



Largest Small Business Award Goes To Three Vendors

In a ceremony at the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) today, representatives of the Department of Defense (DoD) and a consortium of three businesses officially signed the largest combined small business set-aside acquisition in the history of the Federal Government.

The maximum cumulative face value for all three contracts for satellite transmission services, awarded last evening, is anticipated to be \$2.196 billion over the life of the contracts, if all options are exercised.

Artel Inc., of Reston, Va., a small disadvantaged business; Spacelink International LLC of Dulles, Va., a small business; and Arrowhead Space and Telecommunications Inc., of Falls Church, Va., a woman-owned small disadvantaged business, are being awarded indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity contracts for the Defense Information System Network (DISN) Satellite Transmission Services-Global.

Each contract is for a base period of three years with seven one-year options. No funds are being immediately obligated. "This piece of satellite communi-

cations will help complete a very critical segment of the Global Information Grid by completing and enhancing existing DISN satellite, wireless, teleport, and terrestrial network capabilities," said Air Force Lt. Gen. Harry D. Raduege Jr, director of the DISA. "Most importantly, this will help us get much needed, wider, and faster information pipelines to the warfighters deployed in support of contingency and humanitarian operations."

The services being acquired include the full range of currently available transponder and emerging processed commercial satellite communications services, earth terminals, and system management. This acquisition provides a contractual vehicle for the DoD, federal agencies, and other users authorized by DoD, to obtain global fixed satellite service bandwidth, related business, and enterprise-based services and applications.

Editor's Note: This information is in the public domain at <http://www.defenselink.mil/news>. For additional details contact the DISA at (703) 607-6900.