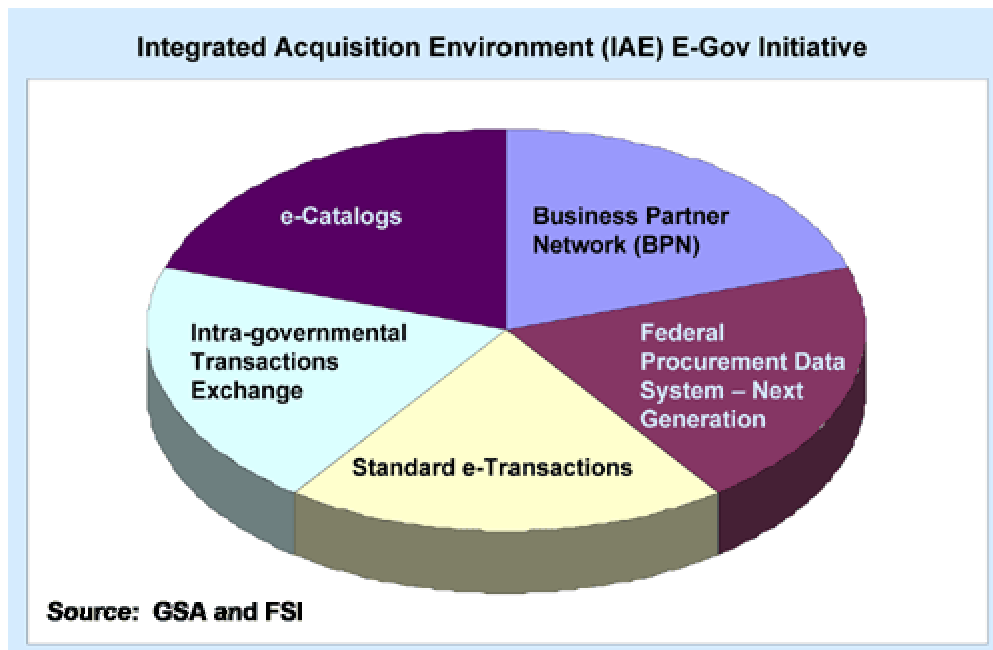# Integrated Acquisition Environment - An E-Gov Initiative

The goal of the Integrated Acquisition Environment (IAE) initiative, one of E-Gov initiatives under OMB's Internal Efficiency and Effectiveness (IEE) portfolio, is to provide a common, secure business environment that facilitates and supports cost-effective acquisition of goods and services in support of mission performance. By addressing all IAE functions as governmentwide shared services, existing acquisition capabilities within agencies could be leveraged to the fullest extent possible.

The IAE initiative is being developed under the management of the General Services Administration (GSA) through a collaboration of five cross-agency teams from 21 agencies. The first five modules selected to develop the initial operating capabilities of an IAE consist of the following:

- **eCatalogs/Interagency Contracts** - Will create an online directory of governmentwide acquisition contracts (GWACs) and multi-agency contracts to simplify selection and facilitate leverage of Government buying. For the first time, there will be a single searchable repository for all interagency contracts. Agencies will submit data into the directory. The eCatalogs directory is targeted for completion by July 2003.
- **Business Partner Network (BPN)**, initially identified as the Integrated Vendor Profile Network (IVPN), will provide a single point of registration, validation, and access for all trading partner data. An outcome of this module will be the integration of BPN and the Small Business Administration (SBA) ProNet registration.
- **Federal Procurement Data System** - Next Generation (FPDS-NG), initially identified as the Federal Acquisition Management Information System (FAMIS), will redesign the existing Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS) and provide for better integration with agency legacy procurement systems. Proposals are currently under review and an award is anticipated in April 2003.
- **Intra-governmental Transactions (IGT)** - Will transform intra-governmental ordering and billing, reduce payment and collection problems, and enable swift and accurate revenue and expense elimination processes for preparing consolidated financial statements. This will revolutionize the processes by which goods and services are ordered between agencies.
- **Standard eTransactions/Interfaces** - Will develop a standard glossary and vocabulary to identify data transactions and data elements for cross-agency information exchange. This is the backbone of IAE.

In addition to the original five modules, an additional module, the IAE Portal and Integration Broker, will deliver the integration capability that will provide a single, common, on-line user interface to the IAE and a set of common interfaces to agency back-office systems.

Since the Federal government is the largest purchaser in the world, improving the efficiency of the acquisition process will substantially reduce costs and make taxpayer dollars available for other programs. To learn more about the IAE initiative, e-mail us at info@fedsources.com or call on 703.610-8700.