

March 26, 2004

PROCUREMENT MEMORANDUM 2004-03

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR Heads of Contracting Offices

FROM: Michael S. Sade /signed/
Director for Acquisition Management and
Procurement Executive

SUBJECT: Business Partner Network (BPN)/Centralized Contractor
Registration (CCR) and Federal Procurement Data System
Next Generation (FPDS-NG)

In October 2003, two significant changes were made to the FAR:

1. FPDS-NG became the government-wide, mandatory reporting procurement system.
2. Contractors are required to register in the BPN/CCR prior to award of any contract, basic agreement, basic ordering agreement, or blanket purchase agreement.

The Department of Commerce is using CSTARTS as the enterprise-wide acquisition system. CSTARTS has been enhanced to allow users to access FPDS-NG directly and to utilize the BPN/CCR vendors to match those vendors within CSTARTS. **Effective April 1, 2004**, all bureaus should use CSTARTS to access FPDS-NG and to match CSTARTS vendors to BPN vendors. Additional guidance will be forthcoming in the future. Non-compliance with this policy needs to be directed to my office by April 16, 2004.

Please contact Yancey Stern (202) 482-5781 for FPDS-NG and Crystal Davis (202) 482-4825 for BPN to provide you with further information.