

DOI CALL-WHEN-NEEDED (CWN) PROGRAM

Introduction: Implementation of the DOI's CWN program began in early 2008. This implementation brought existing and new on call contracts and Aircraft Rental Agreements (ARA) under one umbrella which is referred to as the DOI CWN program. All agreements and contracts that are not exclusive use (EU) fall under the CWN Program. Within the CWN program both **ARA agreements** and **On-Call contracts** are used. The reverse side of this document provides a visual representation of what the program looks like.

Background: The ARA program is a convenient and unique means by which users and aviation service providers have had maximum flexibility to obtain and provide aviation resources. It has historically been used to fulfill short-term missions such as point-to-point flight, initial attack fire suppression, small resource projects, etc. The fire suppression mission and some project use has grown substantially and is no longer a 'fit' within the \$25,000 per order threshold mandated by the Federal Acquisition Regulation's (FAR) advertisement requirements. In addition to long-term missions, aircraft prices have increased which affects total cost. Lastly, these prices are not executed as a result of competitive procedures.

Key Considerations: DOI needed to collectively pursue legally compliant contracts/agreements and appropriate and supportable use and administration to ensure that DOI is able to use the ARA tool into the future. There needs to be concern about appropriate competition, FAR mandatory public announcements, and lack of adequate command and control of 'who' or 'what agency(s)' place orders under these agreements.

Agreements (ARA) meet the requirements of the Blanket Purchase Agreement authority which allow a great deal of flexibility for both the Government and the Vendor, including the addition and deletion of agreements and individual aircraft. DOI will be able to take advantage of some of those flexibilities. The down side is that the flexibility is the limited dollar value of each order.

Contracts meet the test of a 'contract' where full competition has been achieved. The only dollar limitation of the contracts is the aggregate of all orders is limited to the amount specified in the contract for all years of the specific contract. These thresholds remove historic limitations that have negatively affected both the Government and aviation vendor in the past under the ARA. Contracts provide specifics relative to ordering.

Now See a 'Snap Shot' of the Details:

ARA

The ARA will continue to exist and play an important role as an acquisition tool for intermittent DOI flight services. It will play a smaller role because it will be limited to small dollar rentals with limited mission activities.

- ARAs will continue to be established with vendors identified by bureaus and offices through the Aircraft Rental System program procedures and processes – see DMs. The number of ARAs is expected to decline with the establishment of on call contracts. AMD website will continually be updated to reflect changes.
- The ARA program will be strictly limited to \$25,000 per order unless justified based upon FAR authorities
- No fire carded or air tactical type (ATT) missions are authorized

Note: Vendors will be removed from the ARA that were successfully awarded a small helicopter or ATT on call contract. Transition is occurring and is expected to be complete by early 2009. The source list will be continually updated and you may no longer find resources at this site but they may be found under the applicable on call contract listing.

ON-CALL *Applies to the Lower 48 States at this time

- ❖ Small Helicopter (<7,000lbs GW) (awarded June 2008)
 - Minimum Small Helicopter Capability – Interagency Fire Requirements
 - Helicopters can perform reconnaissance, long line, prescribed fire missions, or any non-fire mission flight for which helicopter and pilot approvals are in place for the specific Contractor
 - Contract cycle is currently base year (5/1/08 – 4/30/09) with one renewal option (5/1/09 – 4/30/10)
- ❖ Fixed Wing (Air tactical type (ATT))
 - Minimum capability is Type 1, 2 and 3 as specified in the DOI contract
 - Aircraft can perform reconnaissance and any non-fire mission flight for which aircraft and pilot approvals have been done
 - Contract cycle is currently base year (3/7/08 – 12/31/08) with two renewal options (1/1 – 12/31/09 and 1/1 – 12/31/10)

Conclusion: These changes may have significant impact upon the procedures and practices that have been followed in the past when obtaining or providing intermittent aviation services. It is critical that these changes are understood to ensure that the program will continue to meet the expectations of all. Read and understand the terms and conditions before using, ordering, or managing these resources. Continue checking the AM website for the new agreements and contracts <http://amd.nbc.gov>. On call contracts are not included under the Source List but rather are found under Aviation Resources – CWN Program Contract Information.