



**John S. Richard**  
Director

**Brad Henry**  
Governor

**STATE OF OKLAHOMA  
DEPARTMENT OF CENTRAL  
SERVICES**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Contact: Randy Ross, 405-522-2536**

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**STATE AWARDS NEW MAINTENANCE, REPAIR, AND OPERATIONS CONTRACT**

**OKLAHOMA CITY** – The Department of Central Services (DCS) is pleased to announce the award of the Maintenance, Repair, and Operations (MRO) contract to five suppliers – Fastenal, Gexpro, W.W. Grainger, H-I-S Paint, and MSC Industrial Supply. The two-year contract is effective March 1, 2010 and features two renewal options of two years each. The contract was awarded by the Department of Central Services Central Purchasing Division as part of its new \$pend\$mart Oklahoma Program, an initiative designed to achieve savings and efficiencies in state government procurement. DCS anticipates the contract to result in savings of approximately 14%. The state spends over \$10 million annually on MRO supplies. Six categories of purchased items are addressed by this contract: electrical supplies, fasteners, general maintenance, HVAC, janitorial supplies, and paint supplies. “This contract will provide significant savings at a critical time of need for the State” said John Richard, Director of the Department of Central Services.

“The MRO contract was competitively bid and awarded using best-in-class strategic sourcing initiatives” said Scott Schlotthauer, the State’s Purchasing Director. Strategic sourcing is a multi-faceted procurement process that continuously improves and re-evaluates purchasing activities.

Schlotthauer further explained that the Department of Central Services initiated and utilized a commodity council to evaluate individual agency needs for MRO supplies. Due to diverse agency needs, the council included representatives from the following state agencies: Transportation, Corrections, Human Services, Facilities Management, Juvenile Affairs, and Tourism. Many of the products in the MRO category had not previously been under a managed spend initiative.

“The presence of multiple awarded suppliers ensures effective product and geographical coverage in addition to price competitiveness” said Schlotthauer. The contract also extends contract pricing to in-store purchases at any of the locations operated by the awarded suppliers. The Department of Central Services and the contracted suppliers will partner to promote the use of this new contract by other governmental agencies, such as secondary schools, higher education, county offices, and municipalities. John Richard pointed out “the use of this contract by other governmental entities will enable additional savings of taxpayer dollars through increased volume.”

*“SERVICE, QUALITY, INTEGRITY”*