

 **Cover Story**

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A&T Systems wins Md. IT contract

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The state's Board of Public Works has approved the three-year, \$1.9 million information technology contract awarded to Silver Spring-based A&T Systems.

The minority-owned company will provide a host of IT services -- including e-mail, security, computer training, and Internet design -- for the Maryland Department of General Services.

A&T Systems will employ five certified Maryland minority businesses to perform up to 66 percent of the subcontracting work. DGS' information technology group will administer the contract.

The award comes shortly after a minority business reform commission, headed by Lt. Gov. Michael Steele, unveiled 50 recommendations for revamping the state's MBE program. The group's recommendations include increasing state oversight of minority contract deals and reserving 10 percent of state contracts for small businesses of all types.

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