Challenge: The Army Software Engineering Directorate (SED) US Army Research, Development and Engineering Command located on Redstone Arsenal, AL is leading the Army's efforts to develop the full needs of today's soldier. SED is one of the Army's software engineering life cycle management centers, and supports some of the nation's most sophisticated weapon systems. SED required a curriculum, instruction, and training contract vehicle to advance the effectiveness and efficiency of the Army's soldiers. The SED was using an Army contract when they were advised they had grown out-of-scope.

With the current contract no longer a viable solution, SED considered the Expedited Professional and Engineering Support Services (EXPRESS) Program. EXPRESS Program is a group of multiple award blanket purchase agreements (BPAs) leveraging commercial processes and innovative enhancements established within the General Services Administration (GSA) schedules program to incorporate dynamic teaming arrangements and to offer the right mix of professional and highly technical advisory and assistance services to Team Redstone. However, it was determined that EXPRESS was not a viable option for meeting their needs. Therefore, the SED required a new contract to prevent a break in service which would negatively impact the Army's mission.

Action: Region 4's Federal Acquisition Service (FAS), Assisted Acquisition Services Division (AASD) identified a streamlined solution in GSA's premier professional services contract vehicle - One Acquisition Solution for Integrated Services (OASIS). OASIS is a multiple award, Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract that provides flexible and innovative solutions for complex professional services.

AASD's contracting officers collaborated with SED, the OASIS program office, and industry during all phases of contract award to ensure requirements were properly configured to meet the customer's needs. AASD prepared this acquisition for success by conducting a requirements review to develop a sophisticated and yet streamlined work order process to handle hundreds of dynamic training requirements.

Solution: AASD was able to sufficiently define the requirement by leading a collaborative and phased requirement review process and conducting multiple Request for Informations (RFIs) to ensure industry engagement and to accurately assess the market. By instituting a contractual work order system, AASD was able to structure a flexible contract by directing work and training as needed. AASD conducted a first of its kind - virtual presolicitation conference. AASD positioned OASIS partners to provide competitive, high-quality and technical price proposals.

Result: In January 2016, AASD awarded a competitive OASIS task order on behalf of SED following six months of preparation. The $98 million award represented a 20% savings based on the independent government estimate (IGE). Within the 1-year base period, sixteen rapid response education and training events were conducted throughout the Army helping soldiers to be prepared to win the fight in a challenging and dangerous world because of the contracting efforts of SED and FAS.