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DAS Contract Information

The following contracts were issued over the last 10 days.

Contract Number:	Contract Name:	For:	Contract Term:
<u>08PSX0158</u>	White and Yellow Pavement Marking Paint for the DOT	Department of Transportation, All Using State Agencies, and Political Subdivisions	January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2011
<u>08PSX0296</u>	Rubbish Removal Services for CT Agricultural Experiment Station	Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station	January 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010
<u>08PSX0256</u>	Custodial Services	Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities	January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009
<u>08PSX0308</u>	Rubbish removal services	Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services	January 1, 2009 through December 31 2012
<u>08PSX0299</u>	OEM John Deere Agricultural Consumer Replacement Parts and Labor	Department of Transportation, All Using State Agencies, and Political Subdivisions	Date of Award through September 30, 2011 with the option to extend.
<u>08PSX0292</u>	Annual Inspection, Cleaning and Emergency Repair Service for two (2) Cleaver Brook Boilers at the Connecticut Children's Place in East Windsor	Department of Children and Families	January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2010 (State reserves option to extend contract for one additional year.)
<u>08PSX0295</u>	Preventive Maintenance for HVAC System	Department of Children and Families	January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2010 (State reserves option to extend contract for length of its original term.)
<u>08PSX0320</u>	Purchase and Delivery of Bio-Diesel Fuel for the CT DOT	Department of Transportation	Through the Delivery and Depletion of 300,000 gallons. Approximately through January 2010

Contracts Expiring

Did you know that our state contracts are reviewed one to three months prior to the actual expiration date? Click on the list of "Contracts Issued/Expiring In Last/Next 30/60/90/120 Days." Choose the radio button marked "Expiring Contracts" and select the time frame. Then click "Get Contracts," That's all there is to it! [Contract Search](#)

Bid Notice Postings

To view the entire DAS bid notice listing, click on the following hyperlink to go to our web page [DAS Bid Notices](#).

Certification Central

Search for Small/Minority Companies

This feature allows you to create a list of vendors using specific criteria. Each category you select will further define your list. Typing in Keywords will give you a list of all currently certified vendors that contain those words in their product description or goods/services for which the vendor is certified.

<http://www.biznet.ct.gov/DASOpenAccess/SupplierDiversity/SDSearch.aspx>

Questions regarding the Supplier Diversity Program can be directed to Meg Yetishefsky, Supplier Diversity Manager, at Meg.Yetishefsky@ct.gov or 860-713-5228.

Catalog Shopping?

Use this link to access the listing of vendors, contract numbers and contract names that have been loaded into the [Core-CT](#) catalog.

DAS Commissioner Recognizes Opportunity for Savings

A Message from DAS Commissioner Brenda Sisco: The state has a significant opportunity to reduce waste, save natural resources and cut costs by purchasing remanufactured toner cartridges (remans) instead of original equipment manufacturers (OEM) toner cartridges. Remans reuse empty cores and parts rather than disposing single use cartridges. The Department of Administrative Services (DAS) estimates, based on this year's purchases of OEM toner cartridges, that the state could potentially save \$300,000 - \$400,000 per year by switching to remans.

The cost of remans is conservatively estimated to be 30% - 60% less than new cartridges on a cost-per-copy basis. Remans are suitable for use in most printers, copiers and other machines using laser cartridges. Reman products offer equivalent quality, performance, and yield compared to OEM standards.

Based on the environmental benefits and cost savings, DAS is directing all state agencies in the executive branch to procure and use remans, wherever available.

To assist you in finding suitable reman cartridges for your printers and copiers, please refer to [Contract # 07PSX0044](#) for fixed price remanufactured items. If you cannot locate your OEM cartridge on the fixed price list, please refer to the vendor's catalog for a comparable remanufactured product. Each contract vendor has a cross-reference chart, identifying the OEM part number and the replacement reman part number.

Agencies can continue to order these cartridges through CoreCT and these reman cartridges will be available in the CoreCT item catalog. You may direct any questions surrounding the contract supplement and these reman cartridges to Jill Belisle at 860-713-5149 or Jill.Belisle@ct.gov.

It's a Popular Question Answered by the Director of DAS Procurement - By Carol Wilson

A popular question asked of our procurement staff is "Why do I have to buy off of state contracts when I can go to the store and purchase it cheaper?" It's a good question. In short, the answer is that you must use state contracts for products or services whenever they are in place; however I will offer an additional explanation below addressing why going off contract, or purchasing from a retailer, does not always make good business sense.

State purchasing laws require DAS to purchase, lease or contract for all supplies, materials, equipment and contractual services required by any state agency. These laws are in place to ensure a fair, open and competitive procurement process for the protection of the taxpayers. Additionally, most of the state's term contracts offer commercial grade quality products with overall lower prices.

In general, you may be able to find a less expensive product available at a retailer, but to make that purchase you're losing valuable time/money away from your core business, and in most instances the retailer cannot hold the prices for a specified term. Additionally, most of these retailers cannot uphold the same terms and conditions met by the contract suppliers such as product warranties and guarantees, delivery, and all the legal protections provided through our state contracts. These statutory requirements to competitively and openly bid the state's needs also preserves the integrity of the bid process, because if agencies were able to use our contracts as a "shopping comparison", without some sense of contract purchase enforcement, then sales would be diminished for contractors and there would be less incentive for bidders to quote on our contracts, undermining our purchasing leverage and overall cost savings/value. The state relies on volume commitments and the commensurate pricing we receive day-in and day-out through our contracts.

In today's economic situation, every agency is looking to cut costs wherever possible, and DAS is committed to assisting agencies in saving through the use of state contracts. Stay tuned to future *Buylines* editions and the DAS Procurement website for information on an agency forum to be held in February which will be focused on achieving savings through the use of state contracts.

If you have a procurement question that you've always wondered about, email John.McKay@ct.gov and we'll answer it in an upcoming issue of *BuyLines*.