

## **Public-Private Competition Helps the Corps of Engineers Improve the Efficiency of Information Technology Support Activities**

This quarter, the Corps of Engineers completed a command-wide competition for information management and IT functions, including automation, communications, information assurance, records management, and visual information services.

- Planning was conducted at the national level covering the entire organization to identify and secure economies and efficiencies command-wide.
- The Corps selected the in-house source as the best service provider and expects to achieve significant savings through the implementation of the agency's most efficient organization, which will involve the consolidation of activities, currently performed at more than 50 locations, and the significant restructuring of contract support.

### EPA moves to green status

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed a long-range green plan for the strategic use of competitive sourcing. The green plan is intended to help the agency determine where and how competition can be best applied. In FY 2005, EPA completed competitions that will save a projected \$3.5 million over five years. The agency has achieved green status for meeting the competitive sourcing standards for success on the PMA scorecard.

### Using competition to bring cost control and other improvements to the daily tasks of government

A snapshot of competitions announced or completed during the third quarter illustrates the wide range of commercial activities that agencies are identifying through their competitive sourcing infrastructures for improved performance through the use of public-private competition, including:

- education and training, compensation technician support, and pharmacy services at Health and Human Services;
- support for management and operations of several buildings and management of tax return files at the Internal Revenue Service;
- legal support services at the Department of Labor; and
- facilities support for Immigration and Customs Enforcement and for the Agency for International Development.

IRS reports that contractors who received work through prior public-private competitions have provided important assistance to support the continuity of operations and business resumption following the flooding that resulted in extensive damage and closure of the IRS headquarters building in Washington DC. One contractor has been providing timely and quality support in recovery and reconstruction efforts while another has helped to reengineer the mail delivery system to ensure continued internal mail delivery to relocated IRS employees.