The Way Forward
News

This Issue:

Professional Services Online Database

Departments and agencies that want to contract for professional services can now use the Professional Services Online database. Formerly known as the IPS Marketplace, this new and expanded database includes suppliers offering professional services to the government in areas such as human resources management, organizational management, project management, organization and classification services, change management/organizational development services and information technology. The enhanced database makes it easier for departments to find cost-effective professional services and allows private companies to market their services directly to government. Using this database will make identifying the right supplier and finalizing a contract easier than ever for a variety of the most commonly purchased professional services.

For more information, visit:
http://www.pwgsc.gc.ca/acquisitions/text/ps/online-e.html

Public Works and Government Services Canada

Travaux publics et Services gouvernementaux Canada

Canada

PWGSC's Value Management Office

PWGSC has reached an agreement with other departments to measure the savings achieved under its business transformation. Gauging the value of government-wide acquisitions and savings, the Value Management Office (VMO) has developed a process that clears the way for accurate reporting on savings in procurement across government. Working with an independent review body and as a member of the Interdepartmental Directors General Working Group on Performance Management, the VMO assesses value relative to a number of procurement considerations such as: small- and medium-sized enterprises, Aboriginal set-asides and Green procurement. These values of procurement are key factors in PWGSC efforts to achieve 10-50-10 (percent) reductions in price, time and process savings. While considering these factors, VMO continues to identify opportunities for positive change in government-wide procurement – a proactive shift in terms of performance measurement.

For more information, contact Mark Seely via email at: mark.seely@tpsgc.gc.ca

Green Procurement Policy Launched

The Government of Canada (GC) recently committed itself to buying products and services under a new policy that will push it towards the goal of being one of the most environmentally conscious governments in the world. The new Policy on Green Procurement will advance the protection of the environment and support sustainable development by integrating environmental performance considerations into buying decisions. Environmentally preferable, or, "Green" products and services, are considered to have less impact on the environment over their life cycle compared to competing goods and services serving the same purpose. The new policy is aimed at contributing to environmental objectives such as reducing greenhouse gas emissions, reducing waste and supporting reuse and recycling, improving energy and water efficiency, reducing toxic and hazardous substances and supporting a healthier environment for all Canadians. Public Works and Government Services Canada, Natural Resources Canada and Environment Canada are the co-signatories/key departments in terms of the implementation of this Policy.

For more information, visit: http://news.gc.ca/cfmx/view/en/index.jsp?articleid=186479

Information on the contaminated sites community of interest

The Contaminated Sites Division of the Office of Greening Government Operations (OGGO) is in the process of assembling a community of professionals within government, industry and academic sectors that will be used as a networking medium to share knowledge in the area of contaminated sites management. This will be an important resource for PWGSC and other custodians in managing and remediation contaminated sites under the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP). The network will be used to share project management tools with custodial departments and information on innovative technologies accrued during the program. PWGSC will also use this network to liaise with the environmental industry to ensure they are aware of future demands on their services, so they can build adequate capacity to deliver.

For more information, contact Michael Billowits at: (819) 956-4042

What's Coming

Regional Master Standing Offers

PWGSC will be reopening Regional Master Standing Offers for office supplies in the coming months to allow additional suppliers to compete for business in this area so that the needs of departments and agencies in purchasing office supplies can be realized.

For more information contact Céline Bédard at: celine.bedard@pwgsc.gc.ca

Shared Travel Service Initiative

The Shared Travel Services Initiative (STSI) is continuing to help the GC achieve savings and make traveling faster and easier for employees. Already, the government is reaping the benefits of using the On-line Booking Tool, with some departments reporting that up to 30% of bookings are now being made on-line. This is not only helping employees make travel arrangements faster and simpler, but it is saving departments valuable dollars through lower transaction fees - 50% lower than by phone.

Employees and departments will soon realize the benefits of a fully integrated and automated travel service. The Expense Management Tool (EMT) implementation began with a test launch in December 2005. Once fully installed in 2006, the EMT will provide full business intelligence to drive negotiations with suppliers to obtain high quality travel services for the least amount of money.

For more information, visit: https://travel-voyage.gc.ca/stsi.portal

Commodity Management Framework

The launch of the Commodity Management Framework in October 2005 is serving as a critical guide toward the successful implementation of commodity management across departments. Once it has been established, it will provide a basis for government-wide policies and processes governing the procurement of a particular group of goods or services.

To maximize the use of expert resources within the government, commodity management activities are currently focusing on an Annual Government-wide Plan for Commodity Management. Initially, this plan will prioritize where commodity management will be applied to select products or services, with the eventual focus turning to the "big picture" of a commodity's life cycle using better management and purchasing tools.

For more information, contact Pierre Sabourin at: (819) 956-3413.

What's Happening

Prototype for Government of Canada Marketplace

An on-line tool that will change the way the GC purchases goods and services has moved a step closer to reality. The Government of Canada Marketplace (GoCM) prototype was recently demonstrated in the fall to over 500 representatives from approximately 50 government departments and agencies. Demonstrations are also underway in various regions across the country, in addition to planned workshops with suppliers to evaluate their readiness for the on-line portal.

The GoCM will deliver value-for-money by consolidating the information needed to negotiate better prices and by also creating administrative savings through a streamlined process.

For more information, visit:
http://www.pwgsc.gc.ca/acquisitions/text/esc/gocm-e.html

Request for volume discounts (RDVs)

In early January, PWGSC canvassed departments and agencies in an effort to consolidate purchases during the fourth quarter for items such as computers, office furniture and supplies. This will result in significant savings for the departments and agencies involved. PWGSC will continue to offer opportunities for RVDs in the coming months.

For more information contact Doug Haferkamp at: doug.haferkamp@pwgsc.gc.ca

ITSB Transformation
Taking full advantage of information technology systems

PWGSC's Information Technology Services Branch (ITSB) is moving forward with its work to provide departments across government with common IT services that will deliver consistent, high-quality and cost-effective solutions to the Canadian public.

At this point, ITSB is working with six departments as part of the "Wave 1" Qualification phase, collecting and analyzing areas and opportunities for moving forward into the Service Transfer phase (and ultimately transfer IT services to Information

Technology Shared Services Organization, or IT-SSO). With the Qualification phase to be completed this spring, information will be shared as we move toward a "whole-of-government" approach to information technology that will see increased sharing and better management of IT services and products for the GC.

For more information, visit:
http://www.pwgsc.gc.ca/b2k5/text/public/staging_pp/fs-4-e.html

Government Adopts Green Standards for Office Buildings

PWGSC continues to delivers on its commitment to adopt green standards for new, existing and leased government office buildings. Following an announcement last year that newly constructed government buildings must meet the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold Standard for sustainability, the GC has now adopted the Go Green Comprehensive program to ensure that office buildings it already owns are managed in a more environmentally friendly manner.

Administered by the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) of Canada, the program has been tested in 20 buildings around the National Capital Area to assess and benchmark several key areas, including energy, water, indoor environment and environmental management. The program will help plan future building maintenance projects by predicting how they will improve the environmental performance of a building, making it an important tool to assist the government in meeting its environmental compliance and sustainability commitments.

For more information, visit:
http://news.gc.ca/cfmx/view/en/index.jsp?articleid=185739

Meeting your savings targets:
How PWGSC did it

With the focus now on actually achieving the savings committed to under procurement reform, departments can benefit from sharing lessons learned. For its part, PWGSC has prepared a fact sheet outlining the measures it took to exceed its savings target of $5 million on its own purchases this fiscal year and its target reduction in accommodation space by 3,900 square metres (an equivalent of approximately $990,000 in rental costs). In actuality, PWGSC saved $5.128 million on its costs and reduced its accommodation space by more than 4,500 square metres (the equivalent of more than $1 million annually in rental costs).

PWGSC's strategy included bulk purchasing to obtain better pricing on certain goods, increasing the use of acquisition cards for purchases and payment activities and also implementing a robust electronic purchasing report system. The fact sheet has contact names so departments can follow up for more details.

For more information about PWGSC's Corporate Accommodation savings, please contact Pierre Charlebois via email at Pierre.Charlebois@pwgsc.gc.ca or by telephone at (819) 956-2824.

For more information about PWGSC's Materiel Management savings, please contact Jacques LaBonté via email at Jacques.LaBonté@pwgsc.gc.ca or by telephone at (819) 956-3171.

The Way Forward News

The Way Forward News is published periodically to inform other GC departments and agencies about the changes and progress being made to procurement and other changes to services provided by PWGSC. We encourage you to pass on this information to those who may be interested. An online version of this newsletter, containing direct links to more information on the issues covered, can be found at: http://www.pwgsc.gc.ca/b2k5/newsletter/text/news-e.html

To contact us or to receive copies of this newsletter, please e-mail: questions@pwgsc.gc.ca