



August 05, 2009

This is a COMBINED SYNOPSIS/SOLICITATION for commercial items prepared in accordance with the format in FAR Subpart 12.603, Streamlined Solicitation for Commercial Items, as supplemented with additional information included in this notice and following Simplified Acquisition Procedures in FAR Subpart 13.1. **This announcement constitutes the only solicitation; quotes are being requested and a written solicitation will not be issued.**

The US Department of Interior, National Business Center, through its Franchise Fund activity, Acquisition Services Directorate (AQD), is issuing this solicitation, Number 1406-04-09-RQ-21411 as a Request for Quote (RFQ).

The solicitation document and incorporated provisions and clauses are those in effect through the Federal Acquisition Circular (FAC) 2005-35 issued July 14, 2009.

This requirement is Not a Small Business Set-Aside. The associated North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) code for this procurement is 334519, Other Measuring and Controlling Device Manufacturing. The Classification Code for this procurement is 66, Instruments and Laboratory Equipment.

The U.S. Department of the Interior, Acquisition Services Directorate, on behalf of the National Weather Services Observing Systems Branch, Sterling Field Support Center (SFSC) located in Sterling, VA, intends to make a Firm-Fixed Price award as a result of this Combined Synopsis/Solicitation. Specifically, the National Weather Service has Test Radiosondes Requirements for Qualified Products List and Engineering Change Proposals Testing:

- 1) 10 each - Daytime "Snow White" sensor produced by Meteolabor with the matching Lockheed Martin Sippican Radiosonde Model, P/N 1848-626 403 MHz GPS Spare Channel LMS6 Radiosonde;
- 2) 20 each - Nighttime Snow White sensor produced by Meteolabor with the matching Lockheed Martin Sippican Radiosonde Model, P/N 1848-626 403 MHz GPS Spare Channel LMS6 Radiosonde.

The Snow White chilled mirror dew point hygrometer is produced by the company Meteolab in Switzerland and the company has no US-based distributors. The Snow White sensor has been integrated as a package with the Lockheed Martin Sippican radiosonde, and the Meteolabor Snow White processing software has been integrated into the Lockheed Martin Sippican radiosonde ground system software. Meteolabor is

the only company with an electrically chilled-mirror dew-point hygrometer (referred to as "Snow White" sensor) designed for radiosonde application.

In accordance with DIAR 1410.004-70, Solicitation requirements for brand name products or equal, the manufacturers contact information is provided below:

Meteolabor ag
Hofstrasse 92
CH-8620 Welzikon
Internet: **www.meteolabor.ch**
Tel: +41 44 934 40 40

Lockheed Martin Sippican
7 Barnabas Road
Marion, MA 02738-1499
Internet: **www.sippican.com**
Tel: (508) 748 1160

Quotes shall be provided on a FOB Destination basis (FAR 52.212-4). Award will be made to the single contractor that provides the lowest price technically acceptable quote.

The Date of Delivery is NLT 120 days after the award date. Place of delivery and acceptance shall be at Sterling Field Support Center, 43741 Weather Service Road, Sterling, VA 20166.

INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFERORS SUBMITTING QUOTES

52.212-1 -- Instructions to Offerors – Commercial Items (Jun 2008), applies to this acquisition. As an addendum to this provision, Offerors are instructed to submit quotes as follows:

Offers must include the following information in their technical quote:

- A. RFQ Number and project title
- B. Tax identification number (TIN)
- C. Dun & Bradstreet Number (DUNS)
- D. North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) Code
- E. Product Service Code (PSC)
- F. Offeror's point of contact for this project including name, title, address, phone number, and email address
- G. Quote Number
- H. Quote must be F.O.B. Destination
- I. Delivery Lead Time
- J. The validity period of the quote (at least 60 calendar days)

Offerors shall ensure that their firm has a current and active registration with the Central Contractor Registration (CCR). For information, refer to <http://www.ccr.gov>.

52.212-2 -- Evaluation – Commercial Items (Jan 1999), applies to his acquisition.

(a) The Government will award a contract resulting from this solicitation to the responsible offeror whose offer conforming to the solicitation will be most advantageous to the Government, price and other factors considered. The following factors shall be used to evaluate offers:

- (i) technical capability of the item offered to meet the Government requirement;
- (ii) price;

(iii) past performance (see FAR 15.304).

Technical and past performance, when combined, are significantly less important than cost or price (10 U.S.C. 2305(a)(3)(A)(iii) and 41 U.S.C. 253a(c)(1)(C)) in accordance with FAR 15.304.

(b) Options. The Government will evaluate offers for award purposes by adding the total price for all options to the total price for the basic requirement. The Government may determine that an offer is unacceptable if the option prices are significantly unbalanced. Evaluation of options shall not obligate the Government to exercise the option(s).

(c) A written notice of award or acceptance of an offer, mailed or otherwise furnished to the successful offeror within the time for acceptance specified in the offer, shall result in a binding contract without further action by either party. Before the offer's specified expiration time, the Government may accept an offer (or part of an offer), whether or not there are negotiations after its receipt, unless a written notice of withdrawal is received before award.

(End of Provision)

All Offerors must submit with their quotes a completed **Offeror Representations and Certifications - Commercial Items (FAR 52.212-3)** form (Attachment B). If the Offeror's Representations and Certifications are registered on the ORCA website, it must be indicated in the offer (in a cover letter or on the first page of the technical quote) in lieu of submitting the completed form. The offer shall also indicate if the ORCA record has been entered or updated in the last 12 months, are current, accurate, complete, and applicable to this solicitation.

52.212-4 -- Contract Terms and Conditions – Commercial Items (Mar 2009), applies to this acquisition.

As an addendum to this clause, the following are invoice requirements for the resulting purchase order:

General Invoice Instructions:

Invoices shall be submitted ELECTRONICALLY. HARD COPIES OF INVOICES WILL NOT BE PROCESSED. (See GovPay Electronic Invoicing Requirements)

The contractor is responsible for ensuring invoices submitted are accurate and complete, and are in accordance with federal guidelines and other Government mandates and directives.

Additional supporting documentation MAY BE REQUESTED at the discretion of the COTR or the CO.

52.212-5 -- Contract Terms and Conditions Required to Implement Statutes or Executive Orders -- Commercial Items (Jun 2009)

(a) The Contractor shall comply with the following Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) clauses, which are incorporated in this contract by reference, to implement provisions of law or Executive orders applicable to acquisitions of commercial items:

(1) 52.222-50, Combating Trafficking in Persons (FEB 2009) (22 U.S.C. 7104(g)).

(2) 52.233-3, Protest After Award (AUG 1996) (31 U.S.C. 3553).

(3) 52.233-4, Applicable Law for Breach of Contract Claim (OCT 2004) (Pub. L. 108-77, 108-78).

(b) The Contractor shall comply with the FAR clauses in this paragraph (b) that the contracting officer has indicated as being incorporated in this contract by reference to implement provisions of law or Executive orders applicable to acquisitions of commercial items:

(1) 52.203-6, Restrictions on Subcontractor Sales to the Government (Sep 2006), with Alternate I (Oct 1995)(41 U.S.C. 253g and 10 U.S.C. 2402).

(2) 52.203-13, Contractor Code of Business Ethics and Conduct (Dec 2008) (Pub. L. 110-252, Title VI, Chapter 1 (41 U.S.C. 251 note)).

(3) 52.203-15, Whistleblower Protections under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Mar 2009) (Section 1553 of Pub L. 111-5) (Applies to contracts funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009).

(4) 52.204-11, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act—Reporting Requirements (Mar 2009) (Pub. L. 111-5).

(5) 52.219-3, Notice of Total HUBZone Set-Aside (Jan 1999)(15 U.S.C. 657a).

(6) 52.219-4, Notice of Price Evaluation Preference for HUBZone Small Business Concerns (Jul 2005) (if the offeror elects to waive the preference, it shall so indicate in its offer)(15 U.S.C. 657a).

(7) [Reserved]

(8) (i) 52.219-6, Notice of Total Small Business Aside (June 2003) (15 U.S.C. 644).

(ii) Alternate I (Oct 1995) of 52.219-6.

(iii) Alternate II (Mar 2004) of 52.219-6.

(9) (i) 52.219-7, Notice of Partial Small Business Set-Aside (June 2003)(15 U.S.C. 644).

(ii) Alternate I (Oct 1995) of 52.219-7.

- ___ (iii) Alternate II (Mar 2004) of 52.219-7.

- ___ (10) 52.219-8, Utilization of Small Business Concerns (May 2004) (15 U.S.C. 637(d)(2) and (3)).

- ___ (11) (i) 52.219-9, Small Business Subcontracting Plan (Apr 2008)(15 U.S.C. 637 (d)(4).)

- ___ (ii) Alternate I (Oct 2001) of 52.219-9.

- ___ (iii) Alternate II (Oct 2001) of 52.219-9.

- ___ (12) 52.219-14, Limitations on Subcontracting (Dec 1996)(15 U.S.C. 637(a)(14)).

- ___ (13) 52.219-16, Liquidated Damages—Subcontracting Plan (Jan 1999)(15 U.S.C. 637(d)(4)(F)(i)).

- ___ (14) (i) 52.219-23, Notice of Price Evaluation Adjustment for Small Disadvantaged Business Concerns (Oct 2008)(10 U.S.C. 2323) (if the offeror elects to waive the adjustment, it shall so indicate in its offer).

- ___ (ii) Alternate I (June 2003) of 52.219-23.

- ___ (15) 52.219-25, Small Disadvantaged Business Participation Program—Disadvantaged Status and Reporting (Apr 2008)(Pub. L. 103-355, section 7102, and 10 U.S.C. 2323).

- ___ (16) 52.219-26, Small Disadvantaged Business Participation Program—Incentive Subcontracting (Oct 2000) (Pub. L. 103-355, section 7102, and 10 U.S.C. 2323).

- ___ (17) 52.219-27, Notice of Total Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business Set-Aside (May 2004) (15 U.S.C. 657 f).

- ___ (18) 52.219-28, Post Award Small Business Program Rerepresentation (Apr 2009) (15 U.S.C. 632(a)(2)).

- _X_ (19) 52.222-3, Convict Labor (June 2003)(E.O. 11755).

- _X_ (20) 52.222-19, Child Labor—Cooperation with Authorities and Remedies (Feb 2008) (E.O. 13126).

- _X_ (21) 52.222-21, Prohibition of Segregated Facilities (Feb 1999).

- _X_ (22) 52.222-26, Equal Opportunity (Mar 2007)(E.O. 11246).

X (23) 52.222-35, Equal Opportunity for Special Disabled Veterans, Veterans of the Vietnam Era, and Other Eligible Veterans (Sep 2006)(38 U.S.C. 4212).

X (24) 52.222-36, Affirmative Action for Workers with Disabilities (Jun 1998)(29 U.S.C. 793).

X (25) 52.222-37, Employment Reports on Special Disabled Veterans, Veterans of the Vietnam Era, and Other Eligible Veterans (Sep 2006)(38 U.S.C. 4212).

X (26) 52.222-39, Notification of Employee Rights Concerning Payment of Union Dues or Fees (Dec 2004) (E.O. 13201).

___ (27) 52.222-54, Employment Eligibility Verification (Jan 2009). (Executive Order 12989). (Not applicable to the acquisition of commercially available off-the-shelf items or certain other types of commercial items as prescribed in 22.1803.)

___ (28) (i) 52.223-9, Estimate of Percentage of Recovered Material Content for EPA-Designated Items (May 2008)(42 U.S.C. 6962(c)(3)(A)(ii)). (Not applicable to the acquisition of commercially available off-the-shelf items.)

___ (ii) Alternate I (May 2008) of 52.223-9 (42 U.S.C. 6962(i)(2)(C)). (Not applicable to the acquisition of commercially available off-the-shelf items.)

___ (29) 52.223-15, Energy Efficiency in Energy-Consuming Products (Dec 2007) (42 U.S.C. 8259b).

___ (30) (i) 52.223-16, IEEE 1680 Standard for the Environmental Assessment of Personal Computer Products (Dec 2007) (E.O. 13423).

___ (ii) Alternate I (Dec 2007) of 52.223-16.

___ (31) 52.225-1, Buy American Act--Supplies (Feb 2009)(41 U.S.C. 10a-10d).

___ (32) (i) 52.225-3, Buy American Act –Free Trade Agreements – Israeli Trade Act (Jun 2009) (41 U.S.C. 10a-10d, 19 U.S.C. 3301 note, 19 U.S.C. 2112 note, 19 U.S.C. 3805 note, Pub. L. 108-77, 108-78, 108-286, 108-301, 109-53, 109-169, 109-283, and 110-138).

___ (ii) Alternate I (Jan 2004) of 52.225-3.

___ (iii) Alternate II (Jan 2004) of 52.225-3.

___ (33) 52.225-5, Trade Agreements (Jun 2009) (19 U.S.C. 2501, *et seq.*, 19 U.S.C. 3301 note).

X (34) 52.225-13, Restrictions on Certain Foreign Purchases (Jun 2008) (E.O.'s, proclamations, and statutes administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury).

___ (35) 52.226-4, Notice of Disaster or Emergency Area Set-Aside (Nov 2007) (42 U.S.C. 5150).

___ (36) 52.226-5, Restrictions on Subcontracting Outside Disaster or Emergency Area (Nov 2007) (42 U.S.C. 5150).

___ (37) 52.232-29, Terms for Financing of Purchases of Commercial Items (Feb 2002) (41 U.S.C. 255(f), 10 U.S.C. 2307(f)).

___ (38) 52.232.30, Installment Payments for Commercial Items (Oct 1995)(41 U.S.C. 255(f), 10 U.S.C. 2307(f)).

X (39) 52.232-33, Payment by Electronic Funds Transfer—Central Contractor Registration (Oct. 2003)(31 U.S.C. 3332).

___ (40) 52.232-34, Payment by Electronic Funds Transfer—Other Than Central Contractor Registration (May 1999)(31 U.S.C. 3332).

___ (41) 52.232-36, Payment by Third Party (May 1999)(31 U.S.C. 3332).

X (42) 52.239-1, Privacy or Security Safeguards (Aug 1996)(5 U.S.C. 552a).

___ (43) (i) 52.247-64, Preference for Privately Owned U.S.-Flag Commercial Vessels (Feb 2006)(46 U.S.C. Appx 1241(b) and 10 U.S.C. 2631).

___ (ii) Alternate I (Apr 2003) of 52.247-64.

DIAR 1452.210-70 - BRAND NAME OR EQUAL -- DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
(JUL 1996) applies to this acquisition

(a) The definition for "brand name" includes identification of products by make and model.

(b) The Government has affixed the term "brand name or equal" to one or more requirements in this solicitation. Such description is intended to provide an example of the quality and characteristics the Government deems satisfactory to fulfill this requirement. Unless the bidder/offeror clearly indicates in its bid or proposal that it is offering an "equal" product, the bid/offer will be assumed to offer the brand name product referenced in this solicitation.

(c)(1) Bidders/offerors may offer "equal" products (including products of the brand name manufacturer other than the one described by brand name) if such products are clearly identified in the bids or proposals. The evaluation of bids or proposals and the determination as to equality of the product offered will be based on information furnished or identified by the bidder/offeror in its bid or proposal. The Contracting Officer is not responsible for locating or securing information which is not identified in the bid or proposal. Each bidder and offeror shall furnish as a part of its bid or proposal all descriptive material (such as cuts, illustrations, drawings, or other information) necessary for the Contracting Officer to:

Establish exactly what the bidder/offeror proposes to furnish.

Determine whether the product offered meets the salient characteristics required by the solicitation.

(2) If the bidder/offeror proposes to modify a product to make it conform to the requirements of the solicitation, the bid or proposal should contain a clear description of the proposed modification and clearly mark the descriptive material to show the proposed modification.

(3) Modifications proposed after bid opening to make a product conform to a brand name product referenced in the solicitation will not be considered.

GovPay Electronic Invoicing Requirements

All payment requests must be submitted electronically through GovPay. "Payment request" means any request for contract financing payment or invoice payment by a contractor. To constitute a proper invoice, the GovPay payment request must conform to the requirements identified in FAR 32.905(b), "Payment Documentation and Process" and FAR 52.232-25, "Prompt Payment (OCT 2008)". To ensure the timely processing of invoices GovPay uses an automated "workflow" process to route invoices for review, approvals and payment; as required by the "Prompt Payment Act".

Detailed GovPay information for use of GovPay may be obtained on the Internet at www.govpay.gov. This web site includes user manuals, training resources, instructions for registration and contact information for the GovPay help desk for additional support. All users can access reports on the status of their invoices.

Supporting documentation shall be attached to the GovPay invoice in the form of "flat files" in American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) and an Adobe PDF file. There is a 4MB limitation on file size for these attachments, per header or line item. Facsimile, e-mail, and scanned documents are NOT acceptable electronic forms for payment requests.

GovPay uses the contractor information in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database as one of the components for validating contractor registration. It is the responsibility of the contractor to submit accurate and current CCR information. Failure to register and maintain CCR information, or if it has expired, been suspended, been deleted, or could not be found, will result in rejection of your invoice. An invoice submitted during the period for which information in the CCR could not be verified must be resubmitted for payment after successfully registering or updating registration in CCR. Contractors are encouraged to review their CCR information to ensure the most current information is available for GovPay.

The CCR Assistance Center is available to provide assistance and answer questions. They can be reached at 1-888-227-2423 or on the web at <http://www.ccr.gov>.

(End of clause)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMISSION

Offerors must submit Price Quotes electronically via email to the Contract Specialist, at Svetlana.Blumenkrantz@aqd.nbc.gov by the closing date of **August 20, 2009 by 12 P.M.** Eastern Time (ET). Offerors are advised that failure to submit a response by this date and time may result in their quotation not being considered.

NOTE: Due to email server limitations, please limit the size of each email with attachments to 3MB.

QUESTIONS

Offerors must submit all questions concerning this solicitation in writing (e-mail is acceptable) to the Contract Specialist at Svetlana.Blumenkrantz@aqd.nbc.gov or to the Contracting Officer at Jehad.Salameh@aqd.nbc.gov. All questions must be received no later than August 11, 2009 at 1:00 PM ET. The Acquisition Services Directorate will answer questions which may affect offers in an amendment to the solicitation. Please be advised that the Government reserves the right to transmit those questions and answers of a common interest to all prospective Offerors. The Offeror or source of the question will not be referenced when issuing an amendment to the solicitation.

ATTACHMENTS TO THE COMBINED SYNOPSIS/SOLICITATION 0409RQ21411:

(1) Attachment A. Offeror Representations and Certifications form (FAR 52.212-3).