

**IN BRIEF**

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- **Federal awards** of information technology-related contracts reached \$155 billion in fiscal 2004, a 60 percent increase over the \$95 billion awarded in fiscal 2003, according to a report by Input, a Reston government market intelligence company. Five government departments accounted for more than \$118 billion of the total. The report said defense agencies are primarily responsible for the increase, with four of the top five departments in defense-related sectors. The Navy awarded \$36.8 billion, the largest amount. The report also said professional services awards totaled \$103.3 billion in fiscal 2004, a 110 percent increase over the previous year.