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COMPETITION TRENDS REMAIN STEADY

New memo from OFPP Administrator reinforces use of competition and related practices for achieving results

Washington, D.C. – Today, the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) Administrator Paul Denett released a memo to Chief Acquisition Officers (CAOs) and Senior Procurement Executives (SPEs) detailing plans to enhance competition in the Federal acquisition system. While the percentage of dollars competed has remained relatively constant at around 64 percent since 2000, the memo includes initiatives that will reinforce the use of competition and related practices for achieving an effective competitive environment.

“We must work together to maximize the meaningful use of competition and achieve the best return on investment possible for our taxpayers,” said Denett. “In the last three years alone, we have added more than 1,000 contract specialists and the actual dollars competed has significantly increased from \$130 to \$253 billion between 2000 and 2006. The reforms outlined in this memorandum will help agencies take greater advantage of competition.”

In order to take full advantage of the tools to facilitate efficient competition, to save tax dollars, and to improve contractor performance, OFPP identifies a number of actions to strengthen competition:

- Agency competition advocates will assess the quality of their agencies' current contracting activities and develop reports for their CAOs and SPEs, by December 15, 2007, with goals to maximize competition.
- Competition policies in the Federal Acquisition Regulation will be strengthened, including those addressing the use of competition for task and delivery orders, which represent an increasing percentage of agency contract expenditures.
- The General Services Administration will develop new standard reports in the Federal Procurement Data System on the number of contract actions competed.

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