



## NEWS RELEASE

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## The National Conference Center Paves the Way as General Services Administration Announces New Specialized Conference Facilities Category

(Leesburg, Va) – November 2011 -- According to the [General Services Administration](#), [The National Conference Center](#) is now part of the new product category – Specialized Conference Facilities. The [GSA's Schedule Summary Category 599-6](#) recognizes The National Conference Center for its “commercial services for the provision of specialized conference facilities providing complete meeting packages (CMP) (to include sleeping room, meeting space, all food and beverage, conference technology services, business center services and other related services).

Government meeting planners and other government employees can now request bids for conference facilities on GSA's eBuy. The National Conference Center has been on the GSA Schedule for several years now, but under a separate, temporary category. According to the [GSA website](#), Specialized Conference Facilities and Services (Special Item Number 599-6) under [Travel Services Solutions \(TSS\) Schedule 599](#) offers complete meeting packages (CMP) at conference centers with dedicated staff designed to fulfill your meeting objectives away from the hustle and bustle of traditional hotels, convention centers, and tourists.

“In creating this specialized category” said Eric Whitson, Director of Sales & Marketing at The National Conference Center, the GSA has recognized the importance of productive and affordable meetings and The National Conference Center is proud to have been a part of this ground-breaking initiative.” According to Whitson, “We pursued this category with GSA to distinguish and acknowledge the importance of a conference

center in providing exceptional value combined with cutting-edge technology to the federal government market.” [According to GSA](#), this specialized category “enables a government meeting professional an all inclusive daily price to better manage an off-site planning retreat, training program or executive level meeting.”

“We are honored to be singled out as the first individual property to be classified in this new category and thrilled to help make it easier for our current and future government customers to secure our services. We are confident this will highlight our award-winning, distraction-free environment to a community that is looking for an outstanding meeting destination,” said Whitson. Government meeting planners will now have the time- and cost-saving opportunity to plan and execute meetings with a simplified one-stop-shopping process.

The **General Services Administration (GSA)** is an [independent agency of the United States government](#), established in 1949 to help manage and support the basic functioning of federal agencies. The GSA supplies products and communications for U.S. government offices, provides transportation and office space to federal employees, and develops government-wide cost-minimizing policies, and other management tasks.

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#### **More about The National Conference Center**

Just 12 miles from Dulles International Airport and 45 minutes from Washington, DC, The National Conference Center, operated by ARAMARK Conference Centers, features a secure, distraction-free setting with self-contained buildings surrounded by 100 scenic acres in Leesburg, Virginia. One of the largest conference centers in the United States, the entire facility was purpose designed to accommodate larger meetings and conferences that concentrate on training.

Each of the 250 meeting rooms – representing 265,000 square feet of flexible meeting space -- features high-speed Internet access, individual climate control, advanced conference technology, and sophisticated presentation technology with on-site audio/visual and IT support. The 917-room facility (including 78 suites) can accommodate meetings and events up to 1,800 people. Dining options include the popular Black Olive Sports Bar, and the 800-seat dining facility which features a wide variety of healthful buffet selections as well as specialty selections. Recreational options include a fully equipped fitness center along with volleyball, basketball, racquetball, tennis, and more. A fully staffed Business Center is conveniently located to provide administrative support service. throughout the course of each meeting and a professional conference support team is available. Free onsite parking is provided.

**ARAMARK** is a leader in professional services, providing award-winning food services, facilities management, and uniform and career apparel to health care institutions, universities and school districts, stadiums and arenas, and businesses around the world. In *FORTUNE* magazine's 2009 list of "World's Most Admired Companies," ARAMARK was ranked number one in its industry, consistently ranking since 1998 as one of the top three most admired companies in its industry as evaluated by peers and analysts. ARAMARK seeks to responsibly address issues that matter to its clients, customers, employees and communities by focusing on employee advocacy, environmental stewardship, health and wellness, and community involvement. Headquartered in Philadelphia, ARAMARK has approximately 260,000 employees serving clients in 22 countries. Learn more at the company's Web site, [www.aramark.com](http://www.aramark.com).