

Army Acquisition Reform Newsletter



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

Standard Procurement System Adds Value at U S Army Space Command

U.S. Army Space Command (ARSPACE), Colorado Springs, uses the Standard Procurement System/Procurement Desktop Defense (SPS/PD2) for the entire acquisition process, from input of the requirement through distribution of contractual documents. Using this one system for many acquisition functions standardizes the process within ARSPACE, ensuring a seamless acquisition environment, and has had the added benefit of bringing several functional areas together in their everyday work.

Each functional area within ARSPACE is now using the requirements portion of SPS/PD2, Acquiline, to input purchase requirements. They have completed training, and each have varying levels of system authorization to accomplish their functional requirements. This alleviates the need for any written forms, as well as any translation issues inherent in having another office complete purchase request forms.

Resource Management (RM) funds the electronic purchase requests after all requirements are input. RM funds the request and inputs the accounting citation in SPS/PD2. We have found that this reduces errors in the accounting cycle. Previously, RM would fund requirements on a hard copy purchase request, transmit to Contracting, then Contracting personnel would manually put the cite into SPS/PD2. This resulted in errors, due to the unfamiliarity of varying funding cites to Contracting personnel.

Once funded, the purchase request is sent to Contracting for acquisition. Distribution of the resulting contractual document is made via e-mail as an attachment in Word form. Electronic distribution speeds up the distribution by several days, is much less expensive, and allows the contractor to further distribute the document in a timely manner to all involved. Subcontractors, suppliers, and all parties are able to get the contract instantly, without the cost involved for postage and administrative personnel to make the distribution. This distribution enables Contracting to attach other documents with the contract, such as Task Orders and Statements of Work.

ARSPACE Contracting has found use of SPS/PD2 on a Command basis gives each functional area a better understanding of what the other does, and brings them together working for a common goal. As a result, the Command has benefited by saving money, time, and having a more accurate contract with instantaneous distribution to the customer.

POC: Mary Sullivan, (719) 554-8879, mary.sullivan@arspace.army.mil