



DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT
SERVICES

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**THE DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES PARTNERS WITH BELLSOUTH TO
PROVIDE FLORIDA WITH IMPROVED TECHNOLOGY SERVICES**

~MyFloridaNet will allow state agencies and other users to communicate over a private dedicated network~

TALLAHASSEE – The Florida Department of Management Services (DMS) and BellSouth signed a contract to provide improved data network services for state government and eligible users including Florida's county and city governments, school districts, universities and community colleges, and non-profit organizations. MyFloridaNet will allow users to communicate with each other over a private dedicated network. This new service will be offered by the Enterprise Information Technology Services (EITS) program within DMS.

"With lower prices and improved technology, MyFloridaNet will help organizations throughout the state improve their technological resources creating a more effective and efficient government," said Governor Jeb Bush. "Over the next five years, Florida will save \$64 million for the services provided through MyFloridaNet."

Currently Florida's data networking services are provided to users through a multi-vendor contract. MyFloridaNet, under one vendor, will enable the state to enhance its ability to provide services, including options for faster connections, to agencies at lower costs.

MyFloridaNet will replace the state's antiquated network with improved technologies, including fiber optic solutions. DMS will be able to provide new, enhanced services to all of the state's customers, with improved security features, including state of the art tools to diagnose and monitor services.

MyFloridaNet also provides the state tools to ensure vendor performance.

"Strong contract penalties provide Florida with some of the most stringent performance standards required in the marketplace today," said DMS Secretary Tom Lewis, Jr. "This ensures Florida's most critical communication systems, including the state's law enforcement officers' systems, are available in emergencies."

The BellSouth team, comprised of BellSouth, Embarq, Hayes Government Systems, and Juniper Networks, was selected from three teams in the final negotiations to provide the state with the MyFloridaNet data network. The five year value of the contract is estimated at \$175 million.

"BellSouth is pleased to have been selected by the Florida Department of Management Services to provide the data services for MyFloridaNet," said Marshall Criser III, president - BellSouth Florida. "We are excited about the opportunity to work with the State. MyFloridaNet represents the continuing commitment by Florida and BellSouth to serve the people of Florida using the best and most reliable technology available."

The Department of Management Services (DMS) serves those who serve Florida. DMS provides administrative support for state agencies and state employees including human resource, insurance, retirement, office facility, purchasing, vehicle/aircraft, property surplus, and information technology services. EITS is dedicated to optimizing existing technology services and strives to simplify access to government information for the citizens of Florida, keep government data and services secure, and add value and reduce cost for IT services. For more information, visit www.dms.myflorida.com.

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