

the world of federal logistics

by Barry Nelson

GSA's LOGWORLD Procurement vehicle provides comprehensive logistics services with a wide range of innovative logistics solutions. It's 'One-Stop' shopping to meet your logistics requirements, and makes for a pleasant and enjoyable experience. GSA provides a simplified procurement tool that allows you to issue a task order in weeks as opposed to months or years at fair and reasonable prices.

We have evaluated and awarded contracts to the top tier logistics services providers. Your research and evaluation of logistics providers has been completed for you thus allowing you to more efficiently and effectively issue task orders Stress Free.

If you have a requirement to transport equipment, manage a warehouse/depot, consultation to improve the efficiency of your logistics infrastructure, or any other logistics related requirement, LOGWORLD has the solution.

GSA's Federal Supply Service takes great pride in helping Federal Agencies fulfill their requirements efficiently while saving taxpayer dollars.

Find out how easy it is to place a task order against GSA's Logistics Schedule by visiting *GSA Advantage!*[®]/e-Library. You will have over 200 of the most respected contractors in the industry at your fingertips with just a click of your mouse. You can also submit RFQs/RFPs/RFIs on GSA e-Buy electronically.

For more information, please visit www.gsa.gov/logworld or contact your GSA representative:

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clinical care

va schedules program supports
health care acquisitions
community

by Ron Comtois, Department of Veterans Affairs



Delegated to the Department of Veterans Affairs by the General Services Administration over 30 years ago, the VA's Federal Supply Schedule Service is responsible for establishing, soliciting, awarding, and administering the VA's Federal Supply Schedule Program. In addition to four newly developed Schedules, the service manages nine active schedules encompassing such products as pharmaceuticals; medical equipment and supplies; dental supplies; X-ray equipment and supplies (including medical and dental X-ray film); patient mobility devices (including wheelchairs, scooters, walkers, etc.); antiseptic skin cleansers, detergents and soaps; in-vitro diagnostics, reagents, test kits and sets; and cost-per-test clinical and laboratory analyzers and medical laboratory testing and analysis.



Expanding Horizons

In response to the growing need for affordable and flexible medical services among agencies such as the Veterans Healthcare Administration (VHA), DoD, Indian Health Services, and the Federal Prisons Bureau, the National Acquisition Center of the Department of Veterans Affairs, located in Hines, Illinois, is currently broadening the offering for clinical services and professional medical health care. The establishment of Federal Supply Schedule 621 I, Professional Medical Healthcare Services, has paved the way for these new contracting initiatives.

Medical Laboratory Testing and Analysis - Services Schedule 621 II

A newly developed program known as “reference labs.” This program is listed in GSA e-Library, and will soon have a published open solicitation available for customers to utilize vendors offering these services.

Home Infusion Therapy Services - Schedule 621 III

Home infusion therapy involves the administration of medications using intravenous, subcutaneous, and epidural routes (into the bloodstream, under the skin, and into the membranes surrounding the spinal cord). New service contract awards are planned for November 2004.

Forthcoming solicitations include Drug Returns/Reverse Distribution (Schedule 621 IV) and Tele-Radiology (Schedule 621 V).

Drug Returns/Reverse Distribution

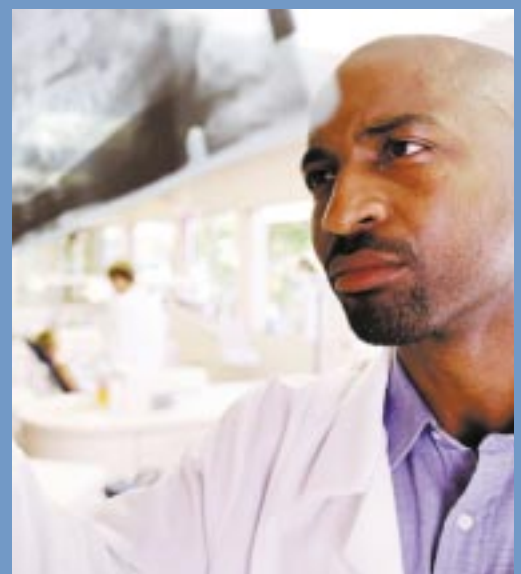
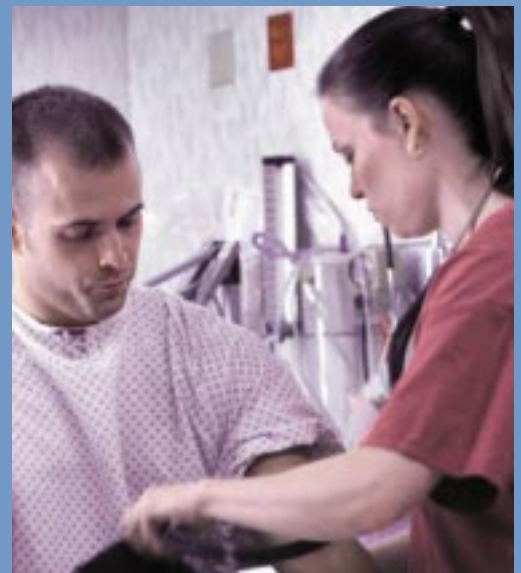
The purpose of Pharmaceutical Drug Returns/Reverse Distribution is to alleviate pharmacies from the often laborious regulatory compliance requirements associated with the handling and processing of expired pharmaceutical items while recouping a portion of previously expended dollars. The advantage of having these services procured by the National Acquisition Center is the expertise and experience the staff has with healthcare vendors and industry.

Tele-radiology

Tele-radiology, covered under Schedule 621 IV, is a natural expansion for the VA National Acquisition Center’s offerings. The Department of Veterans Affairs, as well as other government agencies, are required to perform interpretation of radiology studies. There are numerous private industry suppliers who are either currently providing these services or could potentially provide them to government agencies. This type of service offered on Schedule allows Federal X-ray laboratory directors a choice of vendors as well as the flexibility to take advantage of each provider’s strengths, using a vehicle where prices have already been determined to be fair and reasonable.

There are a total of over 1,400 contracts in place for the various commodity groups managed under the VA’s Federal Supply Schedule Service. Annual sales against these contracts exceed \$6 billion. All Federal Supply Schedule contracts are multiple award, indefinite delivery-indefinite quantity type, and are national in scope, with performance periods established up to five years in length. These contracts are available for use by all government agencies including but not limited to VA Medical Centers, Department of Defense, Bureau of Prisons, Indian Health Services, Public Health Services, and some State Veterans Homes.

For more information on the VA Supply Schedules, please visit The National Acquisition Website at: <http://www.appc1.va.gov/oamm/nac/fsss/index.htm>, or contact us at (708) 786-5180.



gsa multiple award schedule contracts... making it easy to stay in compliance

by Todd Posey

There are plenty of good reasons why Federal agencies choose to use the GSA Multiple Award Schedules (MAS) program. Flexibility, choice, and best value are just a few. Most of all, however, the MAS program is built around requirements of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) to help you ensure your procurement complies with Federal laws and regulations.

The MAS program provides you the contract vehicle to purchase a vast array of products and services directly from commercial vendors while leveraging the buying power of the Federal government. Procurement professionals from agencies around the world use the MAS program to help them accomplish their mission. Here are a few reasons why they choose the MAS program.

1. When you use Multiple Award Schedules, you comply with Federal regulations.

When orders are placed against a GSA Multiple Award Schedule (MAS) contract, using the procedures under Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 8.4, they are considered to be issued using full and open competition (see FAR 6.102(d)(3)). Ordering offices need not seek further competition, synopsise the requirement, make a separate determination of fair and reasonable pricing, or consider small business programs. By placing an order against a GSA Schedule contract using the procedures in this section, the ordering office has concluded that the order represents the best value and results in the lowest overall cost alternative (considering price, special features, administrative costs, etc.) to meet the government's needs.

MAS users are asked to pay special attention to the ordering procedures for services requiring a statement of work and how they differ from the ordering procedures for products and services that do

not require a statement of work (see FAR 8.404(b)). Both sets of procedures are designed to simplify the acquisition process.

- **For orders of services and/or products up to the micro-purchase threshold:** Place the order with any Schedule contractor.
- **For orders above the micro-purchase threshold but below the maximum order threshold:** *Services Requiring a Statement of Work:* Prepare a request for quotes that includes the statement of work; transmit the request to at least three Schedule contractors; evaluate responses; and make a best value selection.

Products and Services That Do Not Require a Statement of Work: Review the *GSA Advantage!*[®] online shopping service or at least three Schedule contractors' pricelists; evaluate; and make a best value selection.

- **For orders above the maximum order threshold:** *Services Requiring a Statement of Work:* Follow the same procedures for orders above the micro-purchase threshold, **except** transmit the request for quotes to additional Schedule contractors; seek price reductions; evaluate responses; and make a best value selection.

Products and Services That Do Not Require a Statement of Work: Follow the same procedures for orders above the micro-purchase threshold, **except** review additional Schedule contractors' pricelists or use the *GSA Advantage!*[®] online shopping service; seek price reductions; evaluate; and make a best value selection.

Note: For orders of services exceeding \$100,000 using *Department of Defense (DoD) funds*, the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) has been amended in Section 208.404 to implement Section 803 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (Public Law 107-107). DoD offices and non-DoD activities placing orders on behalf of DoD should refer to DFARS 208.404 and 208.404-70 for additional information regarding ordering procedures and documentation requirements.

2. GSA contracts help you meet socioeconomic goals.

In November 1997, agencies for the first time could include orders placed against Federal Supply Schedules in their annual small business goals and accomplishments. Beginning June 2000, agencies also can include orders placed with 8(a) MAS contractors toward their small business program procurement goals as awards made pursuant to the provisions of section 8(a) of the Small Business Act. Contractors' small business status and 8(a) status will be identified in the Schedules e-Library and *GSA Advantage!*[®]

3. GSA Multiple Award Schedules help you get the best price for the government.

GSA's goal is to be the best value supplier of choice.

Multiple Award Schedule (MAS) contracts offer "most favored customer" pricing/discounts. Quantity discounts may also be available. With the elimination of maximum order limitations, and the implementation of *maximum order thresholds*, contractors may now accept "any size" orders. In accordance with Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 8.404(b)(3), the maximum order threshold represents the point where it is advantageous for customers to seek price reductions. In fact, for orders exceeding this threshold, after a customer reviews additional Schedule contractors' pricelists or *GSA Advantage!*[®], the FAR, as well as the Ordering Procedures for Services (Requiring a Statement of Work), instructs the customer to generally seek price reductions from Schedule contractor(s) appearing to provide the best value (considering price and other factors).

For orders for services, GSA has determined that the prices for services contained in the contractor's pricelist applicable to this Schedule are considered fair and reasonable. However, the ordering office using this contract is responsible for considering the level of effort and mix of labor proposed to perform a specific task being ordered to make a determination that the total firm-fixed or ceiling price is fair and reasonable.

Agencies are encouraged and empowered to seek price reductions, not only for orders over the maximum order threshold, but also when circumstances warrant, for orders below this amount in order

to ensure that when using the MAS contract, they receive the best value at the lowest overall cost.

4. You can order Multiple Award Schedule items electronically by using *GSA Advantage!*[®]

The *GSA Advantage!*[®] online shopping and ordering system includes services and products under all of the GSA Multiple Award Schedules. With nearly 3.2 million services and products currently available, electronic ordering through *GSA Advantage!*[®] allows a customer to send an order directly to the Schedule contractor, creating a direct customer-contractor relationship. For services that require a statement of work, simply create the order through your agency's internal system, and then consider GSA's electronic quote system, e-Buy, to fulfill the requirement.

5. GSA Multiple Award Schedule contractors accept governmentwide commercial purchase card for payment.

Acceptance of the governmentwide commercial purchase card is a strongly encouraged payment method. Schedule contractors are required to accept the purchase card for payments equal to or less than the micro-purchase threshold. Schedule contractors are also encouraged to accept the card for dollar amounts above this threshold.

6. GSA provides free training on the use of its contracts.

GSA provides free online and one-to-one training. The FSS Center for Acquisition Excellence is available free of charge 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and provides customers with online training and the latest GSA Schedules information. Several self-paced courses are available to help you learn how to gain access to vendors, reduce the acquisition cycle time, and purchase quality services and products at the best possible prices. Visit the virtual campus at www.gsa.gov/centerforacquisitionexcellence.

One-to-one training is also available upon request and at specified times and locations throughout the world. Call (800) 488-3111 or e-mail MASHelpdesk@gsa.gov for training inquiries or for any other questions about GSA contracts.

7. GSA is unmatched in the number of contractors and items it makes available to Federal customers.

Through partnerships with over 11,000 leading commercial suppliers in the GSA Federal Supply Schedule Program, GSA provides customers with:

- Access to more than 4 million services and products and direct buying relationships with many commercial partners;
- A vast array of commercial brand name products from Information Technology (IT) hardware, office supplies, and copier paper, to systems furniture and laboratory equipment;
- An extensive range of services, including management, financial, engineering, environmental, accounting, graphic design, landscaping, and much more; and
- More than 3.2 million of these products and services can be ordered using the **GSAAdvantage!**[®] online ordering system.

8. GSA's e-Tools help you get the job done easier, without mountains of paperwork.

GSA offers several cutting-edge e-Tools to help you get the job done.

GSAAdvantage![®] is the online shopping and ordering system that provides access to thousands of contractors and millions of services and products. By using **GSAAdvantage!**[®], a customer can search for items using keywords, part numbers, National Stock Numbers, supplier names, contract numbers, etc.; compare features, prices, and delivery options; configure products and add accessories; place orders directly online; review delivery options; select a convenient payment method; and view order history to track status, reorder, or cancel. Visit **GSAAdvantage!**[®] at www.gsadvantage.gov.

e-Buy, a component of **GSAAdvantage!**[®], is an online Request for Quote (RFQ) tool designed to facilitate the request for submission of quotes for a wide range of commercial services and products that are offered by GSA Federal Supply Schedule contractors who are on **GSAAdvantage!**[®]. For Federal agencies (buyers), e-Buy maximizes their buying power by leveraging the power of the Internet to increase Schedule contractor participation to obtain quotes that result in best value purchase decisions. For Schedule contractors (sellers), e-Buy provides greater opportunities to offer quotes and increase business volume for services and products provided under their Schedule contracts. Learn more about e-Buy at www.gsa.gov/e-buy.

Schedules e-Library is the online source for GSA and VA Federal Supply Schedule contract award information. Schedules e-Library provides information on which suppliers have a contract, and what is available by using various search options, such as schedule contractor's name, contract number, Special Item Number (SIN), Schedule Number, or keyword. Other features include: Access to information on millions of services and products; the latest

information on Schedule program changes; direct link to the **GSAAdvantage!**[®]; new and improved look for easier browsing and navigation; ability to download Schedule information by Schedule or SIN; and a one-stop source for GSA contractor websites and email addresses. Check out e-Library at www.gsa.gov/elibrary.

9. Multiple Award Schedule contracts offer a more streamlined approach than to procure on the open market.

Purchasing from MAS contracts offers the following advantages over procuring on the open market:

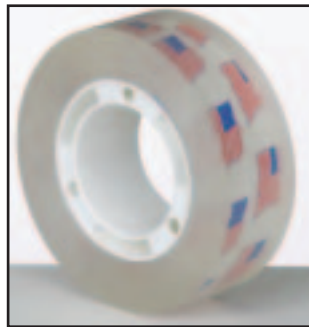
- GSA has determined prices under MAS contracts to be fair and reasonable.
- Synopses are not required for MAS purchases.
- MAS contracts have been awarded in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.
- Administrative time is reduced.
- MAS contracts offer a wide selection of state-of-the-art commercial services and products.

10. GSA contracts make sense.

GSA contracts provide customers with millions of state-of-the-art, high-quality commercial services and products at volume discount pricing on a direct-delivery basis. All customers, even those in remote locations, are provided with the latest technology, quality services and products, convenience, and most-favored customer pricing. GSA Schedules also offer the potential benefits of shorter lead-times, lower administrative costs, and reduced inventories. GSA Schedules also offer significant opportunities for agencies to meet small business goals, while promoting compliance with various environmental and socioeconomic laws and regulations.

Visit www.gsa.gov/schedules to learn more about GSA Multiple Award Schedules. Online training is available at <http://www.gsa.gov/centerforacquisitionexcellence>. GSA has several acquisition e-Tools you can access to help place your order through MAS, just log on to www.gsadvantage.gov. Additionally, GSA will come to you to provide free training on a variety of topics related to GSA product and service offerings. Call (800) 488-3111 or e-mail MASHelpdesk@gsa.gov for training inquiries or for any other questions about GSA contracts.

SKILCRAFT® IS THE PREFERRED SOLUTION FOR GOVERNMENT CUSTOMERS!



Tape Dispenser with Patriotic Tape

Refillable, plastic hand-held tape dispenser includes glossy finish tape. Images of our flag appear on the core of each roll and are clearly visible through the crystal clear tape.

NSN	Description	Color/Type	U/I
7520-01-516-7576	12 Dispensers per Pack	Glossy	EA
7520-00-NIB-1579	Refill, 36 yd, 24 per Box	Glossy	EA
7520-01-516-7575	Without Flag Image on Core, 12 Dispensers per Pack	Matte	EA

4-Piece Stamp Kits

Office tile stamps are pre-inked and re-inkable. They need no stamp pad. Stamps produce clear, legible messages for up to 50,000 impressions. In clear Lucite storage containers that snap together for convenient stacking and storage.



NSN	Description	U/I
7520-01-453-1964	"EMAILED/DATE/BY", "FAXED/DATE/BY", "FILE" and "ORIGINAL" Stamps	KT
7520-01-453-1965	"CONFIDENTIAL", "DUPLICATE", "FILE COPY" and "ORIGINAL" Stamps	KT
7520-01-453-1968	"CREDIT", "PAID", "PAST DUE" and "VOID" Stamps	KT
7520-01-453-1969	"DO NOT BEND", "FIRST CLASS", "FRAGILE" and "SPECIAL DELIVERY" Stamps	KT
7520-01-484-0014	"SECRET", "TOP SECRET", "CLASSIFIED" and "CONFIDENTIAL" Stamps	KT

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