

OCT 27, 1997

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

Subj: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) BLANKET PURCHASE AGREEMENTS
(BPAs) WITH GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (GSA) MULTIPLE
AWARD SCHEDULE (MAS) CONTRACTORS

Encl: (1) Navy Acquisition Procedures Supplement (NAPS) Change #97-3

Recent regulatory changes have led to increased use of BPAs with GSA MAS contractors for IT. One benefit of these changes for the Department of the Navy (DoN) is that we can obtain significant cost savings by contracting with companies on a DoN-wide basis. While BPAs do not obligate the government to order anything, contractors often rely on expected purchasing volume to offer better prices. However, if multiple activities issue individual BPAs for similar products, this volume purchasing power is reduced for everyone, and the duplication of effort results in the unnecessary consumption of scarce DoN resources.

Accordingly, IT products and services should be acquired through BPAs and contracts which are available under ITEC Direct, the DoN's on-line catalog for IT products and services. This method is efficient and cost-effective, and provides convenient access to IT which is compliant with DoN and Department of Defense (DoD) standards and architectures.

DoN organizations shall not initiate new BPAs for IT products or services with Federal Supply Schedule contractors until they have validated that their requirements cannot be met through use of DoD/DoN BPAs or contracts provided on ITEC Direct. Activities considering the development of a new IT BPA should contact the ITEC Direct Project Manager (e-mail: itec.direct@HQ.NAVY.MIL) to avoid duplication of effort and to address issues of compatibility with ITEC Direct. When practicable, IT BPAs should be included in ITEC Direct for use by other DoN activities.

The enclosed NAPS change is effective immediately, and will be reflected in the NAPS Online.

/s/

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RADM (Sel), SC, USN
Deputy for Acquisition and Business
Management

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The following new Subpart 5208.4 coverage is hereby incorporated into the August 1997 NAPS.

PART 5208

REQUIRED SOURCES OF SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

SUBPART 5208.4—FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULES

5208.404 (DFARS 208.404) Using schedules.

(b) *Ordering procedures for optional use schedules*

(4) **Blanket Purchase Agreements (BPAs)**. (i) BPAs for information technology (IT) products or services shall not be established with FSS contractors unless the activity's requirements cannot be met through the available DoN/DoD BPAs or IDIQ contracts included on "ITEC Direct." Activities can access this on-line catalog by connecting to the Internet and using a web browser to connect to ITEC Direct (<http://www.doncio.navy.mil/initiatives/initiatives.html>).

(ii) Activities considering the development of additional BPAs should coordinate with the ITEC Direct Project Manager (e-mail: itec.direct@HQ.NAVY.MIL) to ensure that duplicative efforts are avoided and to receive assistance/guidance related to the issue of compatibility with and registration on ITEC Direct. Activities shall structure their BPAs for IT to allow for DoN-wide use and inclusion in ITEC Direct, if practicable, and shall comply with DoD and DoN IT standards and architectures.