Computer Hardware, Enterprise Software and Solutions (CHESS)

Category Management

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CHESS
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About CHESS

What is CHESS?

- Army's designated Primary Source for commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) IT
- No-fee, flexible procurement strategy for COTS IT Hardware, Software and Services
- Online request for quote / proposal process

Value of CHESS: Anything purchased through CHESS follows the DOD Applied Standards and Policies
Overarching Policy

Secretary of the Army

CHESS directly supports Secretary of the Army’s Information Technology Investment Accountability (ITIA) policy to improve the Army’s ability to see, assess, redirect and control IT resources.

Deputy Under Secretary of the Army

CHESS is the Army’s main enabler for COTS IT in particular for desktop and notebook purchases to achieve the best possible pricing.

Office of Management and Budget

CHESS offers (OMB) Best in Class (BIC) and Tier 2 for Spend Under Management (SUM) contracts for IT Category Management.
Contract Requirement: Compliance with DOD, Army and NETCOM Standards

- NETCOM Implementation Memorandum For Army End-User Computing Environment (TA)
- SHB-A (Army Implementation of Government Secure Host Baseline)
- Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) / Energy Star
- GIG Technical Guidance Federation (Formerly DOD IT Standards Registry)
- Information Assurance (AR 25-2/DoD Information Network Approved Products List) (DoDIN APL)
- Internet Protocol Version 6 (IPv6)
- Army Information Management and Technology (AR 25-1)
- Section 508 (§1194.26 U.S. Rehabilitation Act)
- Smart Card Reader (CAC) (ISO 7816, FIPS 201, NIST IR 6887)
- Trusted Platform Module (TPM v2.0)
- Wireless Networking (DODD 8100.2 & AR 25-2)
- UID, RFID, etc.
- Hardware Requirement for FIPS 140-2 Certified Mode in Support of 802.11 Wireless Connection
- Secure BIOS/UEFI (NIST SP 800-147)
- Applicable DISA Security Technical Implementation Guides (STIGS)
Supply Chain Risk Management (SCRM)

What is it?
Supply Chain Risk means the risk that an adversary may sabotage, maliciously introduce unwanted function, or otherwise subvert the design, integrity, manufacturing, production, distribution, installation, operation or maintenance of a national security system so as to surveil, deny, disrupt or otherwise degrade the function, use or operation of such system. SCRM refers to the systematic process for managing supply chain risk by: (1) identifying susceptibilities, vulnerabilities and threats throughout the DOD’s supply chain, (2) developing mitigation strategies to combat those threats.

CHESS Contract Standard Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCRM DFARS clause 806 / 2339a authority to DOD</th>
<th>Software RMF - CON - DOD APL - NSA NIAP</th>
<th>Trade Agreements Act (TAA) Compliant</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government has authority to remove a source that fails to meet qualification standards established within the clause.</td>
<td>Software must be certified through the Risk Management Framework (RMF) or be listed on another approved DOD program.</td>
<td>TAA requires that the U.S. Government may acquire only “U.S. made or designated country end products.” This excludes companies like China, Iran, or other U.S. adversaries.</td>
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Letters of Supply / Authorization/ Counterfeit Prohibited
Authorized reseller (verified with OEM) provides LOS or LOA for products. Providing counterfeit products is prohibited under any CHESS contract.

SECURE ACT 2018
Grants authority for Federal Government to restrict products and manufactures of all IT. Applies to all IT as defined in “Covered Article” definition across the Federal Government.

Refurbished Equipment
All contracts require only new equipment be provided by default and some contracts vary on allowing the use of used or refurbished equipment.

Procurement officials purchasing IT for National Security Systems (NSS) must ensure that items are not listed on the NSS Restricted List (Section 2339a List, formerly Section 806 List) IAW DOD policy dated 28 Dec 2018. The list is accessed through the Supplier Performance Risk System at [https://www.sprs.csd.disa.mil/default.htm](https://www.sprs.csd.disa.mil/default.htm).

*Please check the SOW of each contract for clarification.*
OMB Category Management
Laptops & Desktops

- Standardizing configurations for common requirements
- Reducing and consolidating contracts for laptops/desktops
- Optimizing price and performance
ADMC-3/Consolidated Buy (CB)

ADMC-3 Contract Overview
Ten (10) Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (ID/IQ) Contracts
- Period of Performance: 06 MAR 2020 to 05 MAR 2030
- Open to Army, DOD, and Federal agencies
- Program Maximum: $5 billion across all contracts for life of contracts (including all options)
- Decentralized Ordering
  - IT E-Mart Request for Quote (RFQ) Tool preferred
  - Contracting Officers have the option to negotiate the proposed delivery order pricing
- No CHESS fee
- No protests allowed on orders under $25 million for DOD and civilian agencies
- Contract NAICS Code(s): 334111

ADMC-3 Contract Scope
- Commodity purchases of commercial off-the-shelf desktop computers, integrated desktop computers, workstations, notebooks, tablets, electronic displays, thin clients, ultra-thin client, printers and multifunction devices and warranty on a worldwide basis. Limited services include: installation, asset tagging, imaging, site survey, system configuration.
- Base contract for desktop and notebook Consolidated Buys (CBs)
- Includes technology refreshment, replacement and new technology provisions
Benefits of CHESS Reverse Auction (RA)

- No usage fee
- Direct Army oversight with requirements submitted directly to CHESS vendors
- Familiar framework of user-friendly CHESS RFQ Tool on IT e-mart
  - RA is an RFQ with dynamic bidding
  - Set bid decrement percent

Available on CHESS Hardware & Software IDIQs

- ADMC-3 (Best-in-Class), ITES-3H, and ITES-SW2
- Laptops/Desktops, Printers/MFDs, Networking products, Servers/Workstations, Peripherals, Monitors, Software, and more...

CHESS RA Metrics

- Since Jan 2016, customers have conducted 1,523 RAs, potentially avoiding $212.8 million on $696.8 million initial bids
- Increased use for large requirements (RAs over $1 million)
  - FY16: 2
  - FY17: 16
  - FY18: 15
  - FY19: 22
  - FY20: 21
Upcoming Opportunities

- ITES-4H will have opportunities for small business
  - Full and open ID/IQ
  - RFP FY21Q2

How to become a CHESS vendor

- Business should consider subcontracting with a current prime on any of the CHESS contracts
- Businesses may look to compete for future versions of CHESS contracts by monitoring System for Award Management (SAM) (https://www.sam.gov/) for newly released solicitations
- With the newer contracts there will be on ramping opportunities included in the base contract
ITES-4H Overview

- **Multiple Award Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (ID/IQ)**
  - Anticipated number of awards: 17
- **Anticipated Award Date:** Q2/FY21
- **Firm Fixed Price**
- **Period of Performance (PoP):** Base period of five (5) years plus one (1) five (5) year option periods
- Open to Army, DOD, and Federal Agencies
- **Pricing:** Estimated $10 billion ceiling
- **Decentralized Ordering**
- **Proposal Requirements:**
  - Vendor must propose on all catalogs
  - Vendors can propose utilizing Contractor Team Arrangements IAW FAR 9.6
- **Contract Performance:**
  - Vendors performance will be monitored on items such as bid rate, responsiveness, report deliverables and delivery time
- **ITES-4H Will be the Army’s mandatory source for IT hardware per AFARS 5139.101-90(a)(1), just as ITES-3H is currently**
  - Note: Some orders are expected to be large and complex. Delivery of items is expected to be on-time.
- **Data is a key element for the Government and therefore it is imperative that deliverables, such as monthly reports, be accurate and submitted on time.**
Contact Us

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