

“Strategic Sourcing”

October 25, 2005

Speaker Bios

Timothy Gavagan

Tim Gavagan has over 20 years of experience with the United States Postal Service in Purchasing and Supply Management. He has served in a number of different capacities including Operations, Management Systems Auditing, Quality Assurance, Supplier Development and Supply Chain Management Strategies. He has been a member of The Strategies Group since its inception in 2002 and has been a part of the growth and success of the many strategic programs that guide the Postal Service on the road to Supply Chain Management excellence. He works at Postal Service Headquarters at L'Enfant Plaza here in Washington DC.

Linda Neilson

Mrs. Neilson initially joined the Office of the Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy staff in 1989. She was responsible for policy in such areas as workforce training & career development; small business utilization and the Government-wide Purchase Card; major systems acquisition; research & development; rights in technical data; government property; quality assurance; insurance; and acquisition legislative initiatives. Mrs. Neilson also served as the Deputy Director of the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council.

From November 2001 through July 2005 she was with the Defense Acquisition University where she led curriculum development for the Contracting career field. As DAU Chief Learning Officer, in 2003, she integrated the scheduling of DAU learning resources to more effectively provide training, performance support, continuous learning and knowledge sharing products, as well as curriculum development. In 2004, as the Executive Director of Acquisition Workforce and Career Management, she was responsible for managing strategic workforce planning and the career development program for the 134,000-person DoD Acquisition Workforce, was an advisory member of the Federal Acquisition Institute Board of Directors, and co-led an initiative to revise DoD's career development training program to implement recent changes to the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA).

Mrs. Neilson is back on the Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy staff, and is responsible for policy areas that include contracting for services, performance-based services, and strategic sourcing. She began her career as a contracting trainee at the Department of Energy, and has held a variety of contracting positions with the Army, Navy, and Defense Logistics Agency.