

4. STATUTORY AUTHORITY PERMITTING OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION.

10 USC 2304(c). See also 8.405-6(b)(1) - *Items peculiar to one manufacturer.*

5. DEMONSTRATION THAT THE PROPOSED CONTRACTOR'S UNIQUE QUALIFICATIONS OR THE NATURE OF THE ACQUISITION REQUIRES USE OF THE AUTHORITY CITED

Per FAR 8.405-6(b)(1) consideration may be limited to one source, including a brand name manufacturer. This purchase is for use in the DPS development environment, but the product resulting from development eventually will be tested operationally and used in the DPS production environment. The purchase of HP computer hardware is essential to the Government's requirements for the DPS development environment because the DPS production environment is built upon HP computer hardware. Other companies' similar products cannot meet or be modified to meet the agency's needs without unacceptable risks inherent with dissimilar hardware environments.

The DPS production, test, and training computer environments are hosted by Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) Defense Enterprise Computing Center (DECC) at Ogden, Utah. The DPS environments at the DISA DECC facility are built upon HP computer hardware, so it is imperative the Government continue its use of HP computer hardware for the DPS development environments.

If other manufacturers' hardware were used for the development environment, the production and development environments would not be similar which could introduce technical configuration, security, and schedule risks. For example, dissimilar hardware environments can make troubleshooting more complex, increase problems with inserting and testing Information Assurance Vulnerability Alerts for security purposes, and complicate planning for future capabilities. The consequences of these risks could be: increased overall costs to the Government, delays in fulfilling Government requirements, and loss of efficiency. Given the circumstances of this contract action, only a brand name product is reasonably available.

6. DESCRIPTION OF EFFORTS MADE TO ENSURE THAT OFFERS ARE SOLICITED FROM AS MANY POTENTIAL SOURCES AS IS PRACTICAL

Sources Sought Synopsis.

An RFI (sources sought) was posted to FBO on 7 March 2013 for market research purposes providing part numbers and item descriptions to ascertain if any vendors can supply the needed replacement blades. The vendors were also asked to provide their socioeconomic status, general information to include CAGE code, and what contract vehicles or GSA Federal Supply Schedule (FSS) they have under which these products could be awarded. The results from the RFI identified several potential vendors and also determined that a DoD vehicle was not available to satisfy the customer's requirement.

A Market Research Request (MRR) was posted to NASA Solutions for Enterprise Wide Procurement (SEWP) IV contract vehicle on 11 March 2013 under request #'s 153093 and 153094 to ascertain if any vendors could provide the products. The MRR identified two vendors, one small business (Blue Tech, Inc.) and one large business (World Wide Technology).

The TCAQ Program Management Office (PMO) performed market research in support of the Independent Government Cost Estimate (IGCE) and identified two HP resellers, North American Systems, Inc., and CompuCom, both small businesses. Each reseller provided open market HP pricing from SEWP contracts.

Synopses of Proposed Contract Actions. In order to obtain maximum competition and fair opportunity, this requirement will be posted on GSA eBuy to all GSA FSS IT Schedule 70, SIN 132 8 small and large schedule holders.

Other Actions. A small business set-aside IAW FAR 19.502-2 based on market research and dollar value will not be utilized based on FAR 19.502-2(c) – Total Small Business Set-Asides. The necessary brand name products are manufactured by HP, therefore, market research indicates there are no small business manufactures that manufacture the HP blades for HP servers. Small business will have an opportunity to compete for this requirement.

7. DETERMINATION BY THE CONTRACTING OFFICER THAT THE ANTICIPATED COST TO THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE FAIR AND REASONABLE

This determination will be made by reviewing GSA vendor pricing who respond to the RFQ. Based on this approach, the Contracting Officer anticipates a fair and reasonable price because of competition and GSA pricing has already been determined fair and reasonable. This requirement will be posted on GSA eBuy to all GSA FSS IT Schedule 70, SIN 132 8 small and large schedule holders is in the best interest of the Government.

8. DESCRIPTION OF THE MARKET RESEARCH CONDUCTED AND THE RESULTS OR A STATEMENT OF THE REASONS MARKET RESEARCH WAS NOT CONDUCTED:

No additional market research was conducted beyond what was performed in paragraph 6.

9. ANY OTHER FACTS SUPPORTING THE USE OF OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION.

N/A

10. A LISTING OF SOURCES, IF ANY, THAT EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN THE ACQUISITION:

The following companies confirmed interest in this procurement – North American Systems International, CompuCom, Sterling Computers, En Pointe Gov, Gholker's Inc., Katek Solutions, Iron Bow Technologies, New Tech Solutions Inc., VCM Networks, Telecommunications Solutions Group, Blue Tech, Inc., and World Wide Technologies.

11. A STATEMENT OF ACTIONS, IF ANY, THE AGENCY MAY TAKE TO REMOVE OR OVERCOME ANY BARRIERS TO COMPETITION BEFORE MAKING ANY SUBSEQUENT ACQUISITION FOR THE SUPPLIES OR SERVICES REQUIRED:

No actions are planned to replace HP equipment with another brand name. The DPS PMO does not intend to replace the development environment hardware with another brand name unless the DPS production, test, and training environments at DISA DECC are upgraded to a brand name other than HP.

12. CONTRACTING OFFICER'S CERTIFICATION.

I certify that the data supporting the recommended use of other than full and open competition is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.


DEBORAH M. YOUNG
Contracting Officer

10 Apr 2013
DATE

13. TECHNICAL/REQUIREMENTS PERSONNEL CERTIFICATION.

I certify that the data supporting the recommended use of other than full and open competition is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.


TIMOTHY W. KNAPP
DPS Program Integration

10 Apr 2013
DATE