

Business Opportunities at DHS



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From the Chairman

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Committee on Homeland Security, I am pleased to present the July 2008 edition of our e-publication, "Business Opportunities at DHS". In this edition of the newsletter, you will find information on future opportunities with the Department, a listing of upcoming events, information on the statutorily mandated role of the Department's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU), and clarification about the recent procurement for PACTS, and proposed rule changes affecting business opportunities.

I want to take this opportunity to thank those readers who have called, emailed and written to express their thoughts, views and concerns. An open line of communication is one of the fundamental tenets of true democracy. Please continue to send in your views on working with the Department. Additionally, feel free to provide your suggestions on how to improve this publication. Do not hesitate to contact us at DHSBizOps@mail.house.gov if we can be of assistance to you.

Keep the Faith,

"Securing our homeland is one of the nation's most critical needs. Artificial barriers that prevent those with good ideas from contributing to this important endeavor can no longer be permitted to remain unchecked. The kind of bureaucratic inertia that leads to limited opportunities for many must be replaced by a new spirit of service and inclusion. I am committed to ensuring expanded participation in this critical endeavor."

—Chairman Bennie G. Thompson



UPCOMING EVENTS WITH DHS

[Regional Vendor Outreach Session \(VOS\)](#)

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Atlanta, GA

Technology Square Research Building, 1st
Floor Georgia Institute of Technology
85 5th Street

ProBiz 2008

August 1, 2008

Hilton Hotel

8727 Colesville Road

Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

For more information about the event visit:

<http://www.probiz.tv>

Are You a Women-Owned Business?

[Women-owned small businesses](#)

("WOSBs") are reported to be the fastest growing segment of this country's business community. Unfortunately, WOSBs have not seen a proportionate increase in the number of federal contracting dollars sent their way. In fact, the federal government has repeatedly failed to meet its own women-owned small business contracting goal (which was set at 5% under Section 7106 of the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act).

HELPFUL LINKS

"How to Do Business with the Department"

[http://www.dhs.gov/xopnbiz/
editorial_0421.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xopnbiz/editorial_0421.shtm)

DHS Organizational Chart

[http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/structure/
editorial_0644.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/structure/editorial_0644.shtm)

OSDBU Contacts

[http://www.dhs.gov/xopnbiz/smallbusiness/
gc_1178570919850.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xopnbiz/smallbusiness/gc_1178570919850.shtm)

Statistics on DHS Small Business
Performance

[http://www.sba.gov/aboutsba/sbaprograms/
goals/index.html](http://www.sba.gov/aboutsba/sbaprograms/goals/index.html)

DHS P.A.C.T.S.

In each issue we encourage you to contact us if you feel your business has been treated unfairly by DHS. A Service Disabled Veteran Owned Business (SDVOB) contacted us about some potentially unfair modifications to the PACTS solicitation. We contacted the Department and received a letter interpreting this confusing solicitation. Here are links to our letter of inquiry and the Department's response letter:

<http://homeland.house.gov/SiteDocuments/letter1.pdf>

<http://homeland.house.gov/SiteDocuments/letter2.pdf>

Like the SDVOB that contacted us about the solicitation, you can contact us if you feel as if you have been treated unfairly in the acquisition process, email us at DHSBizOps@mail.house.gov.

COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR E-VERIFY

On June 9, 2008, the Department of Homeland Security designated E-Verify, operated by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in partnership with the Social Security Administration, as the electronic employment eligibility verification system that all federal contractors must use as required by Executive Order 12989, as amended. E-Verify is a free Internet-based system that allows enrolled employers to confirm the legal status of new hires within seconds.

According to the Department, E-Verify is the system of choice to ensure that the federal government only does business with companies that agree to verify the legality of their new hires and further, that the specific employees tapped to perform contract services in the United States for the federal government are authorized to work in this country. Federal departments and agencies within the executive branch are already enrolling with E-Verify to check the status of all new hires within the federal workforce.

Currently, public comment is being solicited on the proposed changes to these regulations. The deadline to submit comments is August 11, 2008.

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION: In order to submit comments via the Federal eRulemaking portal, please input "FAR Case 2007-013" under the heading "Comment or Submission". Select the link "Send a Comment or Submission" that corresponds with FAR Case 2007-013.

MAIL SUBMISSION: Comments must be submitted to the attention of Laurieann Duarte, General Services Administration, Regulatory Secretariat (VPR), 1800 F Street, NW., Room 4035, ATTN:, Washington, DC 20405. For more information, please visit: [http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/
main?main=DocumentDetail&o=0900006480620ee8](http://www.regulations.gov/fdmspublic/component/main?main=DocumentDetail&o=0900006480620ee8)

DID YOU KNOW...

You can locate advance acquisition planning information at:

<http://www.fido.gov/dhs/aap/publicviewsb.asp>

You can locate current opportunities at: [http://vsearch2.fbo.gov/servlet/
SearchServlet](http://vsearch2.fbo.gov/servlet/SearchServlet)

You can serve as a subcontractor with a prime at DHS:

[http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/opnbiz/OSDBU-
DHS_Prime_Contractors_List.pdf](http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/opnbiz/OSDBU-DHS_Prime_Contractors_List.pdf)

If you believe your company has been treated unfairly by the Department of Homeland Security, please tell us about it:
DHSBizOps@mail.house.gov

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

For more information about these opportunities, please visit: <http://vsearch2.fbo.gov/servlet/SearchServlet>

Solicitation #	DHS Office/ Agency	Project	Point of Contact	Response Date
HSCGG8-08-Q- MLE083	United States Coast Guard	USCG would like to procure a Judgmental Fire Arms Simula- tor	Thomas Rush Thomas.D.Rush@uscg.nil	July 30, 2008
HSCG40-08-Q- 2MG538	United States Coast Guard	USCG would like to procure aircraft component.	William D. Creef William.D.Creef@uscg.mil	July 30, 2008
HSCG85-08-R- 66R979	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs berths and lockers.	Ryan Delacruz Ryan.Delacruz@uscg.mil	July 29, 2008
HSTS07-08-R- 00027	Transportation Security Administration	TSA aircraft cabin training simulators	C. Michelle Carney Charlotte.M.Carney @secur skies.net	August 4, 2008
HSCG85-08-Q- 625874	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs a shaft seal overhaul	Roy L. Gibert Roy.L.Gilbert@uscg.mil	August 9, 2008
HSBP1008-R1618	Customs and Border Patrol	CBP needs a provider of Employee Assistance Services	Thomas Chouinard Thomas.Chouinard@dhs.gov	July 31, 2008
HSCG82-08-Q- 3WC191	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs a supplier for materials and labor for its Grand Isle, Louisiana Station	Ada Hoggard Ada.M.Hoggard@uscg.mil	July 25, 2008
HSFE10-08-B- 00002	Federal Emergency Management Agency	FEMA needs facility support services	Joe Webb Joe.Webb@dhs.gov	August 27, 2008
HSCG27-08-Q- 3HG280	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs elevator repair services at its Portsmouth, Virginia Station	John Lukondi John.M.Lukondi@uscg.mil	July 25, 2008
HSCG38-08-Q- S00064	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs various aircraft parts	Dennis Gaines Dennis.M.Gaines@uscg.mil	July 29, 2008
HSCG38-08-Q- 300029	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs nose landing gear struts	Thomas Mason Thomas.F.Mason@uscg.mil	August 16, 2008
HSCG82-08-B- 3WCA37	United States Coast Guard	Coast Guard needs a new boat shed at its Pensacola, FL station	Lesia K Moyer Lesia.K.Moyer@uscg.mil	July 22, 2008

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DHSBizOps@mail.house.gov

ROLE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S OSDBU

Did you know that every federal agency with contracting authority is required by the Small Business Act to establish an Office of Small Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU)?

The OSDBU is **required** to advocate, assist, and facilitate small business participation in agency prime and subcontracting opportunities. The Department of Homeland Security's OSDBU is responsible for ensuring that small businesses are treated fairly and that they have the opportunity to compete and be selected for a fair amount of DHS' prime and subcontracting opportunities. The OSDBU serves as the focal point for small business acquisition matters and works closely with all DHS components to implement the program. The OSDBU strives to create an environment in which small businesses have a meaningful opportunity to obtain DHS prime and subcontracts. Also, the OSDBU at DHS has small business specialists within the DHS components who are available to provide advice to small business owners about procurement opportunities.

The OSDBU also assists in coordinating monthly vendor outreach sessions. Vendor Outreach Sessions are a series of pre-arranged 15-minute appointments with Small Business Specialists from various components of the Homeland Security procurement offices. These sessions provide the small business community an opportunity to discuss their capabilities and learn of potential procurement opportunities. For more information about OSDBU or other small business assistance visit <http://www.dhs.gov/xopnbiz/smallbusiness>.

Should the Mentor-Protégé Program Be Expanded?

On June 10, 2008 the General Services Administration (GSA) published a proposal to establish a GSA Mentor-Protégé Program in the *Federal Register*. The program "is designed to encourage GSA prime contractors to assist small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses, women-owned small businesses, veteran-owned small businesses, service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses, and HUBZone small businesses in enhancing their capabilities to perform GSA contracts and subcontracts, foster the establishment of long-term business relationships between these small business entities and GSA prime contractors, and increase the overall number of small business entities that receive GSA contract and subcontract awards."

Comments are due on **August 11, 2008**.

- [Proposed rule](#) from the Federal Register
- Advocacy contact: [Major Clark](#) at 202-205-6533
- Submit Comments to GSA [Electronically](#)
- [Regulations.gov](#), the Federal government's one stop site to comment on Federal regulations.

Are You a Minority-Owned Start-Up Firm?

The Minority Business Development Agency funds Business Development Centers around the country to assist with the start-up, expansion and development of minority-owned firms. Minority Business Enterprise Centers (MBECs), Native American Business Enterprise Centers (NABECs), and Business Resource Centers (BRCs) provide individualized management and technical assistance to minority entrepreneurs at every stage of business development. Minority Business Opportunity Committees (MBOCs) coordinate Federal, state and local business resources. They are designed to identify business opportunities and leverage existing programs to increase market access for minority-owned firms. For a center near you, please go to www.mbda.gov.

We're Here to Serve You!

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