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Best Value Fact Sheet

1. OMB Director Daniels is committed to move forward with adoption of new FAR regulations allowing agencies to buy their own printing.
2. The regulations will be supported by policy directives requiring agencies to obtain the best value for the taxpayer's dollar—based on price, quality, past performance, and technical capabilities.
3. GPO's system does not currently buy print based on "best value" criteria.
4. OMB and the Chief Information Officers (CIOs) have a new formal grading system to grade agencies for their transition to effective, value-oriented sourcing. The grading schedule will be available not only to the White House, but also to Congress, in order to induce agencies to "tow the line" when it comes to purchasing or procurement reforms.
5. Large medium and small private sector printers have not come to GPO's defense in what appears to be the most serious attack against GPO in a decade for two reasons: a) Printers seem to feel that they can differentiate themselves from the pack and acquire more work if factors other than low-ball pricing are taken into consideration. b) Printers are afraid to antagonize the Executive Branch, since there is a possibility they will be buying print.
6. There is little likelihood of any legislation to counteract new FAR regulations.
7. One of the intended or unintended results of the proposed FAR changes will be to decentralize print purchasing, so that anyone empowered to make a purchase can do so directly, not only without going through GPO, but without going through their traditional Agency Print Procurement Department.
8. It seems likely that federal government printing will become a confusing "mish-mash" with print being bought by end users, Agency printing procurement departments, and the GPO, creating a system that is in part centralized at the GPO, in part semi-centralized at hundreds of agency print departments; and in part completely decentralized.
9. Open competition (used by GPO) offers the best price, whether the award is to the low bidder meeting minimum requirements OR to the bidder with the best combination of price, quality, on-time delivery and service (best value).
10. GPO can *increase* its agency business if it adopts "best value" type award methodologies, and maintains open competition, to give executive branch agencies the best combination of price/quality/on-time delivery/service.