

TO: PROSPECTIVE USTRANSCOM VENDORS

FROM: TCAQ

SUBJECT: Increasing Contracting Opportunities with the AbilityOne Program

USTRANSCOM is committed to maximizing opportunities for the employment of persons who are blind or have significant disabilities, to include our nation's war wounded personnel. To accomplish this objective, I encourage USTRANSCOM contractors to consider partnering, when appropriate, with National Industries for the Severely Handicapped (NISH) under the AbilityOne Program.

Established in 1974, NISH is a national, nonprofit agency designated by the U.S. AbilityOne Commission, a federal government agency, to support nonprofit agencies (NPAs) providing employment opportunities, through federal contracts for goods and services, for persons who are blind or have significant disabilities. NISH supports a network of more than 1,300 NPAs by providing the legislative and regulatory assistance, communications and public relations materials, information technology support, engineering and technical assistance, and extensive professional training needed for successful contract management.

I encourage our USTRANSCOM commercial partners to consider utilizing NISH resources as a source of support to complete work performed on or proposed for USTRANSCOM contracts. NISH can assist by identifying opportunities for subcontracting to an AbilityOne contractor that will maximize your opportunities for success. You may contact either Mr. Dan Woods, NISH Contact Center Services/IT Program Manager at 703-584-3974 and e-mail at <u>dwoods@nish.org</u> or Peggy Gritt at 703-731-0584 and e-mail at <u>pgritt@nish.org</u>.

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