



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

No. 2005-5

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Subject: Electronic Contract Solicitations (ECS) and the Federal Technical Data Solution (FedTeDS)

Applicability: Information

1. Reference ECB 2004-19, 17 Sep 2004, Subject: Electronic Contract Solicitations.
2. The purpose of this document is to provide updated guidance on the referenced ECB, and to respond to inquiries regarding the latest requirements for the use of Electronic Bid Sets (EBS), ECS, and FedTeDS.
3. Background - In 1995, USACE developed the EBS system for posting contract solicitations on the Internet. EBS was implemented as a distributed system with each district maintaining a separate web site. A centralized ECS system was developed in 2004 to simplify and standardize the process. The ECS approach consolidates all USACE solicitations at the CADD/GIS Technology Center.
4. In 2004, an upcoming change to the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) was announced that would mandate the use of FedTeDS, a Federal e-Government initiative, for dissemination of Sensitive But Unclassified (SBU) solicitations. The change to the FAR is expected to occur in 2005. USACE has determined that all USACE solicitations will be treated as SBU and will require the use of FedTeDS.
5. USACE districts now have an implementation decision. Districts, at their own discretion, may choose from these options:
 - Continue with the current EBS system until the FAR mandates the switch to FedTeDS, or until the start of FY 2006, whichever comes first.
 - Switch from EBS to ECS until the FAR mandates the switch to FedTeDS, or until the start of FY 2006, whichever comes first.
 - Switch to FedTeDS now.

6. ECS will be closed at the end of FY 2005, and Districts will not be billed for ECS support in FY 2006. The CADD/GIS Center will continue to provide technical support to all districts in FY 2005 regardless of which option they choose.

7. This ECB has been coordinated with the office of the Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting (PARC).

8. The technical point of contact for this bulletin is Elias Arredondo, CEERD-ID, 601-634-3140. The HQUSACE point of contact for this bulletin is Bob Bank, CECW-CE, 202-761-4243.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donald L. Basham', written in a cursive style.

DONALD L. BASHAM, P.E.
Chief, Engineering and Construction
Directorate of Civil Works

