transformers, substations, power lines, and tower equipment.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.45 as amended by 1993 Iowa Acts, chapter 161.

[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.57(422,423) Exemptions applicable to the production of flowering, ornamental, and vegetable plants. On and after July 1, 1995, the production of flowering, ornamental, or vegetable plants by a grower in a commercial greenhouse or at another location is considered to be a part of agricultural production. The word "plants" does not include trees, shrubs, other woody perennials, or fungus. The exemption also applies to implements, machinery, equipment, and replacement parts directly and primarily used in the production of flowering, ornamental, or vegetable plants and fuel used for providing heating or cooling for greenhouses or buildings or parts of buildings dedicated to the production of flowering, ornamental, or vegetable plants intended for sale in the ordinary course of business. The following exemptions are applicable to the production of flowering, ornamental, or vegetable plants.

285.57(1) Sales of fertilizer, limestone, herbicides, pesticides, insecticides, plant food, and medication for use in disease, weed, insect control, or other health promotion of flowering, ornamental, or vegetable plants to a commercial greenhouse are exempt from tax. For the purposes of this subrule a virus, bacteria, fungus, or insect which is purchased for use in killing insects or other pests is an "insecticide" or "pesticide." See rules 701—226.6(423) and 701—17.9(422,423) for more information regarding these exemptions.

285.57(2) Sales of fuel to provide heating or cooling for a greenhouse or building or a part of a building dedicated to the production of flowering, ornamental, or vegetable plants held for sale in the ordinary course of business are exempt from tax. Electricity is a "fuel" for the purposes of this subrule. Fuel used in a plant production building for purposes other than heating or cooling (e.g., lighting) or for purposes other than direct use in plant production (e.g., heating or cooling office space) is not eligible for this exemption. For example, assume that there is a separate meter for electricity used only for heating or cooling. If a greenhouse is used, partially for growing plants and partially for a nonexempt purpose, a proportional exemption from sales tax may be claimed based upon a percentage calculated from a fraction, the numerator of which is the number of square feet of the greenhouse heated or cooled and used for raising plants, and the denominator of which is the number of square feet heated or cooled in the entire greenhouse. It may be necessary to alter this formula (by the use of separate metering, for example) if a greenhouse has a walk-in cooler and the cooler is used directly in plant production. Plant production has ended when a plant has grown to the point that it is of the size or weight at which it will be prepared for shipment to the destination where it will be marketed. Examples of nonexempt purposes for which a portion of a greenhouse might be used include, but are not limited to, portions used for office space, loading docks, storage of property other than plants, housing of heating and cooling equipment and portions used for packaging plants for shipment. See rule 701—15.3(423) regarding fuel exemption certificates and subrule 18.48(8) regarding seller's and purchaser's liability for sales tax.

285.57(3) Sales of gas, electricity, steam or other tangible personal property for use as a fuel in implements of husbandry used in the production of plants in a commercial greenhouse or elsewhere are exempt from tax. See 701—subrule 17.9(6), paragraph *"a,"* for a definition of "implements of husbandry."

285.57(4) Sales of self-propelled implements. Sales of self-propelled implements or implements customarily drawn by or attached to self-propelled implements and replacement parts for the same are exempt from tax if the implements are used directly and primarily in the production of plants in commercial greenhouses or elsewhere. See rule 701—18.44(422,423) for an extensive explanation of this exemption. Implements exempt under this subrule include, but are not limited to, forklifts used to transport pallets of plants; wagons containing sterilized soil and tractors used to pull the same.

285.57(5) Sale of water used in the production of plants is exempt from tax. If water is not separately metered, the grower of plants must determine by use of a percentage that portion which is used for a taxable purpose and that portion which is used for an exempt purpose.

Nonexclusive examples of taxable usage would be rest rooms, sanitation, lawns, and vehicle wash.

285.57(6) For sales occurring on or after July 1, 1996, the gross receipts for the sale of property which is a container, label, carton, pallet, packing case, wrapping, baling wire, twine, bag, bottle, shipping case, or other similar article or receptacle sold for use in agricultural, livestock, or dairy production are not subject to sales tax. This exemption also applies to producers of ornamental, flowering, or vegetable plants in commercial greenhouses or other places which sell such items in the ordinary course of business since that activity is considered to be agricultural. A noninclusive list of containers and packaging materials would include boxes, trays, labels, sleeves, tape, and staples.

285.57(7) Sales of machinery and equipment used in plant production which are not self-propelled or attached to self-propelled machinery and equipment are also exempt from tax. See rule 701—18.48(422,423) for a thorough explanation of this exemption. Listed below are a number of examples of machinery and equipment which are directly and primarily used in plant production. Sales of this machinery and equipment to commercial growers are usually exempt from tax.

Air-conditioning pads*
Airflow control tubes
Atmospheric CO_2 control and monitoring equipment
Backup generators
Bins holding sterilized soil
Control panels = heating and cooling
Coolers used to chill plants*
Cooling walls* or membranes
Equipment used to control water levels for subirrigation
Fans = cooling and ventilating*
Floor mesh for controlling weeds
Germination chambers
Greenhouse boilers*
Greenhouse netting or mesh = used for light and heat control
Greenhouse monorail systems*
Greenhouse thermometers
Handcarts used to move plants
Lighting which provides artificial sunlight
Overhead heating, lighting and watering systems
Overhead tracks for holding potted plants*
Plant tables*
Plant watering systems*
Portable buildings used to grow plants*
Seeding and transplanting machines
Soil pot and soil flat filling machines
Steam generators for soil sterilization*
Warning devices = excess heat or cold
Watering booms

If not real property. See 18.48(1)"c"*(1).

285.57(8) Miscellaneous exempt and taxable sales. Sales of pots, soil, seeds, bulbs, and "starter plants" for use in plant production are not the sale of machinery or equipment, but can be sales for resale and exempt from tax if the pots and soil are sold with the final product or become the finished product. Sales of portable buildings which will be used to display plants for retail sales are taxable. Finally, sales of whitewash which will be painted on greenhouses to control the amount of sunlight entering those houses are taxable sales of a "supply" rather than exempt sales of equipment. See 18.48(1)*"c"*(2)

relating to "supplies." See rule 701—18.7(422,423) relating to containers, including packaging cases, shipping cases, wrapping materials, and similar items sold to retailers, and see subrule 18.57(6).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 422.42(1), 422.42(4), 422.42(11), 422.45(39) and 422.47(4) and Iowa Code section 422.45 as amended by 1996 Iowa Acts, chapter 1145.
[**ARC 4117C**, IAB 11/7/18, effective 12/12/18; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.58 Reserved.

701—285.59(422,423) Exempt sales to nonprofit hospitals. On and after July 1, 1998, the gross receipts from sales or rentals of tangible personal property to and from the rendering, furnishing, or performing of services for a nonprofit hospital licensed under Iowa Code chapter 135B are exempt from tax if the property or service purchased is used in the operation of the hospital. A hospital is not entitled to claim a refund for tax paid by a contractor on the sale or use of tangible personal property or the performance of services in the fulfillment of a written construction contract with the hospital. However, see the circumstances set out below in which sales of goods, wares or merchandise, or taxable services to a hospital for use in the fulfillment of a construction contract, are exempt from Iowa tax.

For the purposes of this rule, the word "hospital" means a place which is devoted primarily to the maintenance and operation of facilities for diagnosis, treatment, or care, over a period exceeding 24 hours, of two or more nonrelated individuals suffering from illness, injury, or a medical condition (such as pregnancy). The word "hospital" includes general hospitals, specialized hospitals (e.g., pediatric, mental, and orthopedic hospitals, and cancer treatment centers), sanatoriums, and other hospitals licensed under Iowa Code chapter 135B. Also included are institutions, places, buildings, or agencies in which any accommodation is primarily maintained, furnished, or offered for the care, over a period exceeding 24 hours, of two or more nonrelated aged or infirm persons requiring or receiving chronic or convalescent care. Excluded from the meaning of the term "hospital" are institutions for well children; day nursery and child care centers; foster boarding homes and houses; homes for handicapped children; homes, houses, or institutions for aged persons which limit their function to providing food, lodging, and provide no medical or nursing care, and house no bedridden person; dispensaries or first-aid stations maintained for the care of employees, students, customers, members of any commercial or industrial plan, educational institution, or convent; freestanding hospice facilities which operate a hospice program in accordance with 42 CFR § 418 and freestanding clinics which do not provide diagnosis, treatment, or care for periods exceeding 24 hours. This list of inclusions and exclusions is not exclusive. For additional information see 481—Chapter 51.

Ordinarily, goods, wares, or merchandise (such as building materials, supplies, and equipment; see rule 701—19.3(422,423) for definitions) which is purchased by a hospital and used by a contractor in the fulfillment of a written contract with the hospital cannot be purchased exempt from Iowa tax. The goods, wares, and merchandise used in the fulfillment of these construction contracts are not used in the "operation" of a hospital but in activities at least one step removed from that operation. See *Polich v. Anderson-Robinson Coal Co.,* 227 Iowa 553, 288 N.W. 650 (1939).

However, for a limited period, the gross receipts from all sales of goods, wares, or merchandise or from services rendered, furnished, or performed are exempt from tax (or a claim for refund may be filed for tax paid) if the tangible personal property or the taxable service is used in the fulfillment of a written construction contract with a hospital and all of the following circumstances exist:

1. Deliveries under contracts of sale of the goods, wares, or merchandise occurred or the taxable services were rendered, furnished, or performed between July 1, 1998, and December 31, 2001, inclusive. A claim for refund may be filed for any tax paid for this period, so long as the claim is filed prior to April 1, 2002, and the requirements of "2" and "3" below are also met. Claims for refunds of tax, interest, or penalty paid for the period of July 1, 1998, to December 31, 2001, are limited to $25,000 in the aggregate. If the amount of the claimed refunds for this period totals more than $25,000, the department must prorate the $25,000 among all claimants in relation to the amounts of the claimants' valid claims.

2. The written construction contract was entered into prior to December 31, 1999, or bonds to fund the construction were issued prior to December 31, 1999.

3. The property or services were purchased directly by the hospital or by a contractor as an agent of the hospital. For the purposes of this exemption, no hospital can retroactively designate a contractor to be its agent and by this means transform a contractor's purchases of goods, wares, merchandise, or services into its own. Upon the department's request, a hospital claiming that a contractor is or has been its purchasing agent must present suitable evidence of a principal-agent relationship between itself and the contractor during any period for which exempt sales or a refund is claimed. The best evidence of a principal and purchasing agent relationship is a written document setting out the terms of the relationship and the period for which the agency is in effect; however, other evidence, which is the equivalent of a written document in reliability, will be considered by the department when necessary.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code Supplement section 422.45 as amended by 2000 Iowa Acts, chapter 1207.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.60(422,423) Exempt sales of gases used in the manufacturing process. Effective May 24, 1999, but retroactive to January 1, 1991, sales of argon and other similar gases to be used in the manufacturing process are exempt from tax. For the purposes of this rule, only inert gases are gases which are similar to argon. An "inert gas" is any gas which is normally chemically inactive. It will not support combustion and cannot be used as either a fuel or as an oxidizer. Argon, nitrogen, carbon dioxide, helium, neon, krypton, and xenon are nonexclusive examples of inert gases. Oxygen, hydrogen, and methane are nonexclusive examples of gases which are not inert. These sales are exempt only if the gas is purchased by a "manufacturer," for used in "processing," as those terms are defined in subrule 18.45(1), for the period prior to July 1, 1997, and as those terms are defined in subrule 18.58(1) for the period beginning July 1, 1997.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 422.45 as amended by 1999 Iowa Acts, chapter 170.
[Editorial change: IAC Supplement 11/2/22]

701—285.61(422,423) Exclusion from tax for property delivered by certain media. For the period beginning March 15, 1995, a taxable "sale" of tangible personal property does not occur if the substance of the transaction is delivered to the purchaser digitally, electronically, or by utilizing cable, radio waves, microwaves, satellites, or fiber optics. This exclusion from tax is not applicable to any leasing of tangible personal property, a lease not being a "sale" of tangible personal property for the purposes of Iowa sales and use tax law, *Cedar Valley Leasing, Inc. v. Iowa Department of Revenue,* 274 N.W.2d 357 (Iowa 1979). The exclusion is also not applicable to property delivered by any medium other than those listed above. Sales of items such as artwork, drawings, photographs, music, electronic greeting cards, "canned" software (see subrule 18.34(1)), entertainment properties (e.g., films, concerts, books, and television and radio programs), and all other digitized products delivered as described above are not taxable, except the exclusion does not repeal by implication the tax on the service of providing pay television. See rule 701—26.56(422). If an order for a product is placed by way of any of the media described above but the product ordered is delivered by conventional, physical means, e.g., the U.S. Postal Service or common carrier, sale of the product is not excluded from tax under this rule.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code Supplement section 422.43 as amended by 2002 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2321.
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◊ Two or more ARCs

1 Effective date of 18.20(5) and 18.20(6) delayed 70 days by the Administrative Rules Review Committee at its meeting held February 10, 1997.

2 Amendments to 18.29(7) and 18.58, introductory paragraph, (ARC 2349C, Items 2 and 3) rescinded by 2016 Iowa Acts, House File 2433, section 6, on 3/21/16. Amendments removed and prior language restored IAC Supplement 4/27/16.

3 The definition of "computer" in subparagraph 18.34(1)"b"(1), subrule 18.45(1), and subrule 18.58(1) rescinded by 2020 Iowa Acts, House File 2641, section 97, effective July 1, 2020.

4 November 11, 2020, effective date of 18.32 (ARC 5201C) delayed until the adjournment of the 2021 session of the General Assembly by the Administrative Rules Review Committee at its meeting held November 10, 2020.