

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CENTRE CONSULTING WINS FIVE-YEAR CONTRACT TO PROVIDE
CONFLICT MANAGEMENT SERVICES TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

VIENNA, Va.—November 1, 2007—Carole Houk International (CHI), an operating division of Centre Consulting, Inc., has been awarded a five-year blanket purchase agreement to provide conflict management and associated support to the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI). Specifically, Centre's CHI division will support DOI's Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution in its implementation of the CORE PLUS program, a DOI-wide integrated conflict management system that emphasizes cooperative problem-solving techniques such as training, mediation, facilitation, conflict coaching, ombuds services, and alternative dispute resolution.

Carole Houk, CHI division head, has been involved with CORE PLUS since the program's inception in 2002. A recognized leader in the conflict management field, Ms. Houk has been serving as a design consultant to DOI's Office of Collaborative Action and Dispute Resolution, which has included developing a curriculum on conflict management and delivering it to DOI senior executives, senior managers, and trainers.

Recognizing the decentralized nature of DOI, CHI drew on its leading position in conflict management by assembling, in a matter of weeks, an ever-expanding roster of geographically dispersed conflict management professionals, the majority with advanced degrees and more than 15 years of experience.

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Centre Consulting, located in Vienna, Virginia, offers comprehensive expert advice on all aspects of federal contracting, with specialization in solving complex GSA schedule compliance, audit, and renewal issues. Centre consultants are attorneys, possessing 20 or more years of experience as trainers, program managers, contract administrators, and litigators. Centre offers the rare blend of legal expertise and practical federal contracting experience necessary to assist clients in navigating the complex maze of federal rules and regulations and implementing federal market solutions that are timely, efficient, and legally effective. Centre's comprehensive services include training through Centre's Federal Contracting Institute (FCI). FCI offers nationally acclaimed federal contracting training.

Centre's Carole Houk International division specializes in the design, implementation, and evaluation of integrated conflict management systems for organizations. CHI offers a network of highly skilled national and international consultants, trainers, and coaches who embody the values and commitment of our clients to provide workplaces where issues and concerns can be respectfully raised and responsibly managed. For more information on Centre services, visit www.centreconsult.com or call 703-288-2800.