CHESS 101
Program Overview

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CHESS
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Agenda

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- CHESS Authority – Army Regulation
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  - Information Technology Enterprise Solutions-3 Hardware (ITES-3H)
  - Mobility Services
- CHESS and Common Hardware Systems (CHS)
- Services
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  - Enterprise Software Initiatives (ESI)
    - Information Technology Enterprise Solutions – Software (ITES-SW)
- CHESS Statement of Non-Availability
- CHESS IT e-mart
- Request For (RF) Tool
- CHESS Training Schedule
MISSION
Be the Primary Source to support the Warfighter's information dominance objectives by developing, implementing and managing commercial information technology contracts that provide enterprise-wide net-centric hardware, software and support services for the Army.

VISION
To be the Army’s center of excellence for commercial IT acquisition through continuously competitive contracts that provide economical, value-added, Networthy IT products and superior, performance-based IT services based on Army and DOD policy and standards compliance.
CHESS is a Product Lead in PEO EIS, under ASA(ALT) directly reporting to Enterprise Services (ES).

IT contracts are established in accordance with HQDA CIO/G-6 standards and policies.
CHESS Organization Relation to PEO EIS
About CHESS

What is CHESS?

- Army's designated Primary Source for commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) IT
- No-fee, flexible procurement strategy for COTS IT Hardware, Software and Services
- Online request for quote / proposal process

Value of CHESS: Anything purchased through CHESS follows the DOD Applied Standards and Policies
“...Purchasers of commercial hardware and software must satisfy their IT requirements by utilizing the CHESS contracts and DoD Enterprise Software Initiative (ESI) agreements first, regardless of dollar value or appropriation...Any IT hardware or software purchase made outside of the CHESS contracts requires an Army Chief Information Officer (CIO)/G6 approved Information Technology Approval System (ITAS) Waiver.”

AFARS 5139.101-90 (a)

“...If no small business capability exists, CHESS contract vehicles are the preferred source for acquisition of IT services.”

“...ITAS Waivers from the use of CHESS are not required when procuring IT services...If a services requirement includes non-CHESS IT hardware or software, personnel must secure an Army CIO/G6 approved ITAS Waiver for the non-CHESS IT hardware or software...”

AFARS 5139.101-90 (b)

“... Principal assistants responsible for contracting must ensure that contracting personnel receive appropriate CHESS training...”

AFARS 5139.101-90 (c)

“The Product Lead, Common Hardware Systems (PdL CHS) coordinates across the Army’s computing environments and tactical program offices to modify commercially available off-the-shelf IT ...Organizations that receive written authorization from PdL CHS to use a CHS contract are exempt from the requirement to obtain an ITAS Waiver or CHESS SONA...”

AFARS 5139.101-90 (a)
CHESS is the primary source for purchases of COTS software, desktops, and notebook computers regardless of dollar value.

“... CHESS is the primary source for establishing commercial IT contracts for hardware, software, and services...”

AR 25-1 3-4 (a)

“... Regardless of dollar value or financial appropriation, Army organizations must procure COTS IT software and hardware from CHESS, including desktop and notebook computers, video teleconferencing equipment, routers, servers, printers, and so forth.”

AR 25-1 3-4 (a)(1)

“... Regardless of the dollar value or financial appropriation, when no small business capability exists, CHESS contract vehicles are the preferred source for acquisition of IT services.

AR 25-1 3-4 (a)(2)

“... CHESS, in conjunction with the Army Contracting Command’s designated offices, will conduct semiannual consolidated buys (CBs) for desktop and notebook computers. Organizations shall use the CB to satisfy their desktop and notebook requirements to the maximum extent possible.”

AR 25-1 3-4 (a)(3)
Contract Requirement: Compliance with DOD, Army and NETCOM Standards

- NETCOM Implementation Memorandum For Army End-User Computing Environment (TA)
- SHB-A (Army Implementation of Government Secure Host Baseline)
- Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT) / Energy Star
- GIG Technical Guidance Federation (Formerly DOD IT Standards Registry)
- Information Assurance (AR 25-2/DoD Information Network Approved Products List) (DoDIN APL)
- Internet Protocol Version 6 (IPv6)
- Army Information Management and Technology (AR 25-1)
- Section 508 (§1194.26 U.S. Rehabilitation Act)
- Smart Card Reader (CAC) (ISO 7816, FIPS 201, NIST IR 6887)
- Trusted Platform Module (TPM v2.0)
- Wireless Networking (DODD 8100.2 & AR 25-2)
- UID, RFID, etc.
- Hardware Requirement for FIPS 140-2 Certified Mode in Support of 802.11 Wireless Connection
- Secure BIOS/UEFI (NIST SP 800-147)
- Applicable DISA Security Technical Implementation Guides (STIGS)
Hardware
ADMC-2/Consolidated Buy (CB)

ADMC-2 Contract Overview
Seven (7) Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (ID/IQ) Contracts
• Period of Performance: 24 APR 2006 to 23 APR 2020
• Open to Army, DOD, and Federal agencies
• Program Maximum: $6.545 Billion across all contracts for life of contracts (including all options)
• Decentralized Ordering
  • IT e-mart Request for Quote (RFQ) Tool preferred
  • Contracting Officers have the option to negotiate the proposed delivery order pricing
• No CHESS fee
• No protests allowed on orders under $25M ($10M for Civilian Agencies)

ADMC-2 Contract Scope
• Commodity purchases of commercial off-the-shelf desktops, notebooks, ruggedized and semi-ruggedized devices, slates/tablets, printers, scanners, power supplies, displays, video teleconferencing equipment (VTC), digital cameras, transit cases and related accessories and upgrades. Limited services include: installation, asset tagging, imaging, site survey, system configuration. Related services: installation, site survey, system configuration, integration, imaging, asset tagging and distribution
• Base contract for desktop and notebook Consolidated Buys (CBs)
• Includes technology refreshment, replacement and new technology provisions
Consolidated Buy Process Overview

- The CB objective is to reduce Army costs and standardize IT enterprise
  - **Considerations**
    - Cost, technical, OEM flexibility, schedule, O&M
    - NETCOM Army enterprise desktop standardization
  - **Contracting Process**
    - NETCOM Army enterprise desktop standardization
    - Online Process – IT e-mart
    - Customer compares technology, prices, support features
    - Decentralized ordering by customer’s contracting activity
  - **CHESS Advantages**
    - No CHESS fee
    - Already standards/policy compliant (ADMC-2)
    - Windows 10 AGM load at factory
  - **Exception Process**
    - Mission critical, non-conforming specs and host country agreement
**CB Compare Tool Screenshot**

How To View Pricing: Select your Pricing Model, then select the desired options by using the checkboxes below. The new pricing is updated in the Configured Price row.

**NOTE:** Product options CANNOT be ordered separately.

### Pricing Model
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### Audio Support
- **Base CUIN CONUS (100%AA)**: Included
- **Audio Architecture**: Intel HD Audio
- **Integrated or Discrete?**: Integrated On Motherboard
- **Cabling Cards**: No Card
- **Description**: OEM 18.4" Cabling Case
- **Manufacturer/Model**: Dell 6520

### Features
- **Base CUIN CONUS (100%AA)**: Included
- **Integrated NIC**: Included
- **Integrated Display**: Included
- **Optional Features**: Included

### Additional Options
- **Platform**
  - **Intel - Stable Image Platform Program**: Included
  - **Intel - Stable Image Program**: Included
  - **Intel - Stable Image Platform Program**: Included

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UNCLASSIFIED
ITES-3H Contract Overview

- Seventeen (17) Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (ID/IQ) Contracts (7 small businesses, 10 large)
- Period of Performance: 25 APR 2016 to 21 FEB 2021
- Open to Army, DOD, and Federal Agencies
- Program Maximum: $5 Billion across all contracts for life of contracts (including all options)
- Decentralized Ordering
  - IT e-mart Request for Quote (RFQ) Tool
  - Contracting Officers have the option to negotiate the proposed delivery order pricing
- Ability for Small Business set asides
- No CHESS fee
- No protests allowed on orders under $25M ($10M for Civilian Agencies)

ITES-3H Contract Scope

- IT hardware solutions of commercial off-the-shelf RISC/EPIC servers, Windows based servers, workstations, thin clients, desktop and notebooks (as part of a total solution), storage systems, networking equipment, network printers, cables, connectors, cabinets, video teleconferencing equipment (VTC), power supplies and related ancillaries.
- Related Fixed Prices Services include: system configuration and integration, physical site analysis, installation and relocation, high availability configuration and legacy equipment warranty/maintenance.
- Includes desktops and notebooks for the fielding of a complete system or part of total solution
- Includes Technology Refresh and New Technology Provisions
Mobility & Wi-Fi Services

ADMC-2 Contract
• ADMC-2 provides pre-loaded AGM mobile computing devices, including laptops and certain tablets and slates. Ordering is open to Army, DOD and other Federal Agencies. https://chess.army.mil/Contract/Admc2

Wi-Fi Device Contract
• This is the main mobile device contract and the result of a partnership with NASA SEWP. The scope of the Microsoft Surface & Wi-Fi Devices Contract is Wi-Fi devices that have either an Android or Apple IOS Operating system. All devices are Wi-Fi only and have no cellular data plans or capabilities.
• This contract now also offers Microsoft Surface devices, including Microsoft Surface Book, Microsoft Surface Pro 3 & 4, Microsoft Surface 3 Light and accessories. All of these devices have Windows 10 Operating system only except Microsoft Surface 3 (Win 8.1). None of these devices come preloaded with the AGM image. All devices will require local NEC to load appropriate AGM version. These devices are also Wi-Fi only and have no cellular data plans or capabilities.
• Ordering is open to Army, DOD and other Federal Agencies. https://chess.army.mil/Contract/Program?Name=Wi-Fi%20Devices

NETCOM Wireless BPA
• The scope of the NETCOM BPA is to provide commercial cellular wireless voice and data services and related equipment, data analysis, support, and maintenance services. Ordering is open to Army and Air Force, as well as government officials within the DOD. https://portal.army.mil/apps/WEM/sitepages/userregistration.aspx

An ITAS Waiver is NOT required when using any of the Mobility Services Contracts!
Program Overview
The CHS program office enables the Army's Operating Force by providing a holistic approach to acquiring common hardware across the battle space, utilizing the most effective and efficient means to meet the unique fielding requirements of tactical program offices. CHS coordinates across tactical programs to provide consolidated procurement and sustainment of modified COTS IT and to ensure configuration and obsolescence management. CHS partners with industry to examine new and emerging technologies that meet the operational need.

- Requirements Type: CDD – Approved 2006, Revalidated 2013
- Acquisition Program – ACAT III designated
- Fully G8 POM funded RDT&E program – NOT fee-for-service
- Systems Engineering & Technology Support to all DoD
- Available to Army & other DoD Agencies

Key Capabilities
- Tactical / Operational Requirements:
  - Commercial IT Hardware
  - Services in support of CHS Hardware
- Customized Hardware Configurations:
  - Ruggedization to MILSPEC standards (e.g. MIL-STD-810, MIL-STD-464 – and includes Gov’t-Witnessed First Article Testing)
  - Transportability Requirements (e.g. Operational Transit Cases, Installation Kits)
- Configuration Management & End-of-Life Support
- Systems Engineering Support for Undefined Requirements
When to use CHESS vs CHS?

**CHESS (Computer Hardware, Enterprise Software and Solutions)**
- All other Commercial IT Hardware including Enterprise Requirements
- Software, ELAs, ESAs
- Services
- SoNA / ITAS Waiver process

**CHS (Common Hardware Systems & Tactical)**
- Tactical / Operational Requirements
- Customized Hardware Configurations
- Configuration Management & End-of-Life Support
- Systems Engineering Support for Undefined Requirements
ITES-2S Contract Overview

- Sixteen (16) Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (ID/IQ) Contracts
- Period of Performance: 20 DEC 2006 to 13 APR 2020
- Open to Army, DOD, and Federal agencies
- Program Maximum: $20 Billion across all contracts for life of contracts (including all options)
- Firm fixed price, time and materials, cost plus
- Decentralized Ordering
  - IT e-mart Request for Proposal (RFP) Tool required for Task Order Requests (TORs)
  - Contracting Officers have the option to negotiate the proposed task order pricing
- No CHESS fee
- CONUS & OCONUS
- No protests allowed on orders under $25M ($10M for Civilian Agencies)

ITES-2S Contract Scope

- A full range of services and solutions necessary for the Army to satisfy its support of Army net centric goals with Information Technology (IT) services worldwide
- The IT services solutions are categorized in the following task areas:
  - Business Process Reengineering (BPR) knowledge management
  - Information Systems Security
  - Information Assurance
  - Information Technology Services
  - Enterprise Design, Integration, and Consolidation
  - Education/ Training
  - Program/ Project Management
  - Systems Operations and Maintenance
  - Network support
Information Technology Services – Small Business (ITS-SB)

**ITS-SB Contract Overview**

- Nine (9) Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (ID/IQ) Contracts
- Period of Performance: 12 JUL 2012 to 13 APR 2020
- Open to Army, DOD, and Federal agencies
- Program Maximum: $800 Million across all contracts for life of contracts (including all options)
- Decentralized Ordering
  - IT e-mart Request for Proposal (RFP) Tool required for Task Order Requests (TORs)
  - Contracting Officers have the option to negotiate the proposed task order pricing
- No CHESS fee
- Firm fixed price, time and materials, cost plus
- CONUS ONLY
- Ability for Small Business set asides
- No protests allowed on orders under $25M ($10M for Civilian Agencies)

**ITS-SB Contract Scope**

- A full range of services and solutions necessary for the Army to satisfy its support of the Army enterprise infrastructure and infostructure goals with information technology (IT) services within CONUS.
- The IT services solutions are categorized in the following task areas:
  - Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool (EPEAT)
  - Information Assurance (IA)
  - Independent Verification & Validation (IV&V)
  - Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6) Engineering Services
  - Migration/Integration IT Services
  - Warranty and Maintenance.
Army Cloud Computing Enterprise Transformation (ACCENT)

ACCENT Contract Overview

- Period of Performance: BOAs - 3 years; TOs - up to 5 years
- 68 Vendors
- Open to Army and DOD
- Program Maximum: $248.7 million ($204 million hosting and $44 million transition/modernization).
- Decentralized Ordering
  - IT e-mart Request for Proposal (RFP) Tool required for Task Order Requests (TORs)
  - Contracting Officers have the option to negotiate the proposed task order pricing
- No CHESS fee
- All ordering on ACCENT must be through CHESS

ACCENT Contract Scope

- Services and solutions necessary for the Army to satisfy the requirement to migrate Army enterprise systems/applications to commercial cloud service providers and/or AEHFs. Commercial cloud services will be acquired based on approved Cloud Service Provider (CSO) Cloud Service Offerings (CSOs) (i.e., those with a DoD Provisional Authorization). ACCENT will also enable capability owners to modernize and transition applications to CSP/CSOs and/or AEHFs, and facilitate the acquisition of modular or mobile hosting facilities.
  - Cloud Hosting
  - Transition Support
  - Modernization
Software Procurement through CHESS

Visit the CHESS Software Agreements Page to get started!
Enterprise License Agreements

ELA Contract Overview
– ELAs are typically service component specific unless specified as a Joint effort between two or more DOD components
• Period of Performance varies
• Ordering Open To varies
• Decentralized Ordering

ELA Scope
• Utilizes best practices for establishing ELAs
• Acquisition Planning specific to ELAs
• Vendor relationships
• Established standard terms and conditions for ELAs
• Strong partnership with supporting Contracting Office
• Army representative to the DOD Enterprise Software Initiative
Several Enterprise License Agreements (ELAs) have been awarded pursuant to Army goals to streamline acquisitions and generate significant cost avoidance in software procurements through centrally negotiated and purchased Commercial Off-the-Shelf (COTS) software.

The CHESS LTS was established to centrally manage the assets of these agreements.

The LTS allows customers to:
- **Request** licenses
  - *Customers cannot download licenses from the License Tracker. The LTS is provided as an internal request and asset tracking tool only.*
- Provide a real-time, command level view of all previous and current license requests.

The LTS is accessed through the CHESS IT e-mart at the following link: [https://chess.army.mil/Static/LTS_OVR](https://chess.army.mil/Static/LTS_OVR)
**Enterprise Software Initiatives**

**ESI Contract Overview**

- Co-chaired by OASD/CIO staffer and DOD service rep (currently Navy)
- ESI Established Jun 1998
- ESIs are DOD-wide level agreements
  - Period of Performance varies
  - Ordering Open To varies
  - Decentralized Ordering at Component level

**ESI Scope**

- Lower total cost of ownership across DOD, Coast Guard and Intelligence Community
- Establish and manage enterprise commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) IT agreements, assets and policies
- DOD components appoint Software Product Manager (SPM) to:
  - Consolidate requirements and develop business case
  - Negotiate best-value deals
  - Administer resulting agreements
- CHESS is the Army’s Software Project Manager (SPM)
ITES-SW Contract Overview

- Three (3) Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (ID/IQ) Contracts
- Period of Performance: 11 FEB 2015 to 11 FEB 2020
- Open to Ordering contracting officers within the Army
- Program Maximum: $179 Million across all contracts for life of contracts (including all options)
- Decentralized Ordering
  - IT e-mart Request for Quote (RFQ) Tool
- No CHESS fee
- No protests allowed on orders under $25M ($10M for Civilian Agencies)

ITES-SW Contract Scope

- COTS software products and related services that have obtained a full Certificate of Networthiness (CoN) applicable under the following categories:
  - IT Utility & Security
  - Modeling & Simulation
  - Multimedia & Design
  - Program & Development
CHESS Statement of Non-Availability (SoNA)

• What is a SoNA and why is it a requirement in order to purchase from a source other than CHESS?
  – A SoNA is issued by CHESS as validation that an Army organization has complied with the AR 25-1 regulation to purchase all COTS IT through CHESS; however, no viable contract vehicle was available at the time of the requirement submission.
  – A SoNA/ITAS Waiver package is not required for Services, such as IT support, hardware maintenance, and software maintenance as a service – unless the service is part of a server hosting solution

• Is a SoNA sufficient for purchasing outside of CHESS?
  – A SoNA does not constitute approval to purchase or deviate from any Army regulation or policy. In addition to a SoNA, commands funding the purchase must request an ITAS Waiver to purchase from sources other than CHESS regardless of cost or appropriation. The ITAS Waiver tool is available at (https://www.eprobe-training.army.mil/enterprise-portal/web/itas/home).

Policy Reference: Army Waiver Process for COTS IT Procurement Outside the CHESS Program
Goal 1 Waiver Transition to ITAS

- Effective 20 Nov 15 Goal 1 Waiver has transitioned to the Information Technology Approval System (ITAS).
- ITAS was created to re-engineer the IT Waiver process into a more transparent process enabling improved management of IT inventory to better inform users involved in the budget process.
- Commands can no longer utilize the Goal 1 Waiver tool. Any G1W requests submitted after 20 Nov 15 will be rejected.
- Prior to waiver submission, users are required to attend ITAS training.
Statement of Non-Availability (SoNA) & ITAS Waiver

- How to submit a SoNA and obtain an ITAS Waiver:
  - [https://chess.army.mil/Content/Page/SONA](https://chess.army.mil/Content/Page/SONA)

- When do I need an ITAS Waiver, but not a SoNA?
  - **Answer:** If it is a datacenter related purchase you will need a ITAS Waiver, but not a SoNA*

- ITAS Waiver and SoNA FAQs:
  - [https://chess.army.mil/static/FAQ](https://chess.army.mil/static/FAQ)

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**Statement of Non-Availability (SoNA)**

- Is the product available via a CHESS contract vehicle. If no, proceed to request a SoNA
- SoNAs must be created using the CHESS IT e-mart: [https://chess.army.mil](https://chess.army.mil)
- SoNA approval does not authorize use on Army network

**ITAS Waiver**

- ITAS Waiver is needed to purchase COTS IT through other sources than CHESS
- ITAS Waiver is NOT required for services*

*Moratorium on IT Spending Exception*
CHESS IT e-mart
IT e-mart Features:

- Contract Information, Modifications and Lists of Products
- Request For Quote (RFQ)/Request For Proposal (RFP)/Request For Information (RFI) Tool *
- Reverse Auction Capability*
- Statements of Non-Availability (SoNA) Request Tool *
- CHESS License Tracker for Software (LTS)*
- Consolidated Buy Compare Tool
- Request for Training Tool *
- CHESS Tutorials, Ordering Guides & FAQs
- CHESS Events Calendar
- Software Agreements for ELAs and ESIs **
- “Report a Bug” for Feedback *
- Link to CIO/G-6 ITAS Waiver
- Government Employee Purchase Program

*Must be logged in
**Must be CAC logged in  
https://chess.army.mil
Request For (RF) Tool

In order to utilize the RF Tool to submit Request for Quotes (RFQs), Request for Proposals (RFPs), Requests for Information (RFI), or to start a Reverse Auction (RA) you must be logged into the CHESS IT e-mart at https://chess.army.mil
(Once you are logged in to the CHESS IT e-mart click “RFx” on the Main Menu bar to access the RF Tool)

• **Request for Quote (RFQ)** – Utilize when procuring Hardware & Software from ADMC-2, ITES-3H, Mobility Services and ITES-SW contract vehicles.

• **Request for Proposal (RFP)** – Utilize when procuring Services from ITES-2S and ITS-SB contract vehicles.

• **Request for Information (RFI)** – Utilize when conducting market research to request information from any of the vendors listed on any CHESS contract.

• **Reverse Auction (RA)** – Utilize when soliciting vendors to successively bid prices down against other vendors. Only available for ADMC-2, ITES-3H and ITES-SW.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: Contracting Officers have the option to negotiate proposed delivery/task order pricing**
The CHESS IT e-mart Tutorial will walk you through most of the basic capabilities, functions and features of the CHESS IT e-mart for better user experience and efficiency.

The CHESS 101 Briefing is a program overview including detailed information about our Hardware, Software, and Services Contracts. Get additional information about our License Tracker for Software (LTS) Tool, RFx Process Tool, and how to submit Statements of Non-Availability!

The RF Process & Reverse Auction Tutorial will walk you through how to submit Request for Quotes (RFQs) – Hardware/Software, Request for Proposals (RFPs) – Services, Request for Information (RFI) – when one is conducting initial data gathering, and how to develop a Reverse Auction (RA) efficiently and effectively by utilizing the CHESS RFx Tool.

Contact Tricia Shelley at tricia.a.shelley.ctr@mail.mil to request a specialized Briefing/Training for your command!
Quick CHESS 101 Recap

CHESS is the mandatory source for commercial IT hardware and software Purchases.

- Step by Step tutorials available on the CHESS IT e-mart include:
  - Request for Quote (RFQ) Tutorial
  - Request for Information (RFI) Tutorial
  - Reverse Auction (RA) Tutorial
  - Statement of Non-Availability (SoNA) Process Tutorial
  - License Tracker for Software (LTS) Guide

https://chess.army.mil/Content/Page/RES_TUTRL
Quick CHESS 101 Recap

Task Order Process:

- Technical Point of Contact (POC) and Ordering Contracting Officer (Ordering KO) develop a statement of work, statement of objectives or performance work statement; independent government cost estimate; evaluation criteria; funding document
- In accordance with FAR 16.505(b) Ordering, the Ordering KO must provide each IDIQ contractor a fair opportunity to be considered for each task order exceeding $3,000, except as provided for in FAR 16.505(b)(2)
- Post the SOW/SOO/PWS requirements package on CHESS IT e-mart via the RFP Tool
- Select the due date for responses (default is ten (10) days - adjust according to complexity of task)
- Technical POC and Ordering KO evaluate proposals received
- Ordering KO conducts negotiations
- Ordering KO awards task order directly to winning prime, and notifies unsuccessful offerors

If no small business capability exists, CHESS contract vehicles are the preferred source for acquisition of IT services.
Contact Us

Computer Hardware, Enterprise Solutions and Software (CHESS)
9351 Hall Road, Building 1456
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5526
CHESS Customer Support Team: 888-232-4405
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