

In This Issue

- Top Stories
- Government Procurement News

Upcoming NASPO Conferences

NASPO 2008 How to Market to State Governments Meeting
Sheraton New Orleans
April 6-8, 2008
New Orleans, LA
[Click here for Registration and Information!](#)

NASPO Southern Region Meeting
Hilton Capitol Center
Baton Rouge, LA
March 3-5, 2008
[Click here for Updates and Information!](#)

NASPO Midwest Region Meeting
The Westin Columbus
Columbus, OH
May 12-14, 2008
[Click here for Updates and Information!](#)

NASPO Publications

2007 Survey of State Government Purchasing Practices CD
Now Available!

2007 NASPO Supplier Guide
The 2007 Supplier Guide is THE source for the latest information on how to do business with state governments.

Contact Us

<http://www.NASPO.org>
nsmith@amrms.com

Top Stories

- State Director Shake-Ups
- New NASPO Appointments
- Upcoming NASPO Events

Joe Giddis, Robin Orr Leave NASPO

NASPO member Joe Giddis has retired as the Arkansas Director of State Procurement and accepted a procurement position with the Office of the Chief Fiscal Officer, District of Columbia. Joe was an active contributor to the association and had been serving on the Board of Directors as an at-large member and as chair of the Southern Region. He will be replaced by Acting Procurement Director Robin Rogers.

In addition, Robin Orr has taken a new position within Vermont state government. Deborah Damore takes her place as the state's NASPO member. Robin served on the Cooperative Purchasing, Emerging Issues, and Research and Publications Committees and as co-vice chair of the Eastern Region.

New NASPO Appointments

The departure of Joe Giddis has left several vacancies in NASPO leadership positions. As a result, Charles Covington (FL) has been appointed to the NASPO Executive Board to finish out the remainder of the vacated term. In addition, Lee Johnson (OK) has been named Chair of the Southern Region. The Vice-Chair will be determined at the region's next committee call, to be held February 26, 2008.

Upcoming NASPO Events

- The **NASPO Southern Region Meeting** will be held at the Hilton Capitol Center in Baton Rouge, LA from March 3-5, 2008. An agenda is available on the NASPO website [here](#).
- The **NASPO 2008 How to Market to State Governments Meeting** is shaping up to be an event to remember. Don't forget to [register](#) by **March 17, 2008!**
- The **NASPO Midwest Region Meeting** is scheduled for May 12-14, 2008, and will be held at The Westin Columbus. Registration should open soon and will be available [here](#).
- The **NASPO Eastern Region Meeting** will be held in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. That meeting will take place July 21-23, 2008 at the Sheraton Harborside Portsmouth Hotel and Conference Center. Check back [here](#) often for updates and information.

Government Procurement News

[Federal Emergency Management Agency's \(FEMA\) National Response Framework \(NRF\) Resource Center Updates](#) – Updates to the online [FEMA National Response Framework Resource Center](#) include a new FEMA Emergency Management Institute Independent Study Course: *National Response Framework, An Introduction (IS 800)*. In addition, new presentations are now available in the "Briefings" sections of the NRF Resource Center. These include overview briefings for Local, Tribal and State Response Partners, the Private Sector and Nongovernmental Organizations.

[Ohio Advises Fleet Managers to Purchase Compact Cars](#) - With fuel efficiency and environmental impact in mind, the Buckeye State has decided to focus on the Ford Focus when purchasing new passenger sedans for state employees. The Ohio Department of Administrative Services (DAS) in December directed state fleet managers to switch from the midsize Chevrolet Impala to the compact Ford Focus when purchasing new sedans for state employees who normally drive alone or with only one other passenger. The state chose the Focus based on a competitive bidding process managed by DAS State Procurement. (www.GovPro.com)

[Georgia ends contract with Office Depot](#) - State officials recently terminated a multimillion-dollar contract with Office Depot after the company repeatedly overcharged and mispriced items for state employees, the head of purchasing confirmed Tuesday. The company does about \$40 million a year with the state and had been Georgia's sole office supplier since March. Employees at the state's 129 agencies used purchasing cards to buy everything from printers to desks on the company's state of Georgia Web site. ([The Atlanta Journal-Constitution](#))

[Mississippi Senate Bans Illegal Immigrant Work on State Contracts](#) –Mississippi Senate Bill 2037 would require companies with state or local government contracts to verify that all of their employees are either legal U.S. citizens or legal aliens. Under the bill, a company could use a federal Homeland Security database to check employees. Several state agencies, including the attorney general's office and the Department of Employment Security, would be in charge of policing the companies to make sure they're in compliance. A company found in violation would lose its government contract. The bill passed 46-5 in the state Senate and has been passed on to the Mississippi House of Representatives. (www.forbes.com)

[USDA to Hold First Biopreferred Biobased Product Showcase](#) – The USDA will hold its first BioPreferred Biobased Product Showcase and Training in conjunction with the 2008 General Services Administration (GSA) Expo, April 21-24, 2008, in Anaheim, CA. Visitors may register for the opportunity to network with over 6,000 Federal and state procurement officials and to learn more about the BioPreferredSM Program. (www.USDA.gov)

[Biofuels Deemed a Greenhouse Threat](#) - Almost all biofuels used today cause more greenhouse gas emissions than conventional fuels if the full emissions costs of producing these "green" fuels are taken into account, two studies being published in the prestigious journal [Science](#) have concluded. The benefits of biofuels have come under increasing attack in recent months, as scientists took a closer look at the global environmental cost of their production. ([The New York Times](#))

[Green Procurement Exposition Conference—Midwest](#) - The [Green Procurement Exposition & Conference – Midwest](#) will be held June 4 & 5, 2008 in Chicago, IL at the world-famous Navy Pier. Organizers expect it to be a gathering of the best and brightest in procurement, purchasing, supply, and environmentally preferred products (EPP). Suppliers and vendors from throughout the country will be gathered to display the latest in green products and services available to business and government.

[State and local governments boost GSA schedule technology purchases](#) - Technology orders from state and local governments via a General Services Administration supply contract rose 45 percent during fiscal 2007, according to a new report. "To some degree, this is definitely the GSA seeing traction with their marketing efforts," said Jason Sajko, the report's author and a senior analyst at INPUT. He noted that GSA and organizations such as the National Association of State Procurement Officers have been educating local officials about these programs at trade shows and conferences. (www.GovExec.com)