

# **INTERACTIVE PURCHASING SYSTEM**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Interactive Purchasing System (IPS) in combination with Vendor Link NC has proven to be one of the most beneficial technology initiatives ever implemented by the Department of Administration's Division of Purchase and Contract. In summary, it has:

- Provided efficient and effective communications statewide with vendors about bidding opportunities from both a centralized and decentralized perspective.
- Included the processing of almost 9,000 bidding opportunities since January 1, 1998.
- Saved conservatively \$750,000 in either hard savings or cost avoidance.
- Eliminated vendor protests related to not receiving notification of bidding opportunities.
- Established a consistent platform for identification of Historically Underutilized Businesses.