



For Immediate Release
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Contact: Ken Murphy
Director of Communications
National Industries for the Blind
(703) 310-0333
kmurphy@nib.org

FedBid to Promote AbilityOne Products and Services in Federal Government Marketplace

Alexandria, Va. – The AbilityOne Program, National Industries for the Blind (NIB), and FedBid Inc. will collaborate to help federal government agencies comply with the requirements of the AbilityOne Program by raising awareness among federal buyers of SKILCRAFT® and AbilityOne products and services. AbilityOne products and services are manufactured by Americans who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

A memorandum of understanding was formally signed by Kimberly M. Zeich, deputy executive director, Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled; Claudia S. “Scottie” Knott, vice president of operations, NIB; and Geoffrey Miller, chief operating officer, FedBid Inc., on June 10 at the NIB/NAEPB (National Association for the Employment of People Who Are Blind) Opportunity Forum in San Antonio, Texas.

“This new cooperative agreement between AbilityOne and FedBid will significantly advance education and outreach efforts among federal buyers about SKILCRAFT and AbilityOne products and services provided by NIB and NISH associated agencies,” said Kevin Lynch, president and CEO, NIB. “This partnership will also give our AbilityOne distributors access to a broader segment of potential customers, all of which results in increased employment opportunities for Americans who are blind or have other severe disabilities.”

FedBid Inc. owns and operates The Buyer-Driven Marketplace®, where federal agencies compete requirements for commodities and simple services, some of which overlap with AbilityOne product offerings. Under the agreement with the AbilityOne Program, FedBid will both ensure that customers are aware of products available through the program and enable authorized AbilityOne product distributors who participate in FedBid to submit offers to supply the products.

About National Industries for the Blind (NIB)

At National Industries for the Blind (NIB), it is our mission to enhance the opportunities for economic and personal independence of persons who are blind, primarily through creating, sustaining and improving employment. NIB and more than 85 associated agencies serve as the largest employer for people who are blind by the sale of SKILCRAFT® products and services through the AbilityOne Program. For more information regarding how NIB and NIB-associated agencies continue to provide opportunities to Americans who are blind, please visit: www.NIB.org.

About the AbilityOne Program

The AbilityOne Program is the largest source of employment for people who are blind or have other severe disabilities in the United States. AbilityOne, a federal program, currently employs more than 40,000 people who are blind or have other severe disabilities on federal contracts. Through two central nonprofit agencies, NIB and NISH (serving people with a range of disabilities), AbilityOne works with more than 600 nonprofit agencies nationwide, and represents \$2.3 billion in products and services provided to the federal government. The program meets the needs of federal agencies nationwide. For more information regarding the AbilityOne Program, its employees, or its product and service capabilities, please visit: www.AbilityOne.gov.

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