Green Procurement: Army Progress, Installation Challenges

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PURPOSE: To provide information on the status of new initiatives for the advancement of the Army Green Procurement Program (GPP).

- Army Policy Update
- Army Strategy Document
- Installation GPP Development Guide
- GPP Program Review Protocol Development
- Completion of GPP Program Reviews for two installations
- Updating training curriculum and existing audit protocols
- Developing and providing train-the-trainer classes for DAU instructors and Program Management Reviewers
Army Policy and Strategy Update

- The Army Policy (dated 22 Nov 06) will be updated to reflect recent Executive Orders and support DOD policies and plans.
- Will be issued by the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations and Environment) and (Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology).
- Will support and align with the Army Sustainability Campaign Plan and the DOD Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan
- The Army Green Procurement Program (GPP) Strategy will accompany the policy memo
Army Green Procurement Strategy

• The U.S. Army Public Health Command developed an Army-level strategy document
• At DASA- Procurement in review
• Sections:
  – Program Overview
  – Assignment of Responsibilities
  – Description of the Army Program
  – Training
  – Reporting and Metrics
  – Summary of Requirements with Links to Additional Resources
Strategy Objectives

Selected to address current program weaknesses

• Assigns specific offices with responsibilities for managing the Army GPP
• Calls for increased coordination among Acquisition and Environmental community representatives
• Includes
  – Plans for improved communication of GPP laws, policies and guidance
  – Methods for more effective education that reaches all appropriate audiences
  – Plans for periodic GPP Program Reviews and incorporation of GP into existing Contract Program Management Reviews
  – Assignment of reporting responsibilities
  – Identification of metrics to align with DOD metrics and reporting requirements
Army Installation Green Procurement Program Development Guide

• Published as a PARC policy alert #11-16 on 1 December 2010
• Comprehensive guidance manual on the steps to be taken to fully implement an effective Green Procurement Program
• Contents include:
  – Applicability
  – Regulatory Drivers
  – Establishing a GP Team
  – Planning
  – Implementation and Operation
  – Checking and Corrective Action
  – Management Review
  – Useful Tools and Resources
Green Procurement Program Management Reviews

• Purposes
  – Verify compliance with GP requirements
  – Assist installations in developing their GP Programs
  – Assess implementation of internal programs and plans (EMS, GP Plan)
  – Provide findings and recommendations
• Two have been conducted by U.S. Army Public Health Command in FY11
• Available to any DOD facility upon request
GP Program Review Protocol

• Developed by US Army Public Health Command
• Major sections include:
  – Objectives and Approach
  – Program Review Criteria
  – Program Review Preparation
  – Conducting the Program Review
  – Table of Personnel to be Interviewed with Assessor Actions
  – Preparing the Findings Report
  – Interview Forms and a Findings Sheet Form
Green Procurement Program Reviews

- Process will be evaluated to determine the potential future uses of GP Program Reviews
  - Gather data for annual sustainability report
  - Assist installations/facilities in assessing their GP Program
  - Extract portions for inclusion in Program Management Reviews (the acquisition community’s audit program)
  - Extract portions for inclusion in Government Purchase Card audits
Train-the-Trainer for Procurement Instructors

- U.S. Army Public Health Command plans to develop a train-the-trainer program for acquisition instructors
- Target audience – instructors for basic and advanced 1102 courses
- Objective – To provide procurement instructors with a deeper understanding of the Federal purchasing preference programs, and to provide course content for inclusion in mandatory training for job series 1102 employees.
- Can be included as part of their annual professional development training

This initiative is on hold
Updating Existing Training Curricula

- Through information and training materials provided at the train-the-trainer sessions, gain buy-in of procurement instructors (on hold)
- Add GP information to basic contracting courses
- Update and strengthen the GP information in the basic Government Purchase Card mandatory online training (CLG001)
Installation Challenges

• Fully engaging the acquisition community – assumption of responsibility
• Misunderstanding and lack of awareness of the regulations
• Reaching the requirements generators/specification writers
• Difficult to measure, monitor, and report green purchases
• Perceptions that green products are inferior
• Fostering a culture in which all employees take responsibility for sustainable purchasing
Installation Challenges

• Contractor compliance
• Subcontractor compliance
• Non-appropriated fund activity compliance
Addressing the Challenges

• Provide training to all affected personnel – be sure to include specification writers, NAF representatives, and key contractor representatives

• Have in installation GP Team

• Ensure the GP Manager has
  – time to take necessary actions and champion the program
  – knowledge of the regulations and requirements to field questions and support GP initiatives

• Gain support of upper level managers

• Actively promote the GP Program

• Use available resources such as the Army Installation GP Program Implementation Guide, Fedcenter and other informational websites, “green” features of online ordering systems
Addressing the Challenges

- Develop and implement a formal GP Plan which will
  - Assign responsibilities
  - Establish operating procedures
  - Standardize installation-level recordkeeping and reporting procedures
  - Establish checking and corrective action procedures
  - Provide an annual management review checklist
  - Include a list of prioritized action items
Questions?

For more information or to inquire about GP training, GP Plan development, or GP Program Reviews visit:

http://phc.amedd.army.mil/topics/envirohealth/gwsw

Click on the Green Procurement link