

OBD&EO *News Alert*

**A Delaware River Port Authority/Port Authority Transit Corporation
Office of Business Development & Equal Opportunity Publication**

SBA Seeking Public Comment on Size Standards

In March 2004, the SBA proposed to reduce the number of size categories from 37 to 10, and to express all size standards in terms of the number of a company's employees. In comments submitted to the SBA, the public expressed concern about several aspects of SBA's approach, causing the SBA to withdraw its proposal for further study on July 1, 2004.

On December 3, the SBA published a notice of the comment-seeking process, in The Federal Register. The SBA is seeking comments on a number of general issues that were raised by the public in response to the March 2004 proposed rule. The SBA also will conduct a series of public meetings across the country on size standards to listen to ideas and concerns from the small business community. Information on these meetings will be announced in early 2005.

The agency also is seeking comments regarding the participation of small businesses that are majority-owned by venture capital firms in the Small Business Innovation Research Program and the relationship between franchisors and franchisees in the Temporary Staffing industry. The SBA will consider a new size standards proposal once a thorough review of comments received from the public is completed. The public will have an additional opportunity to comment on those specific changes once they are formally proposed.



*We wish you all a safe, healthy and
joyous holiday season!*

Native American Businesses-Healthy Forest Initiative

SOURCE: U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION The U.S. Small Business Administration announced that it will assist in the economic development of Native American small businesses by supporting the creation of 20 firms that will reduce wild land fire risks to people, communities and the environment. The establishment of these Native American firms is part of the SBA's implementation of the President's Healthy Forests Initiative, designed to reduce the threat of destructive wildfires to the nation's forests, communities and endangered species.

The President's initiative has prompted forest restoration projects that include clearing forests of underbrush and trees to improve forest health and to benefit surrounding communities. The Healthy Forests Initiative allows federal agencies to enter into long-term contracts with small businesses, communities and nonprofit organizations to reduce wildfire risk and improve forest health. This effort establishes a framework for protecting communities and the environment through thinning, planned burns and restoration projects.

The SBA recently contracted with the Intertribal Information Technology Co. (IITC), to develop and train 20 Native American forest restoration companies that will participate in forest restoration and preservation. The IITC is a multi-tribal 8(a) firm teamed together to build information technology business on Native American lands, and is an advocate for reservation economic development. The IITC will help to establish the forest restoration companies, as well as help the firms to bid on Healthy Forests Initiative contracts with the federal government. The creation of these Native-American owned reservation-based companies is vital to the advancement of forest restoration projects, and will help to reduce fire danger and return the nation's forests and rangelands to a healthier state. For more information on Native American business development through the Healthy Forests Initiative project, contact project director Malcolm Bowekaty with the IITC at 505-870-3363.

Most annual procurement for goods (non-professional services) at the DRPA are usually for periods of one (1) year with an option to renew for an additional year. At the end of the first year, assuming the vendor's performance has been satisfactory, a DRPA Purchasing staff member will contact the vendor to request pricing information for the second year. If all conditions are in the best interest of the DRPA, the DRPA will exercise its option for a second year renewal with the vendor. At the end of the second year, the contract will be rebid on a competitive basis. If you are interested in pursuing any of the contracts identified below, please call Susan Squillace, Purchasing Agent, at (856) 968-2163.

List of Annual Contracts

Service Products

Contract Status

Summer/Winter Work
Clothing for DRPA

Bid Process – This purchase will be up for competitive bid in **November 2005**.

One Year Supply, Bottled Water
for DRPA/PATCO

Bid Process – This purchase will be up for competitive bid in **November 2005**.

Summer/Winter Uniforms
for Toll Collectors DRPA

Bid Process – This purchase will be up for competitive bid in **November 2005**.

Lubricants for Bulk Storage
Dispensing System for DRPA

Bid Process - This purchase will be up for competitive bid in **November 2005**.

Exterminating Service for DRPA/PATCO

Bid Process - This purchase will be up for competitive bid in **January 2005**.

Weed Control for DRPA/PATCO

Bid Process - This purchase will be up for competitive bid in **January 2005**.

Emergency Generator Maintenance
for DRPA

DRPA may exercise its 2nd year option in **March 2005**.

Traffic Cones for DRPA

DRPA may exercise its 2nd year option in **August 2005**.

Trash Removal (Solid, Non-Hazardous)
for DRPA

DRPA may exercise its 3rd year option in **September 2005**.

Continued on page five (5)



“Spotlight”

Barbara Hines, President
SSD, Inc.
91 Lukens Drive, Suite D
New Castle, DE 19720

SSD, Inc., a women owned organization, has provided businesses, non-profit organizations, higher education, and professional service firms with advanced technology solutions for over 20 Years. Our experienced programming staff and knowledgeable technology department, design, implement and support computer and telecommunication solutions that make your business more efficient. In 2003, SSD expanded its consulting business through an alliance agreement with Integrated Technologies Management. This was just another step in making SSD a “full service” IT Company and expanding SSD’s presence within the Legal and Professional markets.

SSD's core services include, but are not limited to, LAN/WAN Design and Integration, Support Services, Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity Planning, Network Security, Facility and Infrastructure, Relocation Consulting, Telecommunications/Telephony Services, Technology Audits and Custom Software.

We are committed to our clients by instituting processes, which promote excellence in customer service. We are committed to our community by volunteering with various organizations, being members of the Blood Bank, having clothing drives, making donations and donating sponsorship dollars. Through diversification and striving to remain a step ahead of the ever-changing technology industry, SSD has been flexible enough to shift gears when necessary while remaining true to our #1 commitment of superior customer service. The founders of SSD; Barbara Hines, Nancy Froome and Nick Romano, work very hard at the success of SSD by striving to be strong, influential leaders and dedicating their time and efforts to SSD. This hard work by the founders, as well as the SSD employees, showed this year as SSD was just recently awarded the 2004 Superstars in Business Award for the Category of up to 25 employees at the Marvin S. Gilman Superstars in Business Awards Luncheon presented by the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce’s Small Business Alliance. SSD was also awarded Best in the Business: Up and Coming Technology Company by Delaware’s leading News Paper The News Journal earlier this year.

For a complete list of services provided by SSD, Inc., or more information, please visit their website at www.ssdell.com . You may call Barbara Hines at (800) 652-3360, ext. 218 or e-mail her at bhines@ssdel.com.

List of Annual Contracts for DRPA

Continued from page 3

Services Products

Contract Status

Office Paper Products for DRPA/PATCO

Bid Process - This purchase will be up for competitive bid in **June 2005**.

Prescription Safety Glasses for DRPA/PATCO

DRPA may exercise its 2nd year option in **October 2005**.

Hazardous Waste Removal for DRPA/PATCO

DRPA may exercise its 2nd year option in **March 2005**.

Office Supplies for DRPA/PATCO

Bid Process - This purchase will be up for competitive bid in **March 2005**.

Custom Made Police Uniforms for DPRA/PATCO

Bid Process - This purchase will be up for competitive bid in **April 2005**.

Unleaded Gasoline & Automotive Diesel Fuel for DRPA/PATCO
#2 Heating Oil for PATCO

Bid Process - This purchase will be up for competitive bid in **September 2005**.

List of Annual Contracts for PATCO

For you information, we are providing you with a list of annual contracts for PATCO, along with their expiration dates. If you are interested in pursuing any of these contracts, please contact Thomas J. Zamorski, Purchasing Agent, PATCO, at (856) 772-6914 or Stephen Suder, Manager, Procurement, Records & Stores at (856) 968-2142.

Service Products

Expiration Date

Refuse Disposal at various PATCO Stations

December 31, 2004

Industrial Refuse Disposal Services for PATCO Lindenwold Maintenance Facility

April 30, 2006

Ultrasonic Rail Testing

March 31, 2005

Upcoming Purchases for January 2005

for DRPA

There is nothing to report.

Questions regarding any DRPA purchases should be directed to Susan Squillace at (856) 968-2163 or (215) 218-3750 ext. 2163.

for PATCO

Furnish and Install Two (2) Vehicle Lifts for the New PATCO Vehicle Maintenance Facility

Procurement and Delivery of Two (2) Curve Rail Sections for the PATCO Rail System

Procurement and Delivery of One (1) New and Unused Model Year 2005 Pure Vacuum Street Sweeper

Procurement and Delivery of Ten (10) New Budd Style Evaporator Assemblies for Transit Cars.

Questions regarding these or any other PATCO purchases should be directed to Thomas Zamorski at (856) 772-6914 or (215) 992-4600 ext. 6914.

- Don't forget to check out OBD&EO's web site. Our address is www.drpa.org/obdeo.
- Be sure to click on **Others Events of Interest** under the Upcoming Events section.
- Look for upcoming editions of *News Alert* to be mailed on:
 - Friday, January 28, 2005
 - Friday, February 25, 2005
 - Friday, March, 25, 2005