

U.S. Corps of Engineers

Budget, Business Opportunities Detailed at Market Forecast Meeting

Civil Works Program (Dollars in Millions)			
Account	FY03 Budget	FY03 Enacted	FY04 Budget
General Investigations	108	134	100
Construction, General	1,418	1,745	1,350
Operations & Maintenance	1,914	1,966	1,939
Flood Control, Mississippi River & Tributaries	281	345	280
Regulatory Program	144	138	144
Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program	140	145	140
General Expenses	155	154	171
Flood Control & Coastal Emergencies	20	15	70
Total	4,180	4,642	4,194

More than \$1 billion in engineering contracts are earmarked in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers F.Y. 2003 budget. The \$1 billion is part of nearly \$10 billion in design and construction projects, says Donald Basham, chief of engineering and construction.

Of the Corps' \$14-billion budget for F.Y. '03, approximately \$8 billion is allocated to its military construction program (MILCON), where the Civil Works program is funded at about \$4.6 billion, Basham said. The Corps' budget for its MILCON program includes about \$655 million for engineering services, of which about 75 percent is contracted to the private sector. This figure also includes major construction for the Air Force, such as air-fields, barracks, and training facilities.

Under the Civil works budget (see Chart), Basham stated that "slightly more than 50 percent of the planning and engineering work for the Civil Works program is outsourced to private architecture and engineering firms, which equates to about \$500 million in fees."



US Army Corps of Engineers®

Basham also talked extensively about Iraq, detailing how the Corps serves as the United States Agency for International Development's (USAID) government engineer, providing technical contract oversight services. For information on business opportunities, please visit www.fedbizopps.gov.

FAX

To: CASE Member Firms
From: CASE Headquarters
Re: FCC Fax Ruling

FCC Attempts "Do Not Fax" Rules

In August, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) postponed the implementation of new *Fax Rules*, granting a "stay" until January 1, 2005.

The new rules, as proposed, would impose new restrictions on faxing by ACEC, the Member Organizations, member firms, and other groups. Under the new rules, which were to have gone into effect on August 25, before any person or entity may send faxes containing "unsolicited advertisements," a signed, written consent to fax must be received from the intended recipient. "Unsolicited advertisements" are defined as "any material advertising the commercial availability or quality of any property, goods, or services."

Certain types of faxes may be exempt from the new rules, including legislative alerts, surveys, and notices of meetings and elections, but this is not yet clear. However, any fax that combines "exempt" content with "non-exempt" content would require the prior written and signed consent of the intended recipient

before the fax could be sent.

ACEC recommends that the M.O.s, affinity partners, and member firms review the proposed rules and their present faxing practices. The American Society of Association Executives (ASAE), which includes many ACEC M.O. Executive Directors as members, submitted petitions for reconsideration and a stay of the FCC fax rules. The FCC granted the stay request after receiving hundreds of comments and requests for interpretation from associations and other businesses regarding the rulemaking.

ASAE also is lobbying Congress and the Executive branch about the harmful economic effects and unintended consequences that will arise if, and when, the new rules are implemented. The new rules will now be given more deliberate consideration to determine congressional intent. Information on ASAE's petitions and additional resources on the new FCC rules can be viewed on ASAE's Web site, <http://www.asaenet.org/main/>

CASE's Coordination and Completeness Publication

AISC Orders 5000 Copies

The American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) ordered 5000 copies of "A Guideline Addressing Coordination and Completeness of Structural Construction Documents." They will distribute copies to their members.

The publication has gained widespread notoriety with the help of a feature article in ENR. This publication provides the basis for a specific quality management plan and a method of implementation. It covers the important aspects of design relationships, and guidance on dimensioning of structural drawings. It can be ordered from the ACEC website – www.acec.org, click on "Publications" and in the search box type in "coordination".

Region	Office	Area	Main Contact
1	New England Region Thomas P. O'Neil, Jr. Federal Building Room 975 10 Causeway Street Boston, MA 02222	VT, NH, ME, MA, CT, RI	Thomas Mailander Officer (1PC) (617) 565-4691 Fax: (617)565-5967 tom.mailander@gsa.gov
2	North-Caribbean Region Room 1639 26 Federal Plaza New York, NY 10278	NY, NJ, PR, VI	Andrew D. Gerardi Officer (2PC) (212) 264-4245 Fax: (212)264-1229 andrew.gerardi@gsa.gov
3	Mid-Atlantic Region The Strawbridge Building 20 North 8th Street Philadelphia, PA 19107-3191	PA, MD, DE, VA, WV, NJ	Alfred Delucia Officer (3PC) (215) 446-5101 Fax: (215)209-0495 al.delucia@gsa.gov
4	Southeast Sunbelt Region Room 2513 401 West Peachtree Street Atlanta, GA 30365-2550	GA, FL, AL, MS, KY, TN, NC, SC	William "Buddy" C. Hill Officer (4PC) (404)331-7678 Fax: (404)331-7063 williamc.hill@gsa.gov
5	Great Lakes Region 230 South Dearborn Street Chicago, IL 60604	MN, WI, MI, OH, IN, IL	Don Whitacre Officer (5PC) (312)353-8742 Fax: (916)498-5372 don.whitacre@gsa.gov
6	The Heartland Region Room 2135 1500 E. Bannister Road Kansas City, MO 64131	IA, MO, KS, NE	John Casey Officer (6PC) (816)823-4900 Fax: (816)926-3571 john.casey@gsa.gov
7	Greater Southwest Region Room 11A21 819 Taylor Street Fort Worth, TX 76102	AR, OK, TX, LA, NM	Len Murphy Officer (7PD) (817)978-2522 Fax: (817)978-4743 len.murphy@gsa.gov
8	Rocky Mountain Region Building 41, Room 200 Denver Federal Center Denver, CO 80225	MT, WY, UT, CO, ND, SD	Robert Dunn Officer (8PF) (303)236-7070 x227 Fax: (303)236-3606 bob.dunn@gsa.gov
9	Pacific Rim Region 3rd Floor West Rm 3W/MB-35 450 Golden Gate Avenue San Francisco, CA 94102	CA, NV, AZ, HI	Catherine Lee Officer (9PC) (415)522-3088 Fax: (415)522-3316 cathyk.lee@gsa.gov
10	Northwest/Arctic Region 400 15th Street, SW Auburn, WA 98001	OR, WA, ID, AK	Todd Gillies Officer (10PC) (253)931-7546 Fax: (253)931-7308 todd.gillies@gsa.gov
11	National Capital Region Room 2002 7th & D Streets, SW Washington, DC 20407	DC Metro Area	Doug Nelson Officer (WPC) (202)708-6550 Fax: (202)708-4964 doug.nelson@gsa.gov

GSA Contacts

The table to the left is a listing of the Regional Contacts for Design and Construction at the Public Building Service of the General Services Administration (GSA)



Project Management:

The Road to Profitability

November 13 – 14, Houston, TX

ACEC's hottest seminar for increasing project profitability, "Project Management: The Road to Profitability," is a comprehensive workshop focused on the integral role of project management in an organization. Register online at www.acec.org or contact Sandrine Mailli at 202-347-7474 to join us.

Unauthorized Changes to Plans

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Sometimes changes are made to construction documents by the owner, a contractor or even a building department official without the knowledge and approval of the architect or engineer. In a few states, if an architect's or engineer's design is changed without his or her knowledge by the contractor or owner, and those changes result in damages, the law gives the designers protection from liability. This is not true in many jurisdictions however. In most states, absent some contractual safeguards, the design professional may well become liable – or at least have to mount a defense – because of someone else's mistakes.

Your best bet is to add a provision in your contract that absolves you of responsibility for changes that are made without your authorization. You would also want the owner to include a provision in the contractor's contract (and to be passed on to the contractor's subcontractors) prohibiting any changes without your knowledge and consent.