MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND (ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE) COMMANDER, UNITED STATES TRANSPORTATION COMMAND (ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE) ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (ACQUISITION, LOGISTICS AND TECHNOLOGY) ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND ACQUISITION) ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (ACQUISITION) DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Preferred Use of DoD Information Analysis Center Contracts

The Department of Defense (DoD) Information Analysis Centers (IACs) serve as an essential resource to affordably deliver technical data and analyses in support of current operations. The Pentagon has recognized that the DoD IACs serve as a proven resource for maximizing the value of each dollar the Department spends, precisely because of the DoD IACs' ability to maximize reuse by building upon previous research, development, and other technical information.

The DoD IACs operate an expansive portfolio of task order contracts for technical research and analysis, having performed more than 600 task orders and conducted more than $1.8 billion in efforts across the DoD in Fiscal Year 2014. Through the DoD IACs, research data is collected, analyzed, and reused to answer recurring technical challenges, identify long term trends, and provide recommendations to fulfill Government requirements.

In March 2012, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy (DPAP) identified several best practices by the DoD IACs, which included but are not limited to: implementing an On-line Requirement Management System, and documenting winner-specific promises in the resultant task orders. The Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) found that the DoD IACs support a sustained Better Buying Power Initiative by improving affordability, productivity, and standardization within defense acquisition.  

The DoD IACs use multiple award, indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity (MAC IDIQ) task order contracts as the primary contracting vehicles to support Research & Development (R&D) and Advisory & Assistance Services related to R&D efforts. IACs offer three MAC IDIQ contracts. They include the following scope areas:

a. Software, Networks, Information, Modeling and Simulation Technical Area Tasks (SNIM TATs) (the follow-on MAC IDIQ will be Cyber Security and Information Systems Technical Area Tasks or CS TATs):
   (1) Software Analysis

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(2) Cyber Security  
(3) Information Sharing & Knowledge Management  
(4) Modeling & Simulation  

b. Homeland Defense and Security Technical Area Tasks (HD TATs):

(1) Homeland Security & Defense  
(2) Critical Infrastructure Protection  
(3) Weapons of Mass Destruction  
(4) Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Defense  
(5) Biometrics  
(6) Medical  
(7) Cultural Studies  
(8) Alternative Energy  

c. Defense Systems Technical Area Tasks (DS TATs):

(1) Weapon Systems  
(2) Survivability/Vulnerability  
(3) Reliability, Maintainability, Quality, Supportability, and Interoperability (RMQSI)  
(4) Advanced Materials  
(5) Military Sensing  
(6) Energetics  
(7) Autonomous Systems  
(8) Directed Energy  
(9) Non-lethal Weapons and Information Operations  

We encourage Requiring Officers and Contracting Officers to use IACs as best value vehicles to acquire services that fall within the applicable scope areas for each DoD IAC. In developing acquisition strategies, all new and ongoing efforts should consider the DoD IAC contracts as vehicles of first choice.  

Additional information on the DoD IACs can be found at http://iac.dtic.mil/. Questions regarding this action memorandum can be directed to the DoD IACs Director, Mr. Christopher Zember, at 703-767-9235, christopher.j.zember.civ@mail.mil, or DPAP action officer, Ms. Kenyada Corley, at 703-695-4258, kenyada.t.corley.civ@mail.mil.

Richard Gimman  
Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy  

Alan Shaffer  
Principal Deputy  
Assistant Secretary of Defense  
(Research and Engineering)  

cc:  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army  
(Procurement)  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy  
(Acquisition and Procurement)  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force  
(Contracting)