

# Information Technology Commodity Council

## History

The Information Technology Commodity Council was established in 2003 under the authority and guidance of the Air Force Chief Information Officer and Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition. The ITCC was tasked with developing and implementing IT commodity strategic sourcing to shape Air Force Information Technology IT commodity acquisition behavior, leverage Air Force buying power, reduce the total ownership costs of commercial IT products and services, improve IT infrastructure for cyberspace operations to support Net-Centric Operations, and support warfighting capabilities.

Since 2003 the ITCC has implemented three primary strategic sourcing programs for the purchase of computing, printing, and cellular communicating devices. The Air Force has transitioned from “tactical” to “strategic” purchases of IT products avoiding costs for the Air Force of over \$393M. This was achieved by implementing an e-commerce purchasing site, developing “mainstream” product configurations, obtaining Major Command co-operative buying support, and establishing a standard software configuration for all ITCC systems. The ITCC has been a proponent of small business with more than 70% small business awards in a buying cycle.

In January 2011, Air Force Instruction 33-112, Information Technology Hardware Asset Management, was updated to clearly address the requirement to use the ITCC programs for the purchase of IT products. The use of ITCC programs was mandated with a waiver required for purchases of non-ITCC products with the exception of NETCENTS and DLA offered products.

The ITCC manages the Air Force requirements for the Infostructure Technical Reference Model (i-TRM) buying standards in support of computing platforms and monitors as well as printing devices.

## ITCC Spirals

The ITCC has identified several strategic sourcing projects, known as spirals. The spirals listed below have been awarded and are providing savings across the Air Force. Additional spirals will be initiated over the next several years.

### *Client Computing and Servers*

The Client Computing and Servers strategic sourcing project was the first implementation for the ITCC. The initial Desktop, Laptop, and Servers BPAs were awarded in 2005 with the follow-on BPAs awarded in 2010 under the CCS project name. The CCS BPAs have a period of performance of five years ending June 2015. The CCS products are sought under the Quantum Enterprise Buy process which is accomplished twice per year.

In addition to the QEB product selection process the ITCC has also implemented a Specialized Category Product Update to acquire special products such as eTools rugged computing products. Under this process products which meet or exceed the minimum specifications, as well as pass the hardware and software image validation, are posted to the ITCC e-commerce site for purchase by the end user.

The Standard Desktop Configuration prepared by the Air Force Enterprise Configuration Management Office is loaded on all QEB and eTools products offered under the CCS BPAs.

### *Cellular Services and Devices*

The Cellular Services and Devices strategic sourcing project was approved in January 2006 with Army/AF enterprise BPAs awarded in 2006. The follow-on BPAs were awarded in 2011 for a period of five years (expiring 2016). The Air Force negotiated agreements with four U.S cellular companies (AT&T Mobility, Sprint, T-Mobile, and Verizon Wireless) to offer a consolidated one-stop shopping point for cellular services and devices.

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## *Digital Printing and Imaging DPI*

The Digital Printing and Imaging strategic sourcing project was approved in 2007 with the initial awards of Original Equipment Manufacturing BPAs to Hewlett-Packard, Lexmark and Xerox in 2008 with a five year period of performance ending January 2013. The small business reseller BPA was awarded in 2009 to Technology Integration Group. The TIG BPA ends January 2014. The DPI spiral was initiated to create a more competitive AF buying environment for printing devices and consumables while reducing the total cost of ownership. The ITCC implemented the first standard buying cycle in 2009 and continues to refresh printing device technical attributes and pricing on an annual basis.

## Continuous Improvement

The ITCC continues to seek better processes and products to improve Air Force IT capabilities while reducing overall costs. The ITCC pursues the following goals:

- Measurably reduce “total” information technology costs for the Air Force
- Leverage Air Force buying power through strategic sourcing of IT products
- Improve technical compliance and establish common IT standards
- Achieve stakeholder buy-in and utilization of ITCC products
- Incentivize competition among strategic industry partners while fostering small business involvement

## Industry Impact

The ITCC strategic sourcing initiative produced substantial savings while supporting the Air Force’s purchase of high-quality business class products. There have been significant “soft savings” to include ordering convenience for end users,

standardization of products, green procurement, improved software license management, improved system security, reduction of support staff, and shortened time required to purchase IT products.

## Contact Information

### ESG Point of Contact

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### Fact Sheet Point of Contact

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