



**File Code:** 6300

**Date:** January 15, 2009

**Route To:**

**Subject:** Virtual Incident Procurement (VIPR) Version 1.0 Release

**To:** Regional Foresters, Station Directors, Area Director, IITF Director and Deputy Chiefs

I am pleased to announce the Virtual Incident Procurement (VIPR) system has successfully moved into production at the Forest Service Application Hosting Environment Data Center in Kansas City, MO. The VIPR team is now configuring the application software for use according to the phased implementation and training plan. After completing the training, Contracting Officers and their assistants can start using the system to prepare and issue solicitations for the 2009 season. During the winter months, existing agreements will be migrated into VIPR.

This begins a new, secure process for handling preseason Incident Blanket Purchase Agreements (I-BPAs) replacing the legacy EERA-DB and the Equipment and Training Inventory System (EaTIS) developed by Region 6 and piloted by Regions 1, 5 and 6. The innovation and hard work on those systems that preceded VIPR has paved the way for this national deployment.

Information has been sent to regional VIPR implementation coordinators providing instructions for establishing user profiles and access roles. As required by IT security and audit requirements, every user must complete and have signed by their supervisor the VIPR access request form and the rules of behavior document before a profile can be established.

More information about the VIPR deployment plan and the user access procedures can be found at the internal web page <http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/aqm/vipr>. The Interagency Incident Systems Helpdesk is trained and ready to start taking calls from the first Regions (including vendors) using VIPR.

I appreciate the contribution everyone has made to the successful deployment of VIPR and look forward to your continued support in making it a useful tool for incident support.

*/s/ Ronald Wester acting for*  
RONALD E. HOOPER  
Director, Acquisition Management

cc: pdl wo ops aqm directors, pdl wo spf fam regional fire directors, Hilda C Ferguson, Mike Barrowcliff, Mary A Szymoniak, Ronald Wester, pdl wo ops aqm eatis vipr liaisons, pdl wo ops aqm vipr implementation team, Barbara Loving

