

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
Washington, DC 20405

January 30, 1991

FIRMR BULLETIN C-25

TO: Heads of Federal agencies
SUBJECT: Bid Analysis and Reporting System - (BARS)

1. Purpose. This bulletin announces the availability of the General Services Administration's revised BARS, a system designed to perform the present value analysis necessary to evaluate vendor proposals when contracting for Federal information processing (FIP) resources.

2. Expiration date. This bulletin contains information of a continuing nature and will remain in effect until canceled.

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4. Information and assistance.

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Economic Analysis Branch (KELE)
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Washington, DC 20405
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5. Discussion.

a. Present value analysis. Financing techniques allow potential contractors to offer the Government many alternatives for paying for FIP resources. These alternatives may provide for payments to be made at different times and in varying amounts. Since contract-award decisions involve cost and time variables,

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the amounts to be paid and the timing of the payments may be significant.

b. BARS. Although BARS can be used to perform a variety of analyses, this bulletin discusses only applications involving FIP resources acquisitions. BARS was developed to help GSA evaluate vendor proposals for contracting actions involving FIP resources and can also be used by other Federal agencies. BARS is designed to perform complex system life analyses by applying present value to costs and calculating the costs over a period of time to determine the best financial terms for the Government.

c. Operating environment. BARS runs on an IBM-compatible personal computer and requires an MS-DOS operating system with a minimum of 640K RAM and a 3-1/2" or 5-1/4" floppy diskette drive.

6. Ordering information. Diskettes (sizes 3-1/2" and 5-1/4") containing BARS and supporting manuals are available free of charge to all Federal agencies. There is a \$50.00 charge to commercial firms. Diskette size must be specified when ordering. Copies of the manuals and diskettes can be obtained from the address shown in paragraph 3.b. of this bulletin.

7. Cancellation. FIRMR Bulletin 61 is canceled.

Thomas J. Buckholtz
Commissioner
Information Resources
Management Service

