



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Office of Acquisition and Materiel Management
National Acquisition Center
P. O. Box 76
Hines, IL 60141

In Reply Refer To:

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April 26, 2004

Dear Industry Partner:

You are cordially invited to participate in a two day Industry Conference entitled, "Achieving Procurement & Contracting Excellence through Partnership," on October 19-20, 2004. The conference will be held at [The Westin O'Hare Hotel](#) beginning in the Grand ballroom for the conference opening and followed by two full days of breakout informational and training sessions. Located at 6100 N. River Road, Rosemont, IL the Westin hotel is conveniently located minutes from O'Hare International Airport (Chicago).

Registration will begin at 7:00 a.m. on October 19, and the conference will begin at 8:00 a.m. and adjourn at 3:30 p.m. on the 19th and at noon on the 20th. Please review the attached schedule of events for a list of topics and times. There is no charge for the conference attendance and a pre-registration will be held in the Westin's foyer Monday October 18 at 2:30.

Please visit the Conference website for information and room reservations: [The Westin Hotel, O'Hare Reservations](#) or the [National Acquisition Center](#) site for updates.

Throughout the years, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Office of Acquisition & Materiel Management (OAMM), National Acquisition Center (NAC) has fostered valuable relations and industry partnerships' with Dental, Pharmaceutical, Medical Surgical Supply and Equipment, and Professional Services contractors. We want to strengthen that committed business relationship.

Government procurement practices are changing rapidly. We will discuss what we are doing, what is new and different, and where we are going. During the two-day conference, we will discuss the impact of new Federal Acquisition Regulations on Federal Supply Schedules and National Contracts and overall Federal procurement. We will update you on NAC initiatives led by staff in the FSS and National Contract Services, Office of Inspector General, and General Counsel Acquisition Policy, e-commerce, GSA partnership and general procurement subjects. There will be time set aside to meet and greet the NAC Contracting Officers.

If you and/or other representatives of your company would like to attend, please complete the attached registration form and fax to (708) 786-4975, or e-mail to: Ronald.Comtois@med.va.gov. Mail registration may be sent to, VA National Acquisition Center, ATTN: NAC Industry Conference Team P.O. Box 76, Hines, IL 60141.

Any questions regarding this upcoming conference, please contact Ron Comtois at (708) 786-5145 or Melinda Petersen at (708) 786-5139. We look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,
George Patterson
Executive Director