



ARMY ACQUISITION REFORM



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CECOM Moving Toward Paperless Contracting

The U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command's (CECOM's) Acquisition Center successfully utilized its ***Acquisition Center Business Opportunity Page (ACOP)*** to facilitate the negotiation process for the Thermal Omnibus Source Selection. Items for Negotiation (IFNs) were securely disseminated electronically via the WWW to each offeror. The IFNs are encrypted so that only each offeror can view their own respective IFNs. This was the first acquisition to utilize this new feature of the ACBOP. Offeror responses will also be returned to the Government via this secure electronic transmission link. The Thermal Omnibus acquisition is a competitive Best Value Source Selection with an estimated award value of \$350 million. This is another step forward in CECOM's migration to paperless contracting.

Internet Aids Streamlining at Fort Campbell

The Fort Campbell, KY Directorate of Contracting (DOC) recently experienced success in streamlining by posting solicitation information on the Internet. The government realizes savings in printing and postage costs besides decreased man-hours to provide bid packages. Total savings will increase when all acquisition packages are posted on the Internet. Reaction from the local business community has also been overwhelmingly positive as most small businesses find the 24 hour/7 day a week access a tremendous convenience. The DOC's Home Page can be accessed at www.campbell-doc.army.mil. The following topics are posted: solicitations (full text solicitations, including drawings and attachments). Data can be downloaded and printed at user's convenience); listing of plan holders for construction projects; amendments (posted in full text); bid results (public opening posted); list of active contractors (requested by suppliers, job applicants, civic organizations and contractors); staff directory (staff members, by position, phone number and e-mail address); and links to other Web sites (DOD sites, wage rates, General Services Administration site and Commerce Business Daily site).

USAMRAA Automated Solicitation Posting

The USA Medical Research Acquisition Activity (USAMRAA) has implemented a fully automated process for posting solicitation information to its home page. Information on upcoming actions is posted at the earliest possible date leading to shorter award times. The program checks the Standard Army Automated Contracting System (SAACONS) for solicitations to be released within a 15 day timeframe. Descriptive information is then pulled from the Commerce Business Daily announcement and posted to the homepage each morning. Prior to development of the automated process, the USAMRAA Webmaster daily spent hours gathering information and posting it on the web.