

Army Acquisition Reform Newsletter



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Questions? Contact Monti Jagers, (703) 681-7571, jagersm@sarda.army.mil

SPS Provides Seamless Acquisition and Logistics Environment at Natick

The Natick Contracting Division (NCD), U.S. Army Materiel Command Acquisition Center (AMCAC), uses the Standard Procurement System (SPS) for the entire acquisition process, from input of the requirement through distribution of contractual documents. Using this one coordinated system to combine several acquisition functions standardizes the process and ensures a seamless acquisition environment.

SPS interfaces with the Corps of Engineers Financial Management System (CEFMS) and the Procurement Tracking System, which feeds information to Finance and Accounting, the warehouse and other logistics systems throughout the Natick Soldier Systems Center.

Resource Management (RM) funds the electronic purchase requests after all requirements have been input to the system. Once funded, the purchase request is sent through the CEFMS interface directly to the SPS acquisition system. This eliminates the need for contracting personnel to enter any fund cites and assures that the fund sites are correctly input exactly as RM requires. Distribution of the resulting contractual document is made via e-mail as an attachment.

Electronic distribution is faster, much less expensive, and much more flexible than the old paper system. Subcontractors, suppliers, and all parties are able to get the contract instantly and without the cost associated with document reproduction, postage, and administration required for paper distribution. This process also enables the Contracting Officer to attach other documents to the contract, such as Task Orders and Statements of Work.

Developing and implementing a seamless automated database provides a better understanding of the total acquisition and logistics process and brings the acquisition and other logistics teams together working toward a common goal. As a result, the Command has benefited by having a cost effective, timely and accurate means of processing requirements from Purchase Request through Contract Award with instantaneous electronic distribution to the customer.

POC: James Capuzziello, Procurement Analyst, DSN 256-5916