

BSA's Procurement Agenda

Better Purchasing for US Government IT Transformation

The federal government must update how agencies purchase Information Technology (IT) to use the latest in digital technology. Enterprise business-to-business systems have helped the private sector advance, and it is time to move those modern and industry-proven systems to the US government through improved procurement rules.

ENABLING CUTTING EDGE IT FOR US AGENCIES



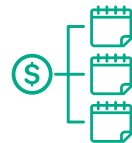
Multi-Cloud
Procurement



Commercial
Technology First



Streamline
Certifications



IT Modernization
Funding



Multi-Cloud Procurement

Federal agencies should work with multiple cloud providers to leverage the breadth of innovation occurring across the cloud industry. Agencies should not put all their data in one cloud infrastructure, but rather leverage multiple cloud service providers' compute, AI, and other technologies.

Multi-cloud procurement ensures that Infrastructure as a Service (IaaS) and Platform as a Service (PaaS) are all services used through multiple providers, rather than being limited to one. Agencies can distribute their

applications, data, and workloads across different cloud environments while providing flexibility and competition between providers for the federal agencies. Federal agencies can also use cloud-native security solutions, which can harden defenses against potential security gaps.

BSA SUPPORTS

- » Requiring multi-cloud for all federal purchases.
- » Ensuring that security is part of all cloud infrastructures.
- » Allowing the federal government full access to data across agencies.

Commercial Technology allows Agencies to have modern IT.



Commercial Technology First

The US government has a long standing policy of using US commercial software. Commercial product software, including

Commercial Off-the-Shelf (COTS) software, allows federal agencies to have industry best practice technology. It provides reliability, scalability, and flexibility so that agencies can nimbly respond to unexpected or changing conditions. The technology is updated and upgraded to respond to the market, so if security patches are needed, they can be updated quickly.

BSA SUPPORTS

- » Ensuring that federal agencies look to commercial product software for solutions.
- » Making requirements for commercial product software and government developed software equivalent.
- » Equipping speed, market access, and efficiency to proven industry IT solutions.



Streamline Certifications

Software security is critical, and federal agencies need ways to make sure software is secure. The Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FedRAMP) and the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) program are two prerequisites to ensure compliance with complex federal IT protections. These programs are one step in a multi-tiered process as agencies also have individual security procedures that create drag on quickly updating technology.

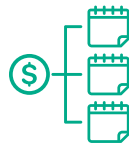
FedRAMP and CMMC lack reciprocity across the federal space. FedRAMP requires an investment of significant time because the process can take up to 18 months for a certification. Agencies have individual requirements for IT, in addition to FedRAMP and/or CMMC certification, which unintentionally undermine security goals because it prevents agencies from getting what they need quickly.

CMMC has the goal of enhancing cybersecurity solely for the Defense Industrial Base and is undergoing final

rulemaking. The lack of certainty from these programs hinders cyber defenses because federal agencies lag in updating to the latest versions of the technology.

BSA SUPPORTS

- » Assisting the government in maintaining the highest standards for security.
- » Ensuring security efficiently with certifications that work across organizations.
- » Eliminating burdens to working with the federal government.



IT Modernization Funding

The US government has decades of technical debt that it needs to address to take advantage of increasingly rapid development. Multi-year technology funding allows agencies to rapidly upgrade their systems and move to a multi-cloud environment. Multiple funding streams like the Technology Modernization Fund (TMF) were put into place to help federal agencies upgrade and modernize IT systems, improve spend effectiveness, and enhance cybersecurity. The lack of consistent reporting on project deliverables, and transformational project selection inhibit transformational change.

TMF reform and oversight from Congress can address these issues. Additional funding must be directed toward modernizing legacy federal systems so that federal agencies can maintain cyber security and use AI, machine learning, and other innovative technologies on platforms.

Shared services can expand funding across agencies rather than have individual efforts. Shared services also allows for data to be shared across federal, state, local, tribal, and territories quickly.

BSA SUPPORTS

- » Lifting federal IT to meet the needs of today and tomorrow.
- » Ensuring data policy interoperability via set standards.
- » Using industry best practice to shift functions to a shared services model.