



December 15, 2005

The Honorable Robert Burton
Acting Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy
Office of Management and Budget, Room 2735
Eisenhower Executive Office Building
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW.
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Mr. Burton:

The General Services Administration is pleased to respond to your request for information regarding executive agent designation for the government-wide acquisition contract (GWAC) vehicles for the period October 1, 2004 through September 30, 2005. We have enclosed all requested information in accordance with your letter dated July 5, 2005. Our GWAC vehicles had close to \$1 billion in new orders this year, and provide an efficient and effective means of supporting Federal information technology customers. While other agencies continue to access these vehicles through the assisted services offered by GSA, more agencies external to GSA have begun to request delegation of authority to utilize GWACs on a direct order basis. Within GSA's Federal Acquisition Service (FAS), we have three GWAC Centers, which are responsible for entering into and administering GWACs. As the FAS organizational structure is designed, the intent is to establish a GWAC National Program Management Office to provide management and oversight at the national level, while execution will occur on a distributed basis to maximize resources.

I would like to point out several noteworthy FY05 accomplishments involving our GWAC Programs:

- GSA is in the process of briefing GSA and other Government stakeholders on a proposed revision of the Alliant GWAC acquisition strategy. GSA intends to present results to OMB upon completion of the briefings and incorporate feedback as adjustments to the strategy;

- GSA has focused on ensuring our customers are properly using our GWACs and that vendors are fulfilling their responsibilities. Industry partners were briefed on the proper use of GWACs, GWAC Online Training, Delegation of Authority process, marketing efforts and future training modules designed to educate customers;
- ANSWER and Millennia contractors exceeded their small business subcontracting goals respectively, which resulted in 50.9% (ANSWER) and 48.8% (Millennia) subcontracting dollars going to the small business community;
- In FY05, the overall average customer satisfaction score for all ANSWER Industry Partners was **4.38** out of a possible **5.0**, a very high score;
- GSA launched 8(a) STARS, in June 2004 with over 400 new Industry Partners. This vehicle is a replacement for the 8(a) FAST GWAC. As the customer satisfaction score for all GSA GWAC vehicles rose a significant 4.1 points, the survey contractor (CFI Group) recommended 8(a) STARS as a “best practices” model for future GWAC vehicles.
- The Small Business GWAC Center held three 8(a) STARS Industry days in fiscal year 2005. These events included training on proper contract utilization, marketing to the federal customer, and question and answer sessions. The training helped the 8(a) contract holders build a diversified customer base comprised of defense and an increasing number of civilian activities. Each ordering official receives specialized training on utilization of the GWAC, which results in a delegation of ordering authority. A growing number of orders (over half) are issued directly by customer agencies. In its first 15 months, 8(a) STARS is on the road to success.
- GSA completed its interim Award Term review for the Millennia Lite contractors. Contractors received an average past performance rating of **47.1** on a **50** point scale;
- Seventy-one percent of the Millennia Lite contractors are meeting or exceeding their subcontracting goal to small business.

As requested, attached is the latest contract activity report for each of the GWACs (Attachment 1). The contracts for Access Certificate for E-Services (ACES) expired on October 31, 2005, and the contracts for Smart Card are due to expire on May 17, 2006. GSA is in the process of establishing acquisition vehicles that agencies across government may access to acquire products and services that meet the authentication and HSPD-12 standards.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact me or Robin Bourne, on (703) 306-6312.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deidre", written in a cursive style.

Deidre A. Lee
Assistant Commissioner

Attachments

1. Contract Activity Reports
2. Financial Results