



News Release

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DGS Wins National Award for Vendor Enhancements to eVA eProcurement Tool

~ Center for Digital Government honored DGS for new Vendor Portal and Virginia Information Business Exchange (VIBE) ~

DENVER, COLORADO – The Department of General Services (DGS) today announced it had received a national award for the successful launch of two enhancements to its eProcurement tool, eVA, that help businesses collaborate and locate business opportunities.

The Center for Digital Government presented DGS with the State Government Experience Award at a ceremony Friday night in Denver, Colorado, for its creation of a new Virginia Business Opportunities search engine, also known as the Vendor Portal, and its Virginia Information Business Exchange (VIBE) tool. The Government Experience Awards recognize the achievements and best practices of states, cities and counties that have used digital technology to radically improve the experience of government and push the boundaries of how services are delivered.

Since its inception in 2001, eVA has transformed the way the Commonwealth buys goods and services from a decentralized, paper-based process to a centralized, electronic platform. More than 245 state agencies and institutes of higher education, and over 900 local government entities use eVA to announce bidding opportunities, receive quotes, order placement and approvals, manage contracts and more. The eVA marketplace includes nearly 100,000 businesses competing to provide the Commonwealth with quality goods and services, resulting in more than \$30 million in savings annually.

“DGS continues to build on the eVA success story by constantly developing ways to improve the services it offers to the public, government purchasers and businesses. It’s an honor to be recognized for those efforts,” said **Joe Damico, DGS Director**. “We realize that in today’s competitive market, businesses require immediate, real-time access to opportunities, and we feel like these enhancements go a long way in terms of making it easier for them to find those opportunities and to locate private sector partners.”

The new Vendor Portal transformed the user experience from a simple query with limited options to an ultra-fast, intuitive, and responsive search engine experience. Users can explore data using a variety of refinement filters and rapidly find opportunities of interest. Public bodies post close to 15,000 business opportunities per year via the enhanced Vendor Portal. More than 100,000 self-registered businesses (vendors), including approximately 11,000 small, women-owned, and minority-owned (SWaM) certified vendors are active in eVA and utilize the eVA Vendor Portal to find and respond to posted business opportunities and solicitations.

DGS also launched a new business-to-business collaboration tool called the Virginia Information Business Exchange (VIBE). VIBE builds upon eVA’s existing B2B Connect feature, where businesses could find partners to collaborate with on government solicitations, and goes further by creating a platform for businesses to partner and find opportunities in the private sector. Anyone, even those not interested in selling to the Commonwealth, can to promote, advertise, search, and exchange information through this newly introduced feature.

“This year’s results are evidence that state and local government agencies are continuing to grow the sophistication of their digital experiences,” said Dustin Haisler, chief innovation officer for the Center for Digital Government. A full list of 2019 Government Experience Award winners can be found at <https://www.govtech.com/cdg/government-experience/Government-Experience-Awards-2019-Winners-Announced.html>.

DGS provides laboratory, procurement, real estate, and engineering and architectural services for state agencies, as well as fleet vehicle management, graphic design, surplus property disposal, and mail services at the seat of government. The agency also manages the facilities and grounds at Capitol Square.

For more information or to browse the website, visit www.dgs.virginia.gov.

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