



DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY
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MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Procurement of Health Information Technology Products and Services

References: (a) OUSD (AT&L) Memo "[Implementation Directive for Better Buying Power 3.0 – Achieving Dominant Capabilities Through Technical Excellence and Innovation](#)", 9 Apr 2015
(b) Acquisition Strategy AS16-00001 – "Defense Health Information Technology (DHITS) Generation 1", 11 December 2015

This policy establishes General Service Administration (GSA) suite of vehicles to include Government-wide Acquisition Contracts (GWACs) and Federal Supply Schedules (FSS) as mandatory vehicles for the acquisition of Military Health System (MHS) Health Information Technology (HIT) for both previously unsolicited and follow-on contracts/task orders, unless waived in accordance with procedures outlined herein.

Reference (a) directs actions to be taken to address new buying practices in the acquisition of Health Information Technology (HIT) services and recommends improvements to acquisition tradecraft. As a result of an analysis performed by a strategic sourcing commodity team, reference (b) outlines a strategic approach to the acquisition of HIT products and services. It standardizes buying practices and leverages the MHS's spending power.

Defense Health Agency's (DHA's) goal is to strategically source at least \$1B of Health Information Technology Division (HITD) spending within the first two years of this strategy. It is the role of the Oversight and Performance Management Team to calculate savings associated with the use of GSA vehicles, and monitor spending and performance metrics. DHA's preference is for use of GSA GWACs where applicable due to favorable contract access rates that are earned as a result of increased volume.

In order to insure attainment of the goal and realize maximum process efficiencies and savings, DHA contracting officers must employ GSA's suite of vehicles to the maximum extent practicable. Use of other than the prescribed GSA vehicles must be thoroughly documented in the Acquisition Strategy and clearly supported by market research. The Component Acquisition Executive's approval of the Acquisition Strategy that includes the utilization of a contract vehicle, other than GSA, shall constitute a waiver of this mandatory source. Once approved, a copy of all applicable waivers will be provided to the Oversight and Performance Management

Committee (OPMC) Branch for compilation and feedback to HITD leadership, GSA and Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy.

The DHA point of contact is Mr. Joseph Mirrow, Chief, OPMC Branch. He can be reached at 937-904-5039 or email joseph.b.mirrow.civ@mail.mil.

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