

# GSA/DoD Partnership Update

April 2007

***A**s many of you know, in December 2006 the Department of Defense and the General Services Administration signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) regarding better defining the operational relationship between the two agencies. The MOA included a list of deliverables the two agencies would work to implement in a timely fashion.*

This communiqué represents the 3rd edition of our monthly newsletter to you to keep you apprised of these developments.

*Since January, the following has occurred:*

- **DoD and GSA** have agreed to meet every month to update and coordinate implementation status of the 24 action items pursuant to the MOA. Met on 1/12, 1/26, 2/9, 2/23, 3/23. Details on individual Action Items may be found in the weekly status update.
- **POLICY GUIDANCE**
  - GSA conducted review of the existing policy guidance related to the final DoD IG findings. Revision of GSAM, Acquisition Letters, and Acquisition Alerts in progress.
  - GSA and DoD have been collaborating on all policy memoranda, training, and related guidance as related to Interagency Acquisitions (IAs).
  - DoD issued “Advance Payments to Non-DoD Federal Agencies for Interagency Acquisitions” memorandum to stop the practice of advancing funds to non-DoD entities unless specifically authorized.
  - Pursuant to the GSA Administrator’s memorandum, Federal Acquisition Services (FAS) and Public Buildings Service (PBS) Commissioners issued internal guidance on implementing DoD policy promulgated by DoD Comptroller’s October 16, 2006 memorandum.
  - GSA released a Draft “Assisted Acquisitions: Periodic Review Requirements and FY 2007 Cut-Off Dates” memorandum to assist and ensure its contracting activities comply with fiscal law and DoD policy.
- **TRAINING**
  - GSA employees have been notified of a video message from CAO. Further video announcements and training to follow via GSA’s Center for Acquisition Excellence.
  - Existing training being revised and new classroom training contract awarded. The new and revised courses will cover fiscal law, proper acquisition planning, performance-based acquisition, and contract administration for assisted acquisition.
- **COMPLIANCE REVIEW**
  - GSA Procurement Management Review (PMR) team is continually conducting contract file review for all GSA regions.
  - on the issues highlighted in DoD IG reports, PMR Items of Interest listing has been collaboratively developed by GSA and DoD. PMR review list being revised to incorporate the new review items.

- **PROMOTING COMPETITION AND BEST VALUE**

- GSA FAS developed strategy to conduct comprehensive review of targeted GSA schedules to ensure competitive market pricing has been established.
- GSA Procurement Management Review (PMR) specifically addresses sole-source contracts and DoD's competition requirements including Section 803.
- GSA's FY 2007 Customer Compliance Survey is being expanded by including the usage of all GSA contract vehicles and the compliance of DoD competition requirements.

- **INTERAGENCY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITY**

- GSA and DoD have been actively participating and supporting the OFPP effort to issue Government-wide guidance on roles and responsibilities in interagency contracting.
- GSA has developed and provided the OFPP and DoD draft standard Interagency Agreement which addresses the weaknesses identified in the DoD IG reports.
- GSA Acquisition Planning Wizard e-tool (APW) is being expanded to enhance acquisition planning in interagency contracting. In conjunction with Defense Acquisition University (DAU), test pilot deployment is being conducted to provide DoD access to the APW.

- **DATA REPORTING**

- GSA has been continually collaborating with DoD Comptroller to finalize report format for standardized quarterly data reporting and to reinforce proper management of DoD funds. Q1 FY 2007 data has been provided to DoD.