



News Release

On the web: www.xiostrategies.com/news.html

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McLean, VA – July 27, 2004 – Mary Ann Wagner, president and founder of XIO Strategies (“XIO”), announced today the award of a Defense Energy Support Center (DESC) contract to contribute to the development and evaluation of a study on the DESC enhanced fuels distribution system. The award grants XIO and fifteen other contractors the opportunity to bid on future DESC tasks over a period of five years. The primary objective of the study is to improve the operational efficiency of the DESC by identifying potential changes that aid in the elimination of suboptimal elements from the bulk fuel distribution chain, and provide relevant recommendations based on policy review findings.

The DESC owns all bulk fuel products and is the Department of Defense’s (DoD) single manager of the entire bulk petroleum distribution chain. This effort is part of Phase II of the implementation of the DoD mandate for Integrated Materiel Management (IMM), which extended DESC bulk fuel commodity ownership to the point of fuel issue. This mandate also charged DESC with maintaining the government-owned storage and distribution systems in the most cost-effective manner possible.

In order to identify the most cost-effective method, XIO Strategies will offer consulting services in the completion of the development and evaluation of the enhanced fuels distribution system study. Though only two years old, XIO has extensive experience working with the Department of Defense and a variety of government agencies. As a woman-owned small business, XIO offers consulting services in strategy design and development, supply chain management, change management, communications strategies, and program and project management.