



IDABC eProcurement

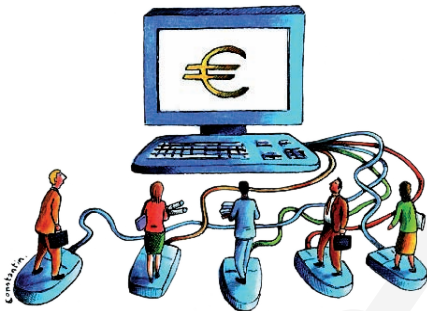
<http://ec.europa.eu/idabc/eprocurement>

Public procurement is a key sector of the European economy where technology can improve and simplify the way government operates and help to remove existing commercial obstacles.

Modernising and opening up procurement markets across borders is crucial to Europe's competitiveness in order to create new opportunities for businesses. Information technologies can contribute to reducing costs, improving efficiency and removing trade barriers.

The European Union is committed to boost electronic public procurement:

- By creating a legislative framework that paves the way for using electronic means in public procurement;
- By setting ambitious objectives by 2010: 100% electronic availability and 50% real use for procurement procedures above the legal thresholds.



In order to achieve these goals, administrations, business and software editors can profit from existing IDABC eProcurement results:

Guidance: the functional requirements are guidelines to implement eProcurement systems in line with the EU legislative framework. They suggest technical solutions enriched with practices from European countries and abroad.

Software: The software demonstrators are software simulators to help software editors and contracting authorities in Europe to develop eProcurement systems compliant with the EU legislation. The demonstrators also show the application of the functional requirements.

Standards & Technical specifications:

Interoperability is a must for electronic procurement. IDABC cooperates with international initiatives and standardisation bodies to ensure the emergence of **standards and technical specifications** in order to facilitate and harmonise the exchange of data between providers and buyers.

News & good practice exchange:

The eGovernment ePractice website (<http://epractice.eu>) provides news, information, and exchange opportunities for eProcurement and other eGovernment issues in Europe.

The ongoing IDABC activities also include **specific guidance for eInvoicing, eOrdering, eCatalogues and eSignatures.**

2010: The eProcurement target for Europe

IDABC documents & software can be downloaded at:
<http://ec.europa.eu/idabc/eprocurement>
under the terms of the European Union Public Licence (EURL).

IDABC is a European Commission programme to promote eGovernment and interoperability. IDABC stands for Interoperable Delivery of European eGovernment Services to public Administrations, Businesses and Citizens.

The IDABC programme is the successor of the IDA and IDA II programmes, which have been contributing to European eGovernment since 1995.

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