




## U.S. ABILITYONE COMMISSION

September 26, 2013

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1401 South Clark Street  
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Arlington, Virginia 22202

MEMORANDUM FOR See Distribution

FROM: E. Ballard, Executive Director and CEO   
SUBJECT: Support for AbilityOne Base Supply Centers (BSCs)

The U.S. AbilityOne Commission, National Industries for the Blind and AbilityOne-participating nonprofit agencies have a longstanding history of partnering in business opportunities with the Department of Defense and other Federal entities to enhance mission requirements and generate employment for Americans who are blind or have other significant disabilities. Our emphasis on employment includes opportunities for veterans, wounded veterans and military dependents.

All of our Base Supply Centers (BSCs) are added to the Commission's Procurement List as AbilityOne service projects in accordance with 41 CFR Chapter 51, and, as such, are authorized distribution sources for AbilityOne products and commercial (non-AbilityOne) products to support mission requirements. This outstanding business partnership began in the early 1990s. Over the years, it has resulted in thousands of jobs for people who are blind and severely disabled. Our Supply Centers provide employment both in retail positions and in the manufacturing and packaging of goods sold in the BSCs. *Your support* directly impacts the lives of people we are here to serve.

AbilityOne BSCs are positioned to be your preferred source for continuous support through the year. They meet each location's unique needs, by carrying a wide range of products (office supplies, cleaning products, general maintenance and repair items, clothing, etc.) from AbilityOne items to those supplied and distributed by reputable commercial vendors. Our BSCs sourced nearly \$50 million in supplies from small businesses last year alone. A unique and extremely positive advantage of utilizing these "one-stop shop" stores is that AbilityOne BSCs customize their inventory, benchmark to competitive commercial pricing and provide an exceptional level of customer service and support.

One of our most successful partnerships is in the operation of AbilityOne Base Supply Centers on military installations and in some Federal buildings. Making these locations your "supplier of choice" is a convenient solution and a true win-win partnership!

Please give this memo the widest possible dissemination among your location's purchasing professionals and purchase cardholders. For more information about AbilityOne BSCs, please contact our Program Liaison, Eric Beale, at (703) 603-2119 or [ebeale@abilityone.gov](mailto:ebeale@abilityone.gov), or visit our webpage at [www.abilityone.gov/distributors/base\\_supply.html](http://www.abilityone.gov/distributors/base_supply.html) for a list of locations.



COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED  
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