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## Hillsborough County, FL and the City of Tampa, FL Award AST Corporation one of the largest cooperative municipal ERP projects ever undertaken by two government entities

**Naperville, IL March 16, 2012:** Hillsborough County and the City of Tampa have awarded Applications Software Technology Corporation (AST Corporation) of Naperville, IL a \$34 million, 5-year contract for a new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) project for software, implementation, integration, training and technology hosting services.

First envisioned by County and City officials in 2009, County Commissioner Mark Sharpe called the agreement "probably one of the most important and significant events in county history" (Tampa Tribune).

The collaboration between the County and the City was a result of aging financial and human resource technologies, operated separately at both municipalities. "It's really about replacing outdated, fractured software that didn't communicate with each other," said Santiago Corrada, Chief of Staff to Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn. "By collaborating on the purchase, the City and County saved taxpayers \$6.5 million. Greater savings will accrue in future years through increased efficiency" (Tampa Tribune).

"This is just a great opportunity for government to combine forces, save money and provide better services to the public," said County Commissioner Al Higginbotham (Tampa Bay Times). "I think the level of cooperation between the City and County is at this point unprecedented," said Bob Buckhorn, City of Tampa Mayor (Tampa Bay Times).

After a yearlong process, the County/City joint selection committee chose AST and Oracle E-Business Suite as the preferred implementation partner and ERP solution. Hosting of the ERP environment will be provided by Oracle On Demand.

The project began in March 2012 with AST Corporation as the prime contractor, and includes new Oracle financial systems, human resource systems, business intelligence, and database technology. The project is expected to take approximately 22 months to implement.

### About Hillsborough County

Located midway along the west coast of Florida, Hillsborough County is the largest county in the Tampa-St.Petersburg-Clearwater Metropolitan Statistical Area, with a population of 1.23 million. The City of Tampa is the county seat and forms the region's hub. It is the fourth most populous county in Florida, has 1,048 square miles of land and 24 square miles of inland water area for a total of 1,072 square miles.

### **About the City of Tampa**

The City of Tampa, located on the west coast of Florida, is the largest city in Hillsborough County, is the county seat and is the third most populous city in Florida. The population of the city represents approximately one-third of the total population of Hillsborough County. Tampa's economy is founded on a diverse base that includes tourism, agriculture, construction, finance, health care, government, technology, and the port of Tampa.

### **About AST Corporation**

Established in 1995, AST Corporation is an Oracle Platinum Partner, an Oracle University training and delivery partner, and a certified Oracle On-Demand implementation provider. AST offers professional consulting services to Oracle Applications users and serves industry-leading organizations in: municipal, state and federal government; public transportation; airport and seaport; K-12 and secondary education; utilities/energy; manufacturing; insurance; retailing; and telecommunications. Clients look to AST Corporation for leadership and assistance in business process redesign, project management, systems integration, systems administration and training.