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## **U.S. Communities Partners with SciQuest to Deliver Unparalleled Savings to Public Agencies and Institutions**

*SciQuest's Eprocurement Platform Offers Government Purchasing Alliance's Participants an Intuitive Solution for Driving Spending to Preferred Contracts*

**CARY, N.C., July 23, 2008** – SciQuest, Inc., the global leader empowering enterprises to realize the potential of strategic procurement, today announced that U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance (U.S. Communities), a nonprofit instrumentality of government that assists local and state government agencies, school districts, higher education and nonprofit organizations pool their purchasing power nationwide, has partnered with the company.

Through this partnership, select U.S. Communities' supplier contracts that have been competitively solicited by a lead public agency will be available via the SciQuest Supplier Network. Participating agencies that implement SciQuest's procurement automation solutions will be able to access U.S. Communities' contracts through an intuitive online shopping environment that integrates all of the agency's supplier contracts onto a single platform and enables users to make all of their purchases through one system.

"We provide a forum for public sector and nonprofit organizations to realize the savings that stem from these competitively solicited contracts with the combined purchasing power of our participants," said Chris Mellis, program manager of U.S. Communities. "SciQuest's online shopping environment is user-friendly and automates the entire purchasing process. With this technology, it will now be easier than ever to take advantage of U.S. Communities' contracts."

U.S. Communities has more than 33,000 participating public agencies and over 400 new organizations register to participate each month. SciQuest's suite of eprocurement solutions will provide a powerful and intuitive way for participating agencies to drive spending to all of their cost-saving contracts through a single environment for every agency purchase.

"We are excited that SciQuest is now a U.S. Communities partner because it will enable Emory to further leverage the cost and process efficiencies we've gained from our SciQuest eprocurement solution with the savings that U.S. Communities' contracts deliver," said David Thurston, associate vice president for financial operations at Emory University. "It is the ideal plug-and-play scenario for optimizing procurement, dropping a wide range of contracts negotiated by U.S. Communities into Emory's private marketplace that's powered by SciQuest."

U.S. Communities' participating agencies spend more than \$1.3 billion each year on goods and services purchased through its contracts with world-class suppliers like AutoZone, Haworth, HD Supply Facilities Maintenance, Herman Miller, Office Depot and its technology division Tech Depot, Sportime, and Virco. This partnership will benefit agencies and suppliers alike. SciQuest's

ability to bring spending under management and drive purchases to on-contract items helps participating suppliers secure a greater share of the market and realize process efficiencies.

SciQuest's eprocurement solutions are designed to enable all individuals across an organization to make purchases easily and quickly on a system that gives procurement and financial professionals unprecedented real-time visibility into organization-wide spending. Among U.S. Communities' participants, purchases of this kind are often only exceeded by payroll and spending on capital projects.

"In today's challenging economic environment, government agencies, academic institutions and nonprofit organizations are under unprecedented pressure to stretch the value of their financial resources," said Stephen Wiehe, president and CEO of SciQuest. "This partnership will enable U.S. Communities' participants to utilize a system that encourages the user participation and adoption required to realize the full potential of negotiated contracts."

For a limited time, SciQuest is offering an Early Bird Discount for U.S. Communities' participating agencies that are interested in taking immediate advantage of the SciQuest and U.S. Communities partnership. For more information, please visit SciQuest in Booth 611 on U.S. Communities Street at the NIGP Annual Forum, July 28-29 in Charlotte, N.C., or contact your SciQuest account executive.

#### **About SciQuest, Inc.**

SciQuest's procurement automation and supplier enablement solutions empower leading organizations to realize the potential of strategic procurement. The company's specialized knowledge, on-demand software, and service-first approach enable public and private enterprises across the globe to manage spend, drive ROI, and advance their critical missions.

SciQuest's deep understanding of its served vertical markets combined with a broad supplier network and intuitive, online shopping experience increase user and contract adoption while improving operational efficiencies. Through software-as-a-service (SaaS) deployment, organizations can quickly implement the right eprocurement solution to augment existing ERP investments or fully enable all aspects of purchasing from sourcing to settlement.

For more information about SciQuest, please visit [www.sciQuest.com](http://www.sciQuest.com) or call 877-710-0413 in the U.S. or +44 1794 341182 in Europe.

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