The importance of sharing knowledge and a common perspective are vital to the achievement of a single goal by a group. The ongoing training – new and refresher – efforts of every Federal employee are well documented.

There are two presentations included in this Toolkit that focus on the AbilityOne Program and its priority within the procurement system. They are offered as a resource for independent review.

Dec 28, 2011
AbilityOne Program Overview

How to Leverage the Program to Fulfill Your Product and Office Supply Needs
Provide employment opportunities for people who are blind or have other significant disabilities through the manufacture and delivery of products and services to the Federal Government.
Federal Customer

• Your support is critical to the success of the AbilityOne Program
  – Not limited to contracting personnel
  – Includes purchase card holders, agency program officials, and functional managers

• Encourage buying where you see the AbilityOne logo

• Give Feedback - Suggest products for potential Procurement List additions
Committee Responsibilities

• Establish strategic direction for the AbilityOne Program
• Manage Additions to and Deletions from the Procurement List
• Set and Revise Fair Market Prices
• Determine rules and regulations necessary to administer the Program through the Javits-Wagner-O’Day Act
• Assist Federal customers to increase their support of the AbilityOne Program
Central Nonprofit Agencies

• Central Nonprofit Agencies (CNAs) are one or more non-governmental organizations designated by the Committee to assist in the administration of the Program.

• They are currently:
  ✓ National Industries for the Blind (NIB)
  ✓ NISH (creating opportunities for people with other significant disabilities)
CNA Responsibilities

• Represent Nonprofit Agencies (NPAs) who participate in the Program
• Evaluate NPA qualifications and capabilities
• Ensure NPA compliance with Javits-Wagner-O’Day Act and other Federal statutes
• Oversee NPA contract compliance
• Solve problems; initial point of contact for complaints or delivery issues
• Equitably distribute orders to NPAs
Nonprofit Agency Responsibilities

- Manufacture and deliver products or perform services as assigned by NIB or NISH
- Maintain qualifications for participation:
  - 75% of direct labor hour performed by people who are blind or have another significant disability
  - Net income cannot benefit individual shareholder or other individual
- Meet other requirements of Federal contractors
Why is AbilityOne Important?

• Over 18 million working-age adults are blind or have a significant disability.
• 70% of this population is NOT employed.
• AbilityOne is the single largest employer of Americans who are blind or have other significant disabilities.
• It serves people who cannot obtain or maintain employment on their own.
Benefits to NPA Employees

• Wide range of job options
• Equitable wages & benefits
• Long-term work experience
• Marketable job skills
• A measure of independence
Benefits to the Government

• Quality products & services with on-time delivery
• Fair market prices give best value procurement
• National network of suppliers & solutions providers
• Satisfaction in helping people to help themselves
How does AbilityOne work with Federal Customers?

• Partner with Federal customers as a preferred source for products

• Work harder to increase customer satisfaction and earn loyalty

• Responds to feedback on consistency, reliability, quality, timeliness, and price
AbilityOne Products feature the SKILCRAFT™ brand

How to Get the Quality, Value and Convenience You Need
What Products Can I Buy?

• Chemical Supplies
• Cleaning Products
• Clocks
• Clothing
• Computer Accessories
• Disposable Paper Products
• Furniture
• Kitchen & Break Room Supplies
• Mattress & Bedding
• Medical Supplies
• Military/Combat Clothing
• Office Supplies
• Paint & Accessories
• Personal Care & Safety
• Picture Frames
• Safety & Maintenance Items
• Shipping & Packaging Supplies
• Writing Instruments
One of the Program’s largest off-the-shelf product categories is OFFICE SUPPLIES, including pens, pencils and markers. Binders, folders, & clipboards. Notepads, from self-stick notes to steno pads to writing tablets. Paper clips, binder clips, and adhesive tape.
“Green” Products

- Biodegradable paper cups
- Process Chlorine Free (PCF) office paper
- Pens made from recycled materials
- Disposable cutlery
- Environmental cleaning agents
Custom Engraving Products

- Awards & Recognition
  - Plaques
  - Pen sets
- Clocks
- Military picture frames
- Stamps
Safety & Personal Care

• First aid kits
• Fire hoses
• Flashlights
• Gloves
• Non-skid deck covering
• Traffic safety clothing items
Is AbilityOne still a required source if I only buy small amounts with my purchase card?

- **Yes**, the AbilityOne Program is applicable at any dollar amount
- **No** exemptions for micro-purchases
Buy AbilityOne Products

- GSA Global Supply  
  [www.GSAglobalsupply.gsa.gov](http://www.GSAglobalsupply.gsa.gov)
- *GSA Advantage!*®  [www.gsaadvantage.gov](http://www.gsaadvantage.gov)
- DoD EMALL  [www.emall.dla.mil](http://www.emall.dla.mil)
- Multiple Award Schedule Holders - Authorized AbilityOne Distributors
- Base Supply Centers
- Official on-line store  [www.abilityone.com](http://www.abilityone.com)
AbilityOne Procurement List

- Source for the Official list of AbilityOne items
- Search by name and National Stock Number (NSN) or commercial name for each product
- Maintained by the Federal agency the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled
- Access the list:  www.abilityone.gov
  then →Quick Links →Products
Unique Products in the AbilityOne Program
AbilityOne products are an important part of the U.S. military industrial base:

– Chemical and Biological Protective Apparel and Equipment Systems
– Dress and Battle Uniforms (BDU, ACU, ABU)
– Subsistence Items such as MRE Components and special Navy packaging for shipboard use
– Energy Dissipating Pads to cushion the fall of air-dropped humanitarian aid items
Industrial Base Balance

- AbilityOne understands and supports DOD agencies’ need to balance their purchases across multiple sources to ensure a healthy industrial base.

- Multiple AbilityOne manufacturing agencies can serve as back-ups and surge capacity.

- AbilityOne will grant purchase exceptions as needed to enable the government to purchase critically needed items outside our capacity.
• Current Large Volume Items
  – DeCA
    • Military Resale
    • Commissary Shelf Stocking
  – DSCR/DSCC
    • Belts and Straps
    • Battery and Lighting Acquisition, Storage, Repackaging and Distribution
  – DAU Detail Program
    • Acquisition AbilityOne curriculum online
Do I Have to Buy from AbilityOne?

- FAR Part 8
- Required source if on Procurement List
  - Services – first priority
  - Products – first priority after FPI Schedule
  - Applies to micro-purchases
- Purchase exceptions may be requested, if
  - NPAs cannot meet contract requirements or timeframes.
AbilityOne Unique Military Products

- Provide Soldier, Airman, Sailors, and Marine Corp Battle and Dress Uniforms
- Warfighter items: helmet components, “Navy-pack” dry food mixes, ID kits, Vehicle side racks,
- Mattresses for submarines and ships
- Medical items
Government-Unique Items

- Batteries
- Emergency Light Markers
- Head Lanterns
- Flashlights
- Terminal Adapters
- Tire Inflator Gauge
- Mechanic’s Creeper

Battle-board ID Kits
Seat Cushions
Aircraft Cargo Tie Down Kits, Nets and Straps
Oil Sample Bottle
Fuel Tank Foam
Tire Inflator Gauge
Rakes
Customer satisfaction is the key to keeping people employed, so…

\[
\text{Performance} + \text{Value} = \text{Customer Satisfaction} = \text{Jobs}
\]
Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled*

1421 Jefferson Davis Highway
Jefferson Plaza 2, Suite 10800
Arlington, VA 22202-3259
Phone: (703) 603-7740
Fax: (703) 603-0655
E-Mail: info@abilityone.gov
www.abilityone.gov

*The Committee began operating as the U.S. AbilityOne Commission on Oct. 1, 2010 [76 FR 60808-60809, 9/30/2011]
U.S. AbilityOne Commission
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Fax: (703) 603-0655
E-Mail: ebeale@abilityone.gov
NIB Contact Information

National Industries for the Blind (NIB)
Harlan Erker
1310 Braddock Place
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1691
Phone: (703) 310-0633
Fax: (703) 998-8268
www.nib.org
NISH
David Brown
8401 Old Courthouse Road
Vienna, Virginia 22182
Phone: (571) 226-4621
Fax: (703) 849-8916
www.nish.org
Government Purchase Card Training

December 2011
Purchase Card Training Program

• A **quality** source of supply...
  A required source for all federal agencies...

• A unique employment program for Americans who are blind or who have other severe disabilities.
Introduction

• **Purpose:** Create employment for People Who Are Blind or Have Other Severe Disabilities
  • Over 18 Million working-age adults are blind or severely disabled
  • Over 70% of this population is not employed
  • AbilityOne is the single largest employer of this population in America

• **Method:** Federal employees buy supplies and services furnished by these individuals
Is AbilityOne still a required source if I only buy small amounts with my purchase card?

- **Yes**, the AbilityOne Program is applicable at any dollar amount
- No exemptions for micro-purchases
- There are **No Waivers** for items on the Procurement List
- Waivers are not given due to cost of a commodity
AbilityOne Procurement List

• Official list of all AbilityOne items

• Maintained by the Committee for Purchase

• Identifies name and National Stock Number (NSN) or commercial name for each product

• Description and List of products and services on the Procurement List: www.abilityone.gov
• **Office and Cleaning Supplies**
  – AbilityOne paper products comply with Executive Order 13423 on “Greening the Government”

• **Medical/Surgical Items**

• **Textiles**

• **Services**
  – Temporary Administrative Services
  – Janitorial/Custodial; Grounds Maintenance; Switchboard; and Much More!
“Green” Products

- Biodegradable paper cups
- Process Chlorine Free (PCF) office paper
- Pens made from recycled materials
- Disposable cutlery
- Environmental cleaning agents
How to Buy AbilityOne Products

• GSA Global Supply
• GSA Advantage® / DOD EMALL
• Base Supply Centers/SERVMARTs
• Commercial Distributors
  (www.abilityone.gov/distributors)
• On-Line Store
  – www.AbilityOne.com
Points of Contact:

- **AbilityOne Commission Staff**  
  Eric Beale, 703-603-2119  
  ebeale@abilityone.gov  
  or info@abilityone.gov

- **National Industries for the Blind (NIB)**  
  Harlan Erker, 703-310-0633, herker@nib.org

- **NISH (serving a wide range of disabilities)**  
  Marti Eisentraut, 571-226-4640, meisentraut@nish.org
Central Nonprofit Agencies

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1310 Braddock Place
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-1691
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*The Committee began using the operational name U.S. AbilityOne Commission in October 2011.