

**WH56HZV-04-R-0692**  
**Questions & Answers – Public**  
**7 April 2004**

**NOTE: ALL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS IN NUMERICAL ORDER TO DRAFT SOLICITATION AS OF 7 APRIL 2004**

Question 1 Radios are to be compatible with non-encrypted coalition voice communications, what frequencies or models do they need to be compatible with?

***Answer 1 1.6 – 30MHz, 1.6-108MHz, 30-512MHz. This change will be reflected in the final solicitation.***

Question 2 What existing equipment do they need to communicate with?

***Answer 2 Please see changes in the final solicitation.***

Question 3 17c.of the solicitation asks that equipment be compatible with anticipated, non-encrypted voice communications with evolving national infrastructure. Explain.

***Answer 3 That statement has been deleted. Please review the final solicitation for changes.***

Question 4 Will TACOM consider ownership (life cycle costs) of items like trucks?

***Answer 4 Evaluation will be based on acquisition cost. Evaluation of life cycle costs is not practical in this instance.***

Question 5 Are firms located within the US territory of Puerto Rico eligible to bid on the contract for the battalion sets?

***Answer 5 Yes.***

Question 6 Will TACOM reconsider and separate the vehicles as a separate solicitation and contract?

***Answer 6 No. This acquisition is essentially a resolicitation of a terminated contract. The acquisition strategy was developed to fulfill the requirement to begin equipping the Iraq Armed Forces and Associated Security Forces. Use of a single IDIQ contract is considered to provide the most efficient means to facilitate this requirement.***

Question 7 TACOM has existing contracts with many vehicle manufacturers and most if not all of these existing contracts have OPTION clauses. Will the Government consider utilizing the OPTION clauses for any of the Iraqi Battalion Sets vehicle requirements?

***Answer 7 No. This acquisition is essentially a resolicitation of a terminated contract. It is our intent to utilize an acquisition approach that closely approximates the approach used to solicit the original requirements. In addition, the requirements/specifications for this acquisition are not necessarily the same as requirements under TACOM contracts for U.S. forces. Finally, requirements to equip the Iraq Armed Forces would not necessarily fall within the scope of the requirements and approvals supporting those existing contracts.***

Question 8 Armorers kits are typically unit level repair stations containing component parts and special tools sufficient for unit level overhaul of several weapons, possibly more than one hundred for each kit. These kits may weigh up to 100Kg each and are typically stocked according to deployment or

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unit size etc. The requirement appears to indicate, suppliers would be delivering two kits for each weapon. In the case of the AK-47, this would be more than 50,000 armorers kits. Please clarify.

**Answer 8** *Six (6) kits per Battalion Set are required. The solicitation will be amended to reflect this change.*

Question 9 As required by the proposed solicitation, there is a contract goal of 10% of the maximum contract value to be performed by U.S. small Business. Will TACOM provide a list of the company names and contact information for the offerors under the original Solicitation Number W914NS-04-D-0100 so that U.S. small businesses will have an opportunity to make presentations and offers to the expected Prime Contractors?

**Answer 9** *Identification of the unsuccessful offerors under the previous solicitation is not releasable. Attendees of the planned pre-proposal conference for this solicitation will be posted on the TACOM web site.*

Question 10 U.S. Small Business Participation (pages 3 and 120)

Are clauses 10 (p.3) and M.3.6.3.2 intended to be observed by foreign offerors?

A clarification/modification is needed as the goal of 10 percent maximum contract value to be provided by U.S. small business (page 3) and including of small business criterion into Evaluation procedure puts foreign offerors from Coalition or Contributing countries in great and undeserved disadvantage.

Elaboration of the question:

Section H of the RFP indicates that the following clauses will be incorporated into this contract: 52.219-8; 52.219-9; and 252.219-7003. See pps. 90 and 93 of the RFP. In explaining when to use (and when not use) FAR 52.219-8, the provision at FAR 19.708 states "insert the clause at 52.219-8, Utilization of Small Business Concerns, in solicitations and contracts when the contract amount is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold unless . . . the contract, together with all of its subcontracts, will be performed entirely outside of the United States and its outlying areas." Emphasis added. The provision at FAR 19.708 mirrors the corresponding section of the U.S. Small Business Act at 15 United States Code 637(d)(2). We envision that this contract will be performed entirely outside of the United States and its outlying areas. Please note that FAR clause 52.219-9, Small Business Subcontracting Plan, is only to be included in solicitations where the inclusion of FAR clause 52.219-8 is required. See FAR 19.708(b). Further, DFARS 219.708(b)(1)(A) indicates that DFARS clause 252.219-7003, Small, Small Disadvantaged and Women-Owned Small Business, is only used in solicitations that contain the FAR 52.219-9. Additionally, Section M.3.6.3.2 (p. 120 of the RFP) indicates that U.S. small business participation will be an evaluated sub-factor for source selection. The clear effect of a preference for subcontracting with U.S. small businesses as part of the evaluation process is to disadvantage an offeror planning to subcontract with companies from Coalition of the Willing countries or Force Contributing Nations. Such a disadvantage clearly contradicts U.S. commitments to the nations whose uniformed men and women stand shoulder to shoulder with U.S. soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines in the region. The Iraq Program Management Office under the supervision of RADM (ret.) David Nash (responsible for the award and administration of Iraq reconstruction contracts under the \$18.6 billion Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act that was signed in November 2003) has addressed this issue by including subcontracting with companies from Coalition of the Willing member countries or Force Contributing Nations as an evaluation sub-factor in the award of its contracts. Please confirm that the RFP will be amended so as not to unfairly disadvantage companies from Coalition of the Willing countries and Force Contributing Nations.

**Answer 10** *The solicitation will be amended to remove FAR 52.219-8, Utilization of Small Business Concerns, and, in its place, add a special contract clause entitled "Utilization of U.S.*

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***Small Business Concerns, Coalition Partner Companies, and Force-Contributing Nation Companies". This clause will allow evaluation credit for either utilization of U.S. Small Business or Coalition Partner Companies and Force-Contributing Nation Companies or both. Since this acquisition is being funded with U.S. appropriated funds (Iraqi Relief and Reconstruction Fund 108 P.L. 106), we are obliged to encourage all participants to utilize U.S. small business, as evaluation of small business utilization is required by Defense Federal Acquisition Regulations Supplement (DFARS). Addition of this new clause will also allow evaluation credit to be given to contractors utilizing coalition partner companies and force-contributing nation companies. While it is possible that U.S. prime contractors may receive evaluation credit for utilizing both U.S. small business and coalition partner and force contributing nation companies, the opportunity to utilize both of these classes of business is open to foreign offerors as well. See Section H of the final solicitation for the full text of the clause "Utilization of U.S. Small Business Concerns, Coalition Partner Companies, and Force-Contributing Nation Companies". Also, See Section M of the final solicitation for details on the evaluation under this new clause.***

Question 11    Supplies and Delivery (page 4 and Attachment 4)

Ordering Periods on page 4 and in Attachment 4 are not mutually consistent, need to be made clear.

***Answer 11    Attachment 4 reflects delivery dates of the first order anticipated to be issued at time of award (i.e. at the beginning of ordering period 1 as reflected on page 4). If any additional orders are issued during ordering period 1, the delivery schedule will be identified with that order.***

Question 12    Buy American Act and Trade Agreements (pages 90 and 93)

Clauses referring to the subjects above appear to be mutually inconsistent.

Section H of the RFP indicates that the following clauses will be incorporated into this contract: 252.225-7001, Buy American Act and Balance of Payments Program; and 252. 225-7021, Trade Agreements. See pps. 90 and 93. These clauses appear to be mutually inconsistent (they are probably not designed to be used in conjunction with each other), and inclusion of either of these clauses will discriminate against offerors supplying items from countries not on the small lists of countries at DFARS 225.872-1 or DFARS 252. 225-7021, respectively. Further, inclusion of either DFARS 252.225-7001 or DFARS 252. 225-7021 conflicts with Section H.1 of the RFP, Source from an Eligible Country, as there are several countries listed at H.1 (which is a list of Coalition of the Willing countries and Force Contributing Nations) that are not listed at DFARS 225.872-1 or DFARS 252. 225-7021. This mismatch clearly contradicts U.S. commitments to the nations whose uniformed men and women stand shoulder to shoulder with U.S. soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines in the region. Additionally, TACOM may find it difficult (if not impossible) to procure AK-47s, AKMs, PKMs, RPKs, etc., sourced from the small selection of countries listed at DFARS 225.872-1 and DFARS 252. 225-7021. The Iraq Program Management Office under the supervision of RADM David Nash has addressed this issue by adding all Coalition of the Willing countries and Force Contributing Nations to the list of designated countries for the purposes of the Balance of Payments Program and the Trade Agreements Act.

***Answer 12    The Buy American Act provision and the Balance of Payments provision were included in error and will be deleted. With regard to the Trade Agreements provision (DFARS 252.225-7021), offerors are notified that a class deviation may be granted resulting in an amendment to the Trade Agreement provision, which would add to the definition of "Designated country" all countries listed in provision H.1, "Source from an Eligible Country." For proposal submission purposes, offerors should assume that the countries listed in provision H.1 are all included in the definition of "Designated Country" in DFAR 252.225-7021.***

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Question 13 Minimum /Maximum Quantities (page 4, pages 92 and 93)

Not clear, as CLIN quantities on pages 4 thru 71 and in Delivery Schedule (Attachment 04) show that maximum and minimum quantities are the same. If Attachment 3 shall be taken as "Schedule" acc. to 52-216.22 (a), a clarifying commentary is needed.

**Answer 13** *The minimum quantities that must be ordered under the contract are those quantities listed for each line item in Ordering Period 1. The maximum quantities that can be ordered under the contract for any item listed in ordering period 1 are an additional 100% of that amount. We estimate that we will acquire that additional 100% in two increments – 50% in Ordering Period 2 and 50% in Ordering Period 3 – although the Government has the right to order up to the maximum at any time during the contract. For example, page 4 of the RFP reflects that the estimated quantity of medium wheeled vehicles to be ordered in Ordering period 1 is 1,701. This is also the minimum quantity that must be ordered under the contract. The maximum quantity of medium wheeled vehicles that can be ordered under the contract is an additional 1,701 medium vehicles. For pricing evaluation purposes, the estimated quantities for Ordering Period 2 and Ordering Period 3 are established at 50% each of the Ordering Period 1 estimated quantity, as reflected on page 27 (CLIN 2001AA = 851 each) and page 49 (CLIN 3001AA – 851 each).*

Question 14 F.O.B. Destination (pages 71 and 87)

Please confirm that regardless of the clause on page 71 which does not indicate destination, the destination is Kirkuk (as on page 87).

**Answer 14** *You are correct. The location was misstated in the RFP. It should have read Kirkush, Iraq. The final solicitation will reflect the corrected destination in both locations.*

Question 15 Pass-through warranty (page 72)

C.1.4.3. Time limit for presentation of the warranted parts list unclear: 30 days from which date?

**Answer 15** *The 30 days is days after award. The final RFP will reflect the correction.*

Question 16 De-Baathification (page 89, H.3)

Is any form of statement required, regarding acceptance the responsibility under H.2?

**Answer 16** *Not with the proposal. Compliance will be verified during contract performance.*

Question 17 C.2.1 Medium Wheeled Vehicle, subparagraph "s"

What exactly means "Desert Tan"- color? It is possible to identify a color of the vehicle according to RAL specification?

**Answer 17** *Any shade of tan is acceptable.*

Question 18 C.2.1 Medium Wheeled vehicle, subparagraph "v"

Please identify the technical parameters (dimensions) of the same "sand extraction track".

**Answer 18** *The requirement for sand extraction track is removed from the SOW. This will be changed in the final solicitation.*

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Question 19 C.2.1 Medium Wheeled vehicle, subparagraph “aa”

Is it acceptable to mount one of the Jerry cans on the rear of the vehicle and the second one on side of the rear part of the vehicle?

**Answer 19 No, both Jerry cans shall be in rear as specified.**

Question 20 C.2.2 Heavy Wheeled Vehicle, subparagraph “c”

Is the metallic driver cabin equipped with metallic roof with 180° opening angle acceptable?

**Answer 20 A cab with metal roof is acceptable providing it protects the occupants from the elements. The final solicitation will reflect this change.**

Question 21 C.2.3 Motorcycle, subparagraph “q”

Is liquid cooled engine acceptable?

**Answer 21 Yes, the final solicitation will reflect this change.**

Question 22 C.2.3 Motorcycle, subparagraph “v”

Is it acceptable that each vehicle has separate, deferent ignition key? Under the current conditions it was specified that all motorcycles delivered under this tender had been started with the same key.

**Answer 22 An ignition lock is not required. If equipped, all shall be keyed the same.**

Question 23 C.2.3 Motorcycle, subparagraph “x”

Is it acceptable that the tool kit permanently affixed to the motorcycle was not locked with a key?

**Answer 23 A lock is not required. If equipped with a lock, all shall be keyed the same.**

Question 24 C.2.4 Ambulance Vehicle

a.) Is oxygen installation for patient’s inhalation should be mounted in the ambulance vehicle.

**Answer 24(a) Yes, see revised SOW C.2.4.i. in the final solicitation.**

b.) Should medical compartment include night lighting for performance of medical treatments at night?

**Answer 24(b) Yes, refer to revised Statement of Work, C.2.4.i in the final solicitation.**

c.) Should the medical compartment have possibility of natural ventilation by windows and roof metal cover or air-conditioning system?

**Answer 24(c) Yes, refer to revised Statement of Work, C.2.4.j in the final solicitation.**

d.) Should vehicle be equipped with external lamps and sound signals informing about preference of vehicle in the traffic.

**Answer 24(d) That is not a requirement.**

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e.) Should the vehicle be equipped with technological components allowing assembly of equipment as per items: C.2.1.x, y aa, ac and is this equipment necessary?

**Answer 24(e)** *Yes, except C.2.1.y has been deleted. This change is reflected in the final solicitation.*

f.) Are there any special conditions regarding medical bag content?

**Answer 24(f)** *Yes, refer to revised Statement of Work, C.2.4.g in the final solicitation.*

g.) Should and how a communication between driver's cab and medical compartment be ensured?

**Answer 24(g)** *Yes, refer to revised Statement of Work, C.2.4.k in the final solicitation.*

Question 25 C.2.5 Water Trailer

a.) Is the fording height of 750 mm acceptable?

**Answer 25(a)** *There is no fording requirement.*

b.) Are special (military) lights such as:

(1) rear distance light

**Answer 25(b)(1)** *The minimum requirement is brake lights and turn signals. Any additional lights on the commercial trailers are acceptable.*

(2) reflection equipment

allowed?

**Answer 25(b)(2)** *Reflectors are not required but are acceptable.*

c.) Is the angle of run 30%+/-3% acceptable?

**Answer 25(c)** *There is no specific requirement for angle of run (Departure).*

Question 26 C.2.8 Cargo Trailer

a.) Is the fording depth of:

(1) 650 mm for the Cargo Trailer

**Answer 26(a)(1)** *There is no fording requirement.*

(2) 759 mm for the Large Cargo Trailer

acceptable.

**Answer 26(a)(2)** *There is no fording requirement.*

b.) Are there necessary: additional special (military) lights

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(1) rear distance light

**Answer 26(b)(1) The minimum requirement is turn signals and brake lights. Any additional lights on the commercial trailer are acceptable.**

(2) reflection equipment

**Answer 26(b)(2) Reflectors are not required but are acceptable.**

c.) Is the 6 kg ABC extinguisher allowed?

**Answer 26(c) Yes.**

d.) Is the angle of run 30%+/-3% acceptable?

**Answer 26(d) There is no specific requirement for angle of run (Departure).**

Question 27 C.2.11 Diesel generator

Please confirm the power of the generator of 2.5 kW (do not 250 kVA?).

**Answer 27 Yes, the requirement is 2.5 kW.**

Question 28 C.3 Weapons

a.) Could you please explain us „two unit level armorers kits” What does it mean exactly?

**Answer 28(a) See revised SOW in the final solicitation and see answer #8.**

b.) Should each of the PKM Heavy Machine Gun be equipped with bipod and tripod?

**Answer 28(b) Yes, the requirement is a bipod, tripod and mount.**

c.) Could you explain us “appropriate two year stockage of spare parts” Does the manufacturer decide which spare parts will be delivered?

**Answer 28(c) The solicitation will be amended to require the contractor to deliver those parts with the end item. The final solicitation will be clarified to specify the spare parts required.**

d.) What does it mean exactly “classical folding stock “in AK-47?

**Answer 28 (d) The stock will fold to the side, either solid or skeleton.**

Question 29 C.5.1 Individual Night Vision Device and C.5.2 Weapon Mounted Night Vision Kit

a.) Is it true that one device must have all functions referred to in RFP, that is, must be mounted on the gun, on the helmet, on the head and on the pistol?

**Answer 29(a) No, the device in C.5.1 may be different from C.5.2. See revised SOW in the final solicitation.**

b.) If different kinds of devices are required – please specify them and define whether these devices are to be one eye or twin eye? Should it be goggles or other devices?

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**Answer 29(b) See revised SOW in the final solicitation.**

c.) Please specify what is meant by the statement: “operations in low light level conditions”. What other devices functions and distances range parameters should be defined for your understanding of “operation in low level conditions.”

**Answer 29(c) See revised SOW in the final solicitation.**

d.) Are any device(s) parameters defined? If yes, please specify.

**Answer 29(d) See revised SOW in the final solicitation.**

e.) Which generation of Image Intensifier has to be used in both NDVs?

**Answer 29(e) Generation II or newer. The final solicitation will reflect this change.**

Question 30 C.7.1 Sleeping Bag

a.) Minimum size 34x82 – are these inches?

**Answer 30(a) Size is 34 inches by 82 inches minimum. The final solicitation will reflect this change.**

b.) The kind of material to be used (synthetic) - can it be defined more precisely, as for example: poliamid, polyester or other?

**Answer 30(b) Any of the synthetic, low water absorbing materials commonly used in sleeping bags is acceptable.**

Question 31 C.7.6 Dust Goggles

a. We are confused by the word “pair” in the description “includes (2) pair each inter-changeable clear and tinted lenses”. The goggles will have one single clear lens and another tinted, for change. Shall we understand that another set of “one clear, one tinted” shall be delivered?

**Answer 31(a) See revised SOW in the final solicitation.**

b. The carrying bag for goggles and lenses – it will be an element of every day use, attached to a belt or to the load bearing vest- or rather it will be a kind of protective wrap for keeping the goggles and lenses, when not used?

**Answer 31(b) See revised SOW in the final solicitation.**

Question 32 C.7.7 Body Armor

Please indice and specify the protected area of the body armor, as well as the area of Ballistic Resistance Threat Level.

**Answer 32 See revised SOW C.7.7 in the final solicitation.**

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Question 33    C.7.10 Fuel Can

Is any other system / location of air hole acceptable? The pouring spout and air hole (for easy pouring) would be preferably on the same side of the can, both covered by one common, no-thread cap.

**Answer 33**    ***Pouring spout and air hole shall be sealed by separate caps.***

Question 34    According to the solicitation, the evaluation process will be conducted by a board created by the Government called the Source Selection Evaluation Board (SSEB). Would it be possible to get a list of the members' names and titles? And, is there one person who is heading the SSEB and the Source Selection Process, if so, please provide me with his/her name.

**Answer 34**    ***To safeguard the integrity of the source selection process, identities of members of the SSEB are not disclosed to the public in general or to offerors involved in the acquisition.***

Question 35    What are the NSNs associated with Solicitation W56HZV-04-R-0692, I believe we are already producing some of these items under the JWOD program.

**Answer 35**    ***The requirements for this solicitation are described in performance terms. Specific designs, part numbers, or NSNs are not mandated except where indicated (e.g. AK-47).***

Question 36    Please confirm that individual soldier equipment items are required to be produced new and not surplus equipment.

**Answer 36**    ***Individual soldier equipment items (RFP Para. C.7) may be surplus material if in like-new condition and conforming to the requirements of the contract scope of work.***

Question 37    Please stipulate the minimum size(s) of the body armor and plates.

**Answer 37**    ***Body armor plates are to be approximately 10 inches by 12 inches minimum size.***

Question 38    Executive Summary Paragraph 10 (page 3/121) – states a 10% goal of US Small Business Participation is stipulated. In Section M3.6.3.2.2 (page 120/121), however, goals include 23% or more of Small Business Participation and Small Disadvantaged Business participation of 5%. Please clarify.

**Answer 38**    ***The final RFP will be corrected to reflect a 10% U.S. Small Business goal to be evaluated as "Adequate." Proposals reflecting higher goals will be evaluated as more advantageous provided the goals are considered realistic. Please review the final solicitation as there have been additional changes in this area.***

Question 39    Pricing Sheet (page 19/121), Item 1006AC - The word "vest" is omitted. Can we assume the word "vest" is supposed to be included?

**Answer 39**    ***Yes, Items 1006AC, 2006AC, and 3006AC should read "load bearing vest." The final RFP will reflect this correction.***

Question 40    SOW C.1.3 – Parts support is planned for the life expectancy of all equipment, even though the period of performance is only 3 years. Can the government clarify the precise parts requirements? Who stipulates the life expectancy of a particular item? Can the government provide more information on the equipment's Operational Mode Summary Mission Profile?

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**Answer 40** *It was our intention to require that the OEMs assure spare parts availability for the life of the equipment, not that such parts support be provided under this contract. The specific parts required for this contract are to be determined by the manufacturer of the item. The operational mode/mission profile is desert environment with vehicles logging 3,000 miles per month.*

Question 41 SOW C.1.4. and C.1.4.2 (page 72/121) - Section C.1.4 states that “ ... the Contractor shall be liable for the correction of all failures/defects from final acceptance of the equipment up to and including hand-off to the user (IAF and associated security forces). SOW C.1.4.2 also states that “...the Contractor warrants that the end items will be free from defects in material and workmanship ... for the duration of 12 months from the date of Hand-off as defined above.” In the event that hand-off is delayed and the equipment condition starts to deteriorate, the contractor incurs considerable risk for the ongoing security requirements for the equipment and for its serviceability. Can the government confirm that handoff of the equipment will happen in a timely manner to minimize the risk of the equipment deteriorating, the risk to the security of the equipment and the resultant commercial risk to the contractor?

**Answer 41** *Handoff will be when possession of the items is transferred to the IAF. This is anticipated within 60 days of delivery to the U.S. Government. The final solicitation will include this definition.*

Question 42 SOW C.2: Vehicles - **All** vehicle specs state: "If equipped with ignition and door locks, **all** ignition and door locks shall be identically keyed for **all** vehicles." Should we understand this to mean that all ignitions and locks should be keyed for all vehicles within a specific class/CLIN (i.e. all Heavy Wheeled Vehicles should be keyed identically, all motorcycles keyed identically)?

**Answer 42** *Yes, that is the intent. All vehicles within each specified class will be identically keyed. The final solicitation will be clarified.*

Question 43 SOW C.2.1.i – Is the number of soldiers required to be carried (6) the total number or does it exclude the vehicle operator/driver?

**Answer 43** *The six soldiers includes the driver/operator. The final solicitation will be clarified.*

Question 44 SOW C.2.4.a (Page 75/121): This section states that the ambulance “...shall be a standard ambulance variant of the light utility vehicle, even though no light utility vehicle is specified in the bill of materials. It further states “The vehicle shall meet all the requirements specified for the Medium Wheeled Vehicle specified in section C.2.1...” Please clarify.

**Answer 44** *The SOW paragraph C2.4.a has been revised to state “medium utility vehicle.”*

Question 45 SOW C.2.5 (page 75/121): To operate down to -23°C, must the trailer have a heater or be capable of using a removable heater? If so, please specify requirements for the heater.

**Answer 45** *There is no requirement for trailers to be heated.*

Question 46 SOW C.2.5.i (page 76/121) – Water Trailer - With regard to the spigot fittings, what kind of thread is required for the Garden Hose?

**Answer 46** *The standard thread that comes on the commercial spigot.*

Question 47 SOW C.3: Weapons - C.3.1.f and C.3.1.h (page 79/121) and section C.3.2.f – Please clarify respective CLIN numbers (which are currently missing from text).

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**Answer 47**     *The reference to the CLIN has been deleted in the final solicitation.*

Question 48     SOW C.3.3, C.3.4.h and C.3.4.i (page 79/121) - is machine gun ammunition required to be linked and does the government require tracer and in what mix? Please clarify.

**Answer 48**     *Yes, it must be linked with tracer every fifth round.*

Question 49     SOW C.3.4.g - All other requirements are for "two unit level armorers kits, this one says "armories kits." Is this a typographical error, or are there separate armories kits?

**Answer 49**     *This is a typographical error. It should read armorers kits. The final solicitation will reflect this change.*

Question 50     SOW C.4.1.e (page 80/121) and C.4.2, C.4.3, C.4.4 - How many additional rechargeable batteries and chargers are required?

**Answer 50**     *See revised SOW in the final solicitation.*

Question 51     SOW C.8.1 – Operator Training Support for items in Section C2 to C7 – Is this training over and above the training required under each line item, e.g. C4.6.g? Is it in fact the same training?

**Answer 51**     *This is not the same training. The training for the communication equipment will be specified in the final solicitation. C.8 will also be revised to exclude communication equipment.*

Question 52     SOW Section H.1 - Is the actual country of origin for all equipment limited to the countries listed in Section H.1 or is it only the prime contract which is limited to companies from those countries?

**Answer 52**     *The limitation expressed in H.1 only applies to prime contracts. However, there are other FAR and DFAR provisions incorporated into the RFP (e.g. Trade Agreements, DFAR 252.225-7021, Secondary Arab Boycott of Israel, DFAR 252.225-7031) which may restrict subcontracting and/or country of origin. Offerors should carefully review all RFP provisions and referenced clauses.*

Question 53     SOW Section M - A review of Section M shows a discrepancy in the application of the evaluation factors. Para M.3.6 states that within Past Performance/Small Business Participation Area, Past Performance is approximately equal to Small Business Participation, whereas para M.3.6.3 states that the Past Performance Element is the most important, and is significantly more important than Small Business Participation Element. Please clarify.

**Answer 53**     *Past Performance and Small Business Participation are approximately equal. M.3.6.3 is in error and will be corrected in the final solicitation.*

Question 54     How flexible is TACOM prepared to be with regard to specifications of equipment? For example, from our research, there is no OEM in the world that produces an air-cooled motorcycle that meets the other specifications as laid out in Section C. In this and any other cases, would the government accept a suitable alternative?

**Answer 54**     *The requirements in Section C are the minimum requirements that must be met. The final solicitation will reflect the deletion of the cooling requirement for the motorcycle.*

Question 55     From a close examination of the specifications, it appears that few, if any, suppliers in the world can deliver all the required amount of equipment, to the correct specification, within the time-frame

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required. Assuming that this is correct and that the contractor can devise ways of minimizing the impact to program performance, is the government prepared to give some leeway in either delivery schedule or specifications?

**Answer 55** *The technical requirements are the minimum acceptable. The final RFP will reflect the current schedule as "desired" and allow offerors to propose a different schedule that will be evaluated for realism and how well it meets program objectives.*

Question 56 Buy America Act – Is the government obliged to apply any clause of the Buy America Act to this solicitation? Furthermore, in the interest of opening up competition to foreign/coalition suppliers, whose products may not meet the provisions of the Buy America Act, will the government disqualify/discount an offeror who proposes items that do not meet the provisions of the BAA?

**Answer 56** *Buy America – Balance of Payments requirements do not apply to this acquisition and will be deleted in the final solicitation.*

Question 57 If an offeror proposes an item that does not meet the requirements of the BAA, the offeror is required to identify in a certificate those items. The certificate is not included in the solicitation materials. Please provide the certificate to be completed.

**Answer 57** *Buy America – Balance of Payments requirements do not apply to this acquisition and will be in the final solicitation.*

Question 58 Bearing in mind that the goods and services to be provided will be delivered and used outside the US by non-US entities and that the solicitation invokes commercial procurement provisions, the government may not receive the best value offer by invoking the Buy America Act. Does the government truly intend to invoke the provisions of the BAA?

**Answer 58** *Buy America – Balance of Payments requirements do not apply to this acquisition and will be deleted in the final solicitation.*

Question 59 "Handoff" of equipment is mentioned in several places. How, when and where does the government envisage handoff occurring? Would the contractor be signing the equipment over to US authorities or directly to IAF? Assuming that we hand off to USG body, will we ship on a GBL and, therefore, does the equipment become the property of USG at POE?

**Answer 59** *The materiel is to be shipped FOB Destination, to Kirkush Military Training Base (KMTB), Iraq where it will be accepted by the U.S. Government. Assume that shipment will be by commercial bill of lading. Hand-off will be when possession of the items is transferred to the IAF. This is anticipated within 60 days of delivery to the U.S. Government. The final solicitation will reflect this change.*

Question 60 Security of equipment in transit – what support is the US or Iraqi military likely to provide for equipment procured under this solicitation while in transit to the FOB destination once it crosses in to Iraq?

**Answer 60** *Contractor is responsible for providing security until acceptance by the U.S. Government.*

Question 61 Can we assume that any facilities will be made available at no cost for contractor PM staff in Iraq – including offices, communications, internal transport in Iraq, accommodation, catering, MWR?

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**Answer 61** *All facilities, including offices, communications, transportation, housing, catering, and MWR, as well as security are the responsibility of the contractor.*

Question 62 Can we assume that adequate warehousing facilities and Iraqi military security forces will be present at the FOB destination to ensure sufficient secure storage for the equipment? Or will the contractor be required to propose warehousing and security solutions at the FOB?

**Answer 62** *Adequate warehousing facilities and security will be provided by the U.S. Government at the acceptance point.*

Question 63 Can the government define exactly what needs to be complete on the delivery dates quoted in Attachment 4? Is this the day of handoff only, then followed by commissioning of equipment and training, or does training have to be complete by delivery date?

**Answer 63** *Attachment 4 is the dates for delivery of hardware. Per Para. C.8.1, training is to be conducted within 2 weeks after those delivery dates.*

Question 64 Where can we obtain information on contract W914NS-04-D-0100?

**Answer 64** *The information is available from the contracting activity at CPA Baghdad.*

Question 65 For the body armor, line items 1006AG, 2006AG, and 3006AG, are vests only required or is the requirement for vests with front and back inserts included? (The statement of work is ambiguous.)

**Answer 65** *See revised SOW in final solicitation.*

Question 66 For the body armor vest, what level of protection is required? Is there any other information available on the design or a specification for the design of the body armor vest?

**Answer 66** *See revised SOW in final solicitation.*

Question 67 If body armor inserts are required, can they be supplied separate to the body armor vests?

**Answer 67** *Must be supplied with the vests. Do not have to be installed in the pockets provided for inserts in vest at time of hand off.*

Question 68 What sizes of body armor vests are required? What helmet sizes are required?

**Answer 68** *The body armor sizes are as follows: 60% large, 20% medium, and 20% small. The helmets shall also be 60% large, 20% medium, and 20% small. This shall be reflected in the final solicitation.*

Question 69 What is the size and shape of the body armor insert that is required?

**Answer 69** *Rectangular shape approximately 10 inches by 12 inches.*

Question 70 Which of the contract clauses do not apply to a coalition partner nation sub-contractor. Do the buy American Act Balance of Payments, Small Business Plan, and small business participation clauses apply?

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**Answer 70** *Buy American Act – Balance of Payments does not apply to the acquisition at all and will be deleted from the solicitation. Subcontractors are not responsible for Small Business plans or utilization of small businesses.*

Question 71 What are the requirements for a coalition partner nation contractor for sourcing materials or product outside the list of eligible countries?

**Answer 71** *Eligible Country restrictions do not apply to subcontractors. However, there are other FAR and DFAR provisions that prohibit dealing with terrorist countries or terrorist country owned companies, Trade Agreements requirements, and the Secondary Arab Boycott of Israel provision (DFAR 252.225-7031), which may restrict subcontracting and/or country of origin. Offerors should carefully review all RFP provisions and referenced clauses.*

Question 72 For the body armor and helmet requirement please provide specification details for "NATO Level III" performance and confirm that the required level of protection for the helmet is NATO Level III.

**Answer 72** *See revised SOW in the final solicitation.*

Question 73 Will TACOM publish a list of potential prime contractors before the pre-proposal conference?

**Answer 73** *It is impossible to determine who may submit a proposal prior to the deadline for submission. The list of pre-proposal conference attendees will be posted on the TACOM website.*

Question 74 C.4 - Spare Part for the Communication Equipment - Usually the requirement is for between 10/20 of spare parts based on the total amount of equipment. Please clarify and also where does the cost of these spare parts go?

**Answer 74** *Routine maintenance spare parts for the communications equipment shall be provided for one year of support. Attachment 6 to the solicitation entitled, "Routine Maintenance Spares," is to be filled in by offerors to identify the number of spare parts necessary to provide this level of support.*

Question 75 Please quantify the specific weight of separate Evaluation Factors or assign percentage points to each of them.

**Answer 75** *Paragraph M.3.6 contains the evaluation relative order of importance. We do not use percentage point evaluation.*

Question 76 Which statement on the importance of the Past Performance Element versus Small Business Participation, page 2/quote - "Within the Past Performance/Small Business Participation Area, Past Performance is approximately equal to Small Business Participation". Unquote/page 120, Section M.3.6.3./quote - "The Past Performance Element is the most important, and is significantly more important than Small Business Participation Element" unquote. Will be prevailing and applied.

**Answer 76** *M.3.6.3 was an error in the draft solicitation. The final solicitation will reflect this change.*

Question 77 Is this schedule with regard to Vehicles correct? Do you consider it feasible to deliver to destination in Iraq thousands of Vehicles and Trailers within 3 months after contract award?

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**Answer 77** *The delivery schedule will be revised in the final solicitation to reflect the Government desired delivery schedule. The offerors will be allowed to propose a delivery schedule which will be evaluated in accordance with Section M.*

Question 78 Is it acceptable with reference to C.2.2, C.2.6 and C.2.7 tender conditions to offer vehicles with heavy wheeled chassis being the same family, having the same brand and the same series of types but with different drive lines (one 4x4 and another one 6x6)?

**Answer 78** *Yes, see revised SOW C.2 in the final solicitation.*

Question 79 Will this solicitation include an information system or enterprise resource planning system as part of the contract and/or deliverables?

**Answer 79** *No, that is not a requirement.*

Question 80 Are the equipment manuals GFE?

**Answer 80** *No, the requirement is stated in C.1.2.*

Question 81 Equipment training is specified for the communications equipment. Is training required for other types of equipment also?

**Answer 81** *Yes, see paragraph C.8 of the final solicitation.*

Question 82 What levels of maintenance are required for the equipment? Just operator?

**Answer 82** *None, see paragraph C.1.6.*

Question 83 Is there a requirement to dispose of the equipment at the end of its life-cycle?

**Answer 83** *No, that is not a requirement.*

Question 84 If the equipment is the same make/model as US Army equipment, is the US Army repair parts system available to provide repair parts?

**Answer 84** *No, it is not.*

Question 85 Will it be necessary to "install" a supply system (manual or automated) at each battalion? If so, what systems must the installed supply system be interoperable with?

**Answer 85** *There is no requirement for a supply system.*

Question 86 Are contractors required to provide their own security?

**Answer 86** *Yes, contractors are responsible for their own security.*

Paragraph 4 of the Executive Summary for Draft Request for Proposal, page 2-of-121, states that this solicitation is anticipated to result in an IDIQ contract, with a minimum quantity in the first year, and two ordering periods up to a maximum quantity for the entire contract. On Page 4-of-121, the statement is made that: "The minimum quantity for this contract is as follows is [sic] in CLINS 1001 to 1008." Additionally, in paragraph 29(b) of the Contract Clauses, page 92-of-121, the statement is made that the "Government shall order at least the quantity of supplies or services designated in the schedule as the

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minimum.” Taking CLIN 1001AA as an example, the quantity of “MED WHEELED VEH IAW SEC C” is 1,421, preceded by the abbreviation “EST.”

Question 87 With regards to the medium tent, can more specific requirements be given other than sized for 8-12 individuals and lightweight? What is the actual size requirement as far as layout is concerned (length, width and height dimensions)? Also, what weight would be acceptable for lightweight? And does that weight include the weight of any poles?

**Answer 87** See revised SOW in the final solicitation.

Question 88a In the example cited above, are we to understand this to mean that the minimum quantity of MED WHEELED VEH in the first ordering period is 1,421?

**Answer 88a** *The minimum quantity of Medium Wheeled Vehicles has changed in the final solicitation that will be ordered under the contract is 1,701 to reflect a minimum of 22 Battalion Sets to 27 Battalion Sets. It is estimated that this quantity will be ordered in the first ordering period. The maximum number of Medium Wheeled Vehicles that the Government can order under the entire contract is 1,701 plus 100% or 2,842. While the Government may order up to the maximum at any time during the contract, it is estimated that 50% (851) will be ordered during Ordering Period 2 and 50% (850) will be ordered during Ordering Period 3.*

Question 88b Or, are we to understand in this example, that the quantity of MED WHEELED VEH is estimated to be 1,421, because the number 1,421 is preceded by the abbreviation “EST?”

**Answer 88b** See above.

Question 89 Attachment 3, “Pricing Fill-in Worksheet,” provides three columns of bracketed numbers. For the example cited above, the first column lists the number of vehicles per Battalion as 56, the second column lists the number of vehicles per Brigade as 21, and the third column lists the total number as 1,421. This number results from 56 times 22 and 21 times 9. Are we then to conclude that the minimum quantity of MED WHEELED VEH for the first delivery period is 1,421?

**Answer 89** See above.

Question 90 Attachment 4 provides the expected delivery dates for the first delivery period. Using the same example cited above, CLIN 001AA, Medium WV shows a Battalion Set delivery of 504 vehicles by 15 August 2004, and another 728 vehicles by 15 September 2004. The Brigade Set schedule lists 84 vehicles for delivery by 15 August 2004, and another 105 vehicles by 15 September 2004. The resulting number of 1,421 reconciles to the same “Total Quantity” in the third column of “Minimum Quantities” of Attachment 3. Can we conclude from this that Attachments 3 and Attachment 4 represent the minimum quantities and expected delivery schedules for the first delivery period?

**Answer 90** *Yes, but these quantities will be changed to reflect the increase from 22 to 27 Battalion Sets. This will be reflected in the final solicitation.*

Question 91 Paragraph C.1.5.2 states “At the point of vehicle hand-off, the contractor shall install those radios required for the trucks into the trucks and assure the radios functionality. Also, water pods and fuel pods must be installed on their vehicle.” Will all Heavy Wheeled vehicles have radios?

**Answer 91** *No, the final solicitation will reflect the specific radio requirements. C.1.5 will be amended to change the installation assembly requirement to time of vehicle acceptance.*

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Question 92 Paragraph C.1.6 states “Regular maintenance for the items listed in this Statement of Work will be performed under a separate contract.” Since regular maintenance is closely tied to warranty requirements in this solicitation, will we be able to bid on the regular maintenance contract?

**Answer 92** *That requirement is being procured at the Field Support Command, Rock Island, IL. Please check the CPA website.*

Question 93 Paragraph C.2.1.c states “The vehicles shall be capable of operating in a temperature range of -23 to 52 C.” Will the Government consider reducing the upper temperature requirement to +120 degrees Fahrenheit to be in accordance with the U. S. Army ATPD’s on numerous vehicles in the U.S. Army tactical wheeled vehicles fleet?

Rationale Question 93. US Army specifications for all of their trucks for well over thirty years have specified 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Answer 93** **No.**

Question 94 Paragraph C.2.1.l states “The vehicle shall be capable of carrying six soldiers equipped with ruck sacks, weapons . . . and individual equipment.” Are the six soldiers inclusive of the driver and passenger?

**Answer 94** **Yes.**

Question 95 Paragraph C.2.1.s states “The Vehicle shall be Desert Tan in color.” There are numerous shades of "Desert Sand". One example is Tan color 686A, Chip #33446, Fed Standard 595. Another example is Sand color, Chip #30372, Fed Standard 595. Will the Government specify exactly what Federal Standard paint chip this color (Desert Sand) is?

**Answer 95** **No, any shade of tan is acceptable.**

Question 96 Paragraph C.2.1.y states “A sand extraction track shall be provided with each vehicle. The vehicle shall have a permanent storage location for the sand extraction track.” Are there dimensional requirements or standard parts defining the desired "sand extraction track? Are there a defined number of tracks required?

**Answer 96** **The requirement for a sand extraction track has been removed from the SOW. The final solicitation will reflect this change.**

Question 97 Paragraph C.2.2.c states “The vehicle shall have a cab type drivers [sic] compartment with removable soft cover . . . .” Removable soft covers were common on older models of tactical vehicles, but some current vehicles only resort to this feature to facilitate air drop or air transportability by aircraft that have width and height restrictions. Air drop or air transportability is not required for these vehicles. Will a rigid cab suffice in place of soft top?

**Answer 97** **Yes, refer to revised SOW C.2.2.c in the final solicitation.**

Question 98 Similarly, Page 8 of Attachment 1, Technical Information Questionnaire - Question 9 – the question is asked: “Is the vehicle equipped with a cab type driver's compartment with removable soft cover?” Will a rigid cab suffice in place of soft top? Will the Government amend this paragraph to include trucks with hard cabs?

**Answer 98** **Yes, this change will be reflected in the final solicitation.**

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Question 99 Paragraph C.2.2.c states “The vehicle shall have . . . covered flat cargo bed with access through the rear.” Is cargo bed cover required to be removable?

**Answer 99** *Yes, this change will be reflected in the final solicitation.*

Question 100 Paragraph C.2.2.d states “The electrical system shall be a 24 volts DC with an outlet in cab and be compatible with a trailer system. This system shall operate radios (Sec. C.4).” Is a dual 12/24 Volt DC system acceptable, provided power outlet for radio is 24 Volt DC?

**Answer 100** *Yes.*

Question 101 Paragraph C.2.2.h states “The vehicles shall be capable of operating in a temperature range of -23 to 52 C.” Will the Government consider reducing the upper temperature requirement to +120 degrees Fahrenheit to be in accordance with the U. S. Army ATPD’s on numerous vehicles in the U.S. Army tactical wheeled vehicles fleet?

Rationale Question 101. U.S. Army specifications for all of their trucks for well over thirty years have specified 120 degrees Fahrenheit.

**Answer 101** *No.*

Question 102 Paragraph C.2.2.i states “A manually operated parking brake and chock blocks shall hold the truck with the rated payload on a 40% grade headed up or down grade with rated load.” Will a manually operated pneumatic park brake meet the requirement?

**Answer 102** *Yes.*

Question 103 Paragraph C.2.2.m states “The color of the top coat shall be desert tan.” There are numerous shades of “Desert Sand”. One example is Tan color 686A, Chip #33446, Fed Standard 595. Another example is Sand color, Chip #30372, Fed Standard 595. Will the Government specify exactly what Federal Standard paint chip this color (Desert Sand) is?

**Answer 103** *No, any shade of tan is acceptable.*

Question 104 Paragraph C.2.2.n states “The vehicle shall be capable of carrying sixteen soldiers including their equipment for a total weight of 2560 kilos of cargo, with a driver and a passenger (320 kilos).” Are we correct in assuming that the soldier capacity of 16 does not conclude the 2 soldiers in the cab?

**Answer 104** *Yes.*

Question 105 Paragraph C.2.2.o states “Radio mounts and connection shall be provided in the cab compatible with radio 24V specified.” Can we assume that “compatible with radio 24V specified” refers to the applicable sub-paragraphs of Paragraph C.4?

**Answer 105** *Yes.*

Question 106 Paragraph C.2.7, including sub-paragraphs, makes no reference to the body and allowance for storage compartments. With all the tool and accessories that are enumerated, an extensive body-tool compartment will be required. Is it possible for the Government to clarify body requirements?

**Answer 106** *It is up to the contractor to determine storage location(s).*

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Question 107 Paragraph C.2.7, and sub-paragraphs, describe the required recovery vehicle. Given that the units that are being formed to use these recovery vehicles may at some future date add other vehicles and rolling stock, it will be impossible to tow the weight of the heaviest vehicles in this fleet without taking into consideration a tandem rear axle chassis that is based on an all-wheel drive chassis. To handle future vehicle add-on's would it not be reasonable to add to specify a requirement for a "6x6", automatic or manual transmission recovery vehicle along with some minimum level of horsepower? This will insure that when offers are submitted, they will be capable of doing the job and offers can be compared more appropriately.

**Answer 107** *The SOW for the recovery vehicle sufficiently describes minimum requirements.*

Question 108 Paragraph C.2.6.a states "The refueling vehicle shall consist of the heavy wheeled vehicle, with the exception of the following requirements . . . ." Paragraph C.2.7.a provides the recovery and evacuation of the Recovery Vehicle. Should the Recovery Vehicle be defined in a manner similar to Paragraph C.2.6.a, along the lines of "the Recovery Vehicle shall consist of the heavy wheeled vehicle, with the exception of the following requirements . . . .?"

**Answer 108** *No, the recovery vehicle is not required to be in the heavy vehicle family, see revised paragraph C.2 in the final solicitation.*

Question 109 Paragraph C.2.7.c states "The vehicle shall be equipped with an A boom and winch capable of lifting weights up to a minimum of 1200 kilos." Are other than A-boom lifting-recovery configurations acceptable?

Rationale Question 109. The term "A" boom is confusing. In the towing and recovery industry, an "A" frame design is virtually obsolete. It is our assumption that Paragraph C.2.7.c is attempting to describe some sort of lifting-towing devise similar to a conventional truck-hitch. The capacity of 1,200 kg is mentioned which adds more confusion. It would seem reasonable that any hitch arrangement would need to have a lifting capacity no less that the front axle weight of the heaviest vehicle in the fleet. There is also a towing capacity consideration of any towing hitch. The towing capacity should be equal or higher than the curb weight of the heaviest vehicle in the fleet.

If the end user is looking for a heavy duty recovery vehicle that is commercially available for fast delivery, it would seem to be more reasonable to think in terms of an "under lift." We suggest that it would be more useful to specify a minimum reach from the tailgate, a lift capacity, and a tow capacity of the under lift.

**Answer 109** *Yes, see revised SOW C.2.7.c in the final solicitation.*

Question 110 Paragraph C.2.7.g states "The heavy duty recovery winch shall be operated by controls mounted on one side of vehicle. The heavy duty recovery winch shall have a minimum capacity of 12000-kg.

a.) "Can the Government please confirm the quantity of winches per vehicle? The description suggests a single 12,000 kg winch. Typically all heavy duty wreckers would have 2 winches, (approximately 25,000 lbs. each).

**Answer 110(a)** *Two winches are required per C.2.7.g and C.2.7.h.*

b.) Are other than A-boom lifting configurations acceptable, as long as they meet or exceed the minimum requirements of Paragraph C.2.7.c?

**Answer 110(b)** *Yes.*

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Question 111 Paragraph C.2.9.c states “The trailer shall be equipped with manually activated parking brakes.” Will a manually operated pneumatic park brake on the prime mover meet the requirement?

**Answer 111 Yes.**

Question 112 Paragraph C.2.11, together with the four sub-paragraphs, describe the characteristics of the 2.5 KW diesel generators.

a.) The voltages listed (120 volt and 240 volt) do not seem to be compatible with the Iraqi national electrical system. It appears that only 240 volt would be applicable for a unit this size. Should the voltage be only 240 volts?

**Answer 112(a) Voltage shall be 230 volts. This change will be reflected in the final solicitation.**

b.) Is it possible to confirm the required frequency of the generator set, is it 50 HZ or 60 HZ?

**Answer 112(b) 50HZ.**

c.) The generator set power requirement was listed in the first solicitation as 250 KW, and it is now listed as 2.5 KW. Was the 250 KW requirement an error?

**Answer 112(c) Yes, the change is reflected in the final solicitation.**

d.) Is there a requirement for environmental protection for the generator set?

**Answer 112(d) No.**

e.) Is there a requirement for maximum sound radiation for the generator set?

**Answer 112(e) No.**

f.) Is there a requirement for fuel capacity or required number of operating hours at load?

**Answer 112(f) No.**

Question 113 The Statement of Work does not reference any specific Quality requirements (i.e. process approvals, CDRL deliverables, Quality system, First Article requirements, sub tier suppliers management, etc). Will Quality requirements be added when the final Request for Proposal is issued on 5 April 2004?

**Answer 113 Quality requirements will be incorporated into the final solicitation.**

Question 114 Paragraph C.8 describes the training support for the Battalion Sets. Paragraph C.8.1, Operator Training Support, states “The contractor shall conduct, at place of delivery, one iteration of operator level training per item of equipment listed in C.2 to C.7, within two weeks of delivery. This training shall be conducted per battalion set delivered in Arabic to approximately 1,000 Arabic speaking students. The course shall

Provide maintenance and training courses for all items. The courses shall require the following: a. an understanding of the systems capabilities, limitations and interface and operations, b. The basis for the systems maintenance support for the Operation and Preventative Maintenance checks, c. Training material will be stand alone for each specific item, d. Warranty Understanding, e. Hard copy training material, and f. Tools necessary to support the training.

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**Please note training requirements have been reassessed and changed in the final solicitation. Training will now be provided for 100 students in a train-the-trainer fashion in lieu of the original requirement for 1000 students per battalion set.**

a.) Will adequate indoor training classrooms and bay space be provided?

**Answer 114(a) Yes, the Government shall provide the required facilities.**

b.) Can training be given by an English speaking instructor using an Arabic translator?

**Answer 114(b) Yes, use of Arabic translators is acceptable.**

c.) How many different Battalion Set Training locations will there be?

**Answer 114(c) One.**

d.) Will all Battalion Sets training conducted concurrently or in sequence? i.e. first ordering period 9 Battalion Sets.

**Answer 114(d) The training requirement at C.8 will be revised in the final solicitation. Only one training class is required under this contract.**

e.) Will all 9 sets be trained concurrently or in sequence one right after the other?

**Answer 114(e) See (d) above, there will be only one class.**

f.) Will vehicles be provided for operators [sic] hands on training? Will a driving course be able and/or will space to set up a driving course be available?

**Answer 114(f) Yes, vehicles will be provided for the training. Ample space will be available for a driving course.**

g.) Over what period of time are training classes expected to be scheduled?

**Answer 114(g) See (d) above, there will be only one class.**

h.) Is the contractor expected to complete training for all 22 battalions within 2 weeks of the first vehicle delivery?

**Answer 114(h) See 114(g). Also, the requirement in the final solicitation is to train only 100 students.**

i.) Is all maintenance limited to the operator? If not, what maintenance levels, such as 2 or 4 levels, are required?

**Answer 114(i) Yes, the maintenance shall be limited to operator training.**

j.) Will the hard copy training materials be kept by the student, or can the materials be reused for subsequent students?

**Answer 114(j) The materials shall be kept by students.**

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k.) Is there a suggested course length, or is the number of class hours at the sole discretion of the contractor?

***Answer 114(k) The suggested course length is no more than 8 hours.***

Question 115 The CPA has introduced a Customs Service and Reconstruction Levy. On April 1, 2004, CPA Order 54 created an Iraqi Customs service and introduces a five percent reconstruction levy on most goods imported into Iraq that will be deferred until April 15. The implementation of a reconstruction levy will take Iraq one step closer towards independence and self-governance, by putting in place another source of revenue that is not reliant on the sale of oil.

The reconstruction levy is designed to be fair and transparent, managed by the newly-formed Iraqi Customs Service. A modern computer system will record data on goods imported into the country shipped by plane, train, ship or truck. Revenue generated by the levy will be collected by the Iraqi Ministry of Interior, Customs Service on behalf of the Ministry of Finance and deposited in the general fund to be used for the betterment of the Iraqi people. Under the former regime, waiting times for goods to be cleared could run as long as 4 - 15 days. With the new systems employed by the Iraqi Customs Service, waiting times should be reduced to no longer than 24 hours, and a standard fee will be instituted throughout the country. Ministry of Interior personnel and the Iraqi Customs Service are distributing pamphlets notifying importers of the levy.

The Iraqi Customs Service is currently registering companies which will allow them to pay the levy on a monthly basis. Importers choosing not to register for payment on a monthly basis will be charged at border crossings before entering the country.

Certain goods and organizations will be exempt from the reconstruction levy that is deemed vital to the reconstruction effort. Exempted goods include food, medicines, medical equipment, books, clothing, and goods imported for humanitarian assistance. Organizations involved in the reconstruction of Iraq, such as foreign governments, not-for-profits, contractors, sub-contractors and international organizations will be exempt. Iraqis and persons from other countries entering the country with goods valued under 500,000 Iraqi Dinar (intended for personal use and not for sale), will also be exempt.

a.) Should contractors add the newly enacted Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) Customs Levy (5%) to their bids?

***Answer 115(a) 5% reconstruction levy does not apply to persons or entities who are coalition contractors and subcontractors who supply goods directly to the CPA and coalition forces.***

b.) Will the United States Government automatically add the newly enacted Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) Customs Levy to this solicitation?

***Answer 115(b) See 115(a).***

c.) Is the newly enacted Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) Customs Levy applicable to this solicitation?

***Answer 115(c) See 115(a).***

Question 116 We did not see any provisions for Economic Price Adjustments. Certain indexes show forecasted large increases in commodities such as steel, fuel, and health care costs. Some commodity and service-sector forecasts show projections for large increases. Will the Government include FAR 16.203 - Economic Price Adjustment Labor & Material clause to this solicitation?

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**Answer 116** *The Government anticipates award of a single firm fixed price contract. An escalation clause is not envisioned. However, the solicitation does permit separate pricing for each of the ordering periods.*

Question 117 Are the proposed radios intended for analog operation or digital operation?

**Answer 117** *See final solicitation for changes in the final solicitation.*

Question 118 Is P25 digital operation required?

**Answer 118** *See final solicitation for changes in the final solicitation.*

Question 119 Financial Capability Information: In the event a consortium of affiliated companies under common ownership is formed for the solicitation—can the parent company provide the financial capability requirements (including financial statements) for the consortium?

**Answer 119** *Offerors should submit data on the parent corporation, subsidiary offerors, responsible joint venture parties, and on any prior or prospective significant merger candidates.*

Question 120 Section C.1.3: Requires contractor provide parts support for the expected life of the equipment—should pricing for parts support program be included in unit prices.

**Answer 120** *It was our intention to require that the OEMs assure spare parts availability for the life of the equipment, not that such parts support be provided under this contract. The specific parts required under this contract are to be determined by the manufacturer of the item. The final solicitation will reflect the spare parts requirements under the contract.*

Question 121 Section C.1.6: Maintenance program will be performed under separate contract—can contractor include maintenance program option in solicitation?

**Answer 121** *No. This requirement is procured by the Field Support Command, Rock Island, IL.*

Question 122 Section C.2: Requires vehicles be in the same family of vehicles—can vehicle manufactures be different providing requirement is met?

**Answer 122** *Yes, C.2. has been revised in the final solicitation to clarify the requirement.*

Question 123 Section C.3: Requires only new weapons. Other items (vehicles etc.) not specifically noted as only new—please clarify.

**Answer 123** *Individual soldier equipment items (RFP Para. C.7) may be surplus material if in like-new condition and conforming to the requirements of the contract scope of work. All other items must be new.*

Question 124 Section F.1: Please clarify meaning of subsequent delivery orders will be equivalent to the items contained in two battalion sets 30 days after the delivery order award—please provide an example.

**Answer 124** *This language will be clarified in the final solicitation.*

Question 125 Section H.1: Sources from eligible countries—does this requirement apply to subcontractors and suppliers?

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**Answer 125** *H.1 applies only to the prime contractor.*

Question 126 Will training be required in one or multiple locations?

**Answer 126** *Training will be conducted at Kirkush Military Training Base, Iraq*

Question 127 Section M.3.6.3: Importance of past performance element is inconsistent with Section M.3.6 where it is stated that past performance is approximately equal to small business participation.

**Answer 127** *M 3.6 is correct. Past Performance is approximately equal to small business participation. The final solicitation will reflect the correction.*

Question 128 Section M.3.6.3.2.2: Percentage of small business participation of 23% is inconsistent with Section L.2.4.2 which states 10%.

**Answer 128** *See Question/Answer 38.*

Question 129 Delivery schedules: Requirements to deliver vehicles in August and September appear to be unrealistic as vehicles of this type are generally manufactured to order not inventoried—as consideration for revision

**Answer 129** *See Question/Answer 77.*

Question 130 Helmet required is L III---Kevlar helmets are only commercially available in LIIIA---please clarify

**Answer 130** *See revised SOW in the final solicitation.*

Question 131 Concerning Alternate Options - Is the offeror permitted to submit multiple options, assuming that each option meets the technical requirements of the proposal?

**Answer 131** *Options are not acceptable. The offeror must submit a firm offer that the government will evaluate against the stated requirements.*

Question 132 Page 72, Section C.1.3 calls for the contractor to: "provide parts support for the expected life of all equipment provided hereunder". Is the contractor expected to identify the service life of each item offered in the proposal, and in turn include the cost associated with the spares associated with the service life in the unit price? Where are the spares to be stocked? Do the spares need to be delivered on an incremental basis? Is the agreement for spare parts only, and not labor? Please clarify all.

**Answer 132** *See Question/Answer 120.*

Question 133 Will samples of the items we are offering need to be submitted? If yes, by when?

**Answer 133** *Samples are neither required nor desired.*

Question 134 Confirmation needed: Please confirm that U.S. Military escorts will be available for convoys going to final destination.

**Answer 134** *The contractor is required to deliver FOB Kirkush Military Training Base, Iraq. U.S. military escort point is not available.*

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Question 135 Page 3, #10, Small Business Participation, and Page 117, Section L.2.4.2 Small Business Participation (Element 2). Clarification needed: Both of these sections state a Small Business participation goal should be 10% and a Small Disadvantaged Business goal of 5%, whereas in M.3.6.3.2.2 it states the Small Business goal should be 23% or more and the SDB goal be 5%. Please clarify which is correct. Also, is the contractor permitted to include second or third tier subcontractors in calculating small business participation?

**Answer 135** *The goal is 10% of the Maximum Contract Value. The final solicitation will reflect the correct goal. The goal applies at 1<sup>st</sup> tier subcontract level.*

Question 136 Attachment 4 - Delivery Schedule - Confirmation needed: The delivery schedule requires 100% of the Ordering Period One quantities to be delivered by 15 SEP 2004 (i.e., 1,421 Medium wheeled Vehicles).

**Answer 136** *See Question/Answer 77.*

Question 137 Attachment 3 - Pricing Worksheet, Reference CLIN 0008AB. Should the price inserted be reflective of the offeror's price to conduct one iteration of operator training per item for each Battalion Set, or multiple Battalion Sets? If multiple, how many?

**Answer 137** *The training is for each Battalion Set.*

Question 138 Attachment 3, Pricing Fill-In worksheet. This worksheet shows a CLIN 0007AC - Maintenance for items 0001AA through 00006AR, not separately priced, however, the solicitation states at Section C.1.6 that "Regular maintenance for the items listed in this Statement of Work will be performed under a separate contract." Should CLIN 0007AC therefore be ignored?

**Answer 138** *This was an error on Attachment 3. The final solicitation will reflect this change.*

Question 139 Attachment 3, items 0007AA through 0008AB are inconsistent with Section B. Page 4 defines the minimum/maximum quantities as: "The minimum quantity for this contract is as follows is listed in CLINs 1001 to 1008." and "The maximum quantity 100% of the quantities listed in CLINs 1001 to 1008."

a.) Clarification needed - Maximum amounts ordered for each item are calculated by adding the respective subCLINs from 1001 to 3008.

**Answer 139(a)** *This is an Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity Contract. The minimum quantities that must be ordered under the contract are those quantities listed for each line item in Ordering Period 1. The maximum quantities that can be ordered under the contract for any item listed in ordering period 1 are 100% of that amount. We estimate that we will acquire the additional 100% in two increments – 50% in Ordering Period 2 and 50% in Ordering Period 3 – although the Government has the right to order up to the maximum at any time during the contract. For example, page 4 of the RFP reflects that the estimated quantity of medium wheeled vehicles to be ordered in Ordering period 1 is 1,701. This is also the minimum quantity that must be ordered under the contract. The maximum quantity of medium wheeled vehicles that can be ordered under the contract is an additional 1,701 medium vehicles. For pricing evaluation purposes, the estimated quantities for Ordering Period 2 and Ordering Period 3 are established at 50% each of the Ordering Period 1 estimated quantity, as reflected on page 27 (CLIN 2001AA = 851 each) and page 49 (CLIN 3001AA – 850 each).*

b.) Clarification needed - Ordering periods two and three are options which may or may not be exercised in this contract.

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**Answer 139(b) There are no options. See a. above**

Question 140 Page 19-26 for CLINs 1006AC-1006AR, Page 41-47 for CLINs 2006AC-2006AR, Pages 63-69 for CLINs 3006AC-3006AR - Clarification needed: The quantities on the above pages are different than those listed on Attachment 3. Please clarify which quantities reflect the actual Ordering Period 1 minimums.

**Answer 140 The final solicitation will reflect correct quantities.**

Question 141 Page 87, Section F.2 F.O.B. Destination - Clarification needed: Section F.2 identifies the FOB destination as Karkuk, Iraq. Please provide a Latitude/Longitude or Military Grid for this location. Please clarify it is NOT Kirkuk or Kirkush Military Training Base.

**Answer 141 Correct location is Kirkush Military Training Base. The latitude/longitude is 33°43'10" N 045°17'24" E.**

Question 142 Page 98, Section K, #35, paragraph (c). Information needed: POC for Information pertaining to DOD anti-terrorism/Force Protection.

**Answer 142 HQDA (DAMO-ODL)/ODCSOP; telephone, DSN 225-8491 or commercial (703) 695-8491 and will be reflected in the final solicitation.**

Question 143 Page 114, Section L.1.5.4 reads:

*“a. The SF1449 filled out. SIGNATURE: The SG1499 must be signed and included electronically in your disk or CD. Clearly label the disc/CD ROM as described in paragraph L.1.3.2. adding the name and title of the signer authorizing the offeror’s company, company name, and then sign the LABEL itself.”*

There is no paragraph L.1.3.2, can this information be found in Section L.1.2.3?

**Answer 143 The correct paragraph is L.1.5.2. The change will be reflected in the final solicitation.**

Question 144 Clause Comment: Page 3 of 121, Paragraph 17 – Indicates that some clauses apply to both U.S. and International companies while some only apply to U.S. firms and some only apply to International. Can the Government identify which clauses apply specifically to the U.S. firms, International firms, or both? Erroneous assumptions could have serious pricing implication.

**Answer 144 DFAR 252.219-7003, Small, Small Disadvantaged and Women Owned Small Business Subcontracting Plan applies only to U.S. primes. L.2.4.2 includes requirements for all offerors and requirements for U.S. primes and requirements for non-U.S. primes. It is up to the offeror to determine which clauses are applicable. Prescription for clause use is found in the regulations contained in the solicitation.**

Question 145 Page 72, Section C.1.4, Warranty

A) Material and workmanship – requires that in the event of a failure, we have to make repairs within 72 hours of notification.

Question: Can this clause be amended to allow the deployment of personnel to investigate material and workmanship claims within 72 hours?

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**Answer 145** *No, the requirement stands as written.*

Question 146 Page 93, in the original Battalion Sets solicitation, the following DFAR Clauses were not initially incorporated into the solicitation but were later included via a subsequent amendment (A0007). These clauses indicate the preferences for various domestic Commodities, Metals, Hand, & Measuring Tools. In the new RFP (-0692), these clauses have NOT been marked as applicable.

252.225-7012, Preference for Certain Domestic Commodities (FEB 2003)  
252.225-7014, Preference for Domestic Specialty Metals (APR 2003)  
252.225-7015, Preference for Domestic Hand and Measuring Tools (APR 2003)

*Have these clauses been intentionally omitted or does the Government intend to incorporate them into the solicitation later, as before?*

**Answer 146** *252.225-7012 was omitted in error. This will be corrected in the final solicitation. 252.225-7014 and 252.225-7015 DO NOT APPLY.*

Question 147 Page 2, 8 and 113, Section L.1.2.2 requires Financial Capability Information. Will our corporate Annual Report or 10K suffice?

**Answer 147** *Information in any format that meets the requirements in L.1.2.2 will be acceptable.*

Question 148 Page 4 identifies CLIN 1008 yet Section B contains no 1008. Can you clarify?

**Answer 148** *The final solicitation will be corrected.*

Question 149 Section B specifies acceptance and inspection at destination. As the CPA transitions authority to the Iraqi Governing Council prior to delivery, who and what acceptance procedures will be utilized?

**Answer 149** *Inspection and acceptance will be by U.S. Government personnel at Kirkush Military Training Base.*

Question 150 Flow Downs - Page 92 (e)(1) and page 94, 30(c) are inconsistent. Please clarify.

**Answer 150** *Deliveries will be to U.S. Authorities through life of contract or until modified by later contract modification. Page 92(e)(4) applies to FAR clauses. Page 94, 30(c) are permissible additions of DFARS clauses.*

Question 151 Page 115, Section L.2.3.3 is a repeat of L.1.2.2. Does this mean the same data previously submitted is required to also be submitted with Volume III?

**Answer 151** *This information is requested to be submitted separately by 15 April 2004. If it is not submitted separately, then it must be included in Volume III.*

Question 152 Page 16, Section L.2.4.1.2 is due prior to proposal submission and requires subcontractor information. As this is due two weeks prior to proposals, this requires our internal source selections be accomplished early and may not offer the best values. Can this submission be restricted to the prime level? Or, can we provide multiple sub contractor information as not all final source selections may have been made by this time?

**Answer 152** *The data submitted early should be the best available at that time. The final proposal should reflect the latest information and note the changes.*

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Question 153 Page 90, Contract Clause reference #15, DFAR Clause 252.225-7001 titled "Buy American Act and Balance of Payment Program." Since the items being procured are intended for use outside the United States, it appears the Buy American Act should not apply. See FAR 25.100. Will the clause at 252.225-7001 be deleted or an explanation provided as to why it is included?

**Answer 153** *The clause will be deleted in the final solicitation.*

Question 154 Page 90, Contract Clause reference #17, DFAR Clause 252.225-7021 titled "Trade Agreements" Given that the Trade Agreements Act does not apply to the procurement of arms, ammunition, and war material, FAR 25.401, will the government amend the solicitation to indicate the particular items to which it will apply the clause at DFARS 252.225-7021?

**Answer 154** *The clause is self deleting where not applicable.*

Question 155 Page 76, Section C.2.6: Refueling Vehicle/tanker "*The refueling pods dimensions will fit on the bed of this heavy wheeled vehicle and be compatible with it.*"

a.) Does this mean that the vehicle should have the same cargo bed like Section C.2.2 Heavy Wheeled Vehicle and the refueling pod should be located on this bed?

**Answer 155(a)** *Yes.*

b.) Also should the cargo bed have a bench for soldiers?

**Answer 155(b)** *No.*

Question 156 The requirement for vehicles is off-road in the desert. Is Central Tire Inflation required? Is there a requirement for Air Conditioned interiors?

**Answer 156** *Central Tire Inflation is not required. Air conditioning is not required.*

Question 157 Pages 76-77, Section C.2.7: Recovery Vehicle. Should the accessories be powered by the generator on the vehicle or be powered by external source?

**Answer 157** *Requirement for MIG/MAG welder is removed from the SOW. All other accessories shall be powered by the vehicle. These changes will be reflected in the final solicitation.*

Question 158 Page 73, Section C.2.2: Heavy Wheeled Vehicle. In the Solicitation, it states "*shall have a cab type drivers compartment with removable soft cover*" Does this mean the cab roof is to be made of canvas?

**Answer 158** *The requirement for a removable soft cover is removed from the SOW and will be reflected in the final solicitation.*

Question 159 Pages 10, 11, 12 - CLIN 1002AB, 1002AC, 1002AD, Page 79 Section C.3: Weapons (Rifles).

What Type of ammunition is required?

Primer Type: Boxer or Berdan

Bullet Type: Steel Case, Brass Case, Armor Piercing and etc.

Cartridge Type: Brass, Nickel, Aluminum and etc.

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When you say new weapon, do you mean brand new manufacture or unissued? What year of manufacture is acceptable?

**Answer 159** *New means unused and in a “like new” condition.*

Question 160 Page 15 - CLIN 1004AA, Page 84 Section C.5.1: Night Vision - Individual

What Generation is required for this bid? Generation I, II or III?

What quality of line pairs is required for resolution?

Any magnification?  
Goggles or Monocular?

**Answer 160** *Generation II or newer. This change is reflected in the final solicitation.*

Question 161 Page 16 - CLIN 1004AB, Page 84 Section C.5.2: Weapon Mounted Nightvision

What Generation is required for this bid? Generation I, II or III?

What quality of line pairs is required for resolution?  
Any magnification?

**Answer 161** *Generation II or newer. This change is reflected in the final solicitation.*

Question 162 Page 16 - CLIN 1005AA, Page 84 Section C.6.1: Binoculars. What type of reticle is required?

**Answer 162** *See revised SOW in the final solicitation.*

Question 163 Page 21 - CLIN 1006AG and AH, Page 85 Sections C.7.7 & C.7.8: Body Armor & Kevlar Helmets. Please clarify NATO Level III. In the U.S. we compare by National Institute of Justice (NIJ) threat levels. Level III NIJ would stop 7.62 NATO (.308 Caliber) 148gr. FMJ @ 2780 fps., this specification would require the use of heavy armor plates and then protection would only be where plates are, not entire vest. NATO Level III is not available in a helmet, would Level IIIA be acceptable or even level II (if cost is a factor)?

**Answer 163** *See revised SOW in the final solicitation.*

Question 164 Reference C.7.6, Item No. 1006AF. Does the Berry Amendment apply to this item? Does Buy America act apply to this item? Clarification required: Is the “Dust Goggle” description under C.7.6 asking for one (1) clear lens and one (1) tinted lens, OR two (2) clear lenses and two (2) tinted lenses?

**Answer 164** *Berry amendment does not apply to C.7.6. See revised SOW in the final solicitation.*

Question 165 Paragraph m3.6 on page 120 states that Past Performance is approximately equal to Small business Participation. Paragraph 3.6.3 states that the Past Performance element is significantly more important than the Small Business element. Please clarify the relationship of Past Performance to the Small Business participation element.

**Answer 165** *M 3.6.3 was in error. M 3.6 is correct. Past Performance and Small Business Participation are approximately equal. The final solicitation will reflect this change.*

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Question 166 The delivery schedule outlined in the solicitation is extremely aggressive. It reflects less than industry lead time for medium and heavy vehicles and essentially limits bidders to only those who have vehicles in stock ready to ship. Considering a contract award on June 1, 2004, and subtracting approximately 30 days for transit time if shipped from the U.S., the first full set of vehicles are required to be produced in totality in approximately 45 days.

In addition, the delivery of vehicles in such large quantities to Karkuk on 8/15/04 will cause a storage issues because the users of the trucks will first require training. It will be nearly impossible to mass train 1,000 Iraqi's in the operation and maintenance of the vehicle safely and thoroughly. We would suggest that the solicitation be amended to state that a small number of each vehicle be delivered in October for the purpose of training and instruction in the safe operation of the vehicle. Then based on a training plan, vehicles would be delivered to support the availability of trained drivers and maintenance personnel.

Would the government consider amending the solicitation to remove the delivery limitations and training issues mentioned above?

**Answer 166 See Question/Answer 77.**

Question 167 Contracts normally require an approved Contractor Purchasing System after award. If a prime or subcontractor does not have a Certified Purchasing System will they be required to seek approval from the contracting office prior to release of any purchase orders to subcontractors and suppliers?

**Answer 167 A certified purchasing system is not required.**

Question 168 FOB Karkuk, Iraq. Hand-Off Warranty makes the prime liable for any defects from final acceptance to and including hand off to the user.

- a. Would the Contracting Office consider allowing local United States DCMA/ QAR personnel to inspect and accept (i.e. DD250) products at the place of manufacture?

**Answer 168(a) Government personnel will perform inspection and acceptance at Kirkush Military Training Base, Iraq. FOB Kirkush is a mandatory requirement.**

- b. If not, and final inspection/acceptance will occur in Karkuk, Iraq, what level of inspection will be performed and how will this be conducted since there is no requirement for a Final Inspection Record document for any of the products?

**Answer 168(b) Acceptance requirements will be included in the final solicitation.**

Question 169 The final RFP is scheduled to be released April 5<sup>th</sup> with a Pre-Proposal Conference to be held the week of April 12<sup>th</sup>. Will additional amendments to the final RFP be allowed if question/concerns are raised at the Pre-Proposal Conference?

**Answer 169 Amendments may be issued, if necessary, but the Government intends to meet its award schedule. Questions posed too late in the proposal submission cycle risk not being responded to prior to the deadline for submission of proposals.**

Question 170 Quality Assurance requirements are one of the most important factors when purchasing uniforms, body armor, weapons, ammunition, wheeled vehicles, etc. We can find no reference to quality system requirements or procedures in the solicitation. Will the solicitation be amended to require/evaluate or measure quality in the purchase of the listed equipment?

**Answer 170 Quality requirements are included in the final solicitation.**

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Question 171 Configuration management is an important requirement to ensure product commonality, simplify training and operation and maintenance, and to reduce logistics footprint. We find no reference or requirement for configuration management in the solicitation. Will the government consider amending the solicitation to add a requirement for configuration management?

**Answer 171 No configuration management requirements will be added.**

Question 172 A Small Business Plan is a requirement for both U.S. and non-U.S. firms.

- a. How will the Government evaluate a small business plan of a U.S. company that has history with the U.S. Government in this area against an offeror from a non-U.S. country that does not have this history and who submits a proposed plan?

**Answer 172(a) The solicitation requires all offerors to provide similar information in response to the Small Business Participation Element evaluation per L.2.4.2. Offerors, both U.S. and non-U.S. are required by this provision to identify intended use of U.S. small businesses and will be evaluated against the 10% goal specified. The realism of that proposed usage will be evaluated based on what is proposed and the offerors record of meeting its goals in the past. To the extent that an offeror (either U.S. or non-U.S.) does not have such history, that previous history consideration of the realism assessment will be unknown and the realism judgment will rely on the other information furnished.**

- b. Will the SSEB establish a risk factor in this area?

**Answer 172(b) Yes**

Question 173 Paragraph C.2.2 states that the vehicle will be used in urban, cross country and sand environments.

- a. How will the SSEB evaluate a commercial or “military” vehicle with no off-road/cross country or sand experience?

**Answer 173(a) The vehicle will be evaluated based upon the information provided against the requirement as listed in the solicitation.**

- b. Will risk factors be assigned to commercial or “military” vehicles that are not specifically designed for, and have no operating history in, off-road/cross country and sand conditions?

**Answer 173(b) See a. above.**

Question 174 C.2.2 the vehicle shall have a cab type driver’s compartment with removable soft. Is this a firm requirement or will alternatives be accepted?

**Answer 174 Requirement has been changed and is contained in the final solicitation.**

Question 175 Medium Wheeled Vehicle q. The vehicle shall be provided with provisions to mount the radio system specified in C.4.2. Detailed radio specification is needed: potable or vehicle mounting type, size and receptacle type, etc.

**Answer 175 The prime contractor is responsible for integration. See response to Question/Answer 91.**

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Question 176 Medium Wheeled Vehicle s. The vehicle shall be Desert Tan in color. What is actual international color code?

**Answer 176 Any shade of tan is acceptable.**

Question 177 Medium Wheeled Vehicle “t”. The vehicle shall be equipped with a winch. All vehicles should be equipped winch?

**Answer 177 Yes.**

Question 178 Medium Wheeled Vehicle “w”. The crew seating area and the cargo area shall be enclosed from the elements. What is the meaning of area: between cab and cargo box, between crew seating and cargo in the cargo box?

**Answer 178 All crew seating positions and cargo storage locations shall be enclosed from the elements.**

Question 179 Medium Wheeled Vehicle “y”. A sand extraction track shall be provided with each vehicle. The vehicle shall have a permanent storage location for the sand extraction track. Detailed specification of Sand extraction track?

**Answer 179 This requirement was removed from the SOW and is reflected in the draft solicitation.**

Question 180 Medium Wheeled Vehicle “aa”. The vehicle shall be equipped with two 20 liter Jerry cans. The Jerry cans shall be mounted on the rear of the vehicle. The mount configuration should not limit ingress or egress from the rear vehicle when the Jerry cans are installed. Is it possible to location of Jerry cans? Require: rear. Ours: side.

**Answer 180 The Jerry cans shall be mounted on the rear of the vehicle as stated in the solicitation.**

Question 181 Medium Wheeled Vehicle “ac”. The vehicle shall be equipped with a 2.5 LB ABC Type Fire Extinguisher with mounting bracket. Is it possible to use 3.3kg ABC type fire extinguisher?

**Answer 181 No, it must be a minimum of a 2.5 lb. Fire Extinguisher. This will be reflected in the final solicitation.**

Question 182 Ambulance: The patient compartment shall also provide sufficient area for a medic to treat the patients when transporting a minimum two patients on stretchers or four ambulatory patients and their ruck sacks, weapons (see Section C.3/2000 series CLINs), and individual equipment. Detailed information about ruck sacks, weapons and individual equipment is needed (size, weight, mounting type, etc.).

**Answer 182 The prime contractor is responsible for integration. More details on the equipment will be revised in the final solicitation.**

Question 183 Ambulance. The patient compartment shall be equipped with a minimum of two stretchers, 2 backboards, 4 IV hooks, and 4 EMT first aid packs. Detail specification of medical equipment: 2 backboards, 4 IV hooks, 4 EMT first aid packs: contents and size?

**Answer 183 The prime contractor is responsible for integration. See revised SOW C.2.4.g for EMT first aid pack content in the final solicitation.**

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Question 184 Heavy Wheeled Vehicle “d”. The electrical system shall be a 24 volts DC with an outlet in cab and be compatible with a trailer system. This system shall operate radios (Sec C.4). Receptacle of radio and trailer are the same?

**Answer 184 No.**

Question 185 Heavy Wheeled Vehicle “m”. The color of the topcoat shall be desert tan. What is actual international color code?

**Answer 185 Any shade of tan is acceptable.**

Question 186 Heavy Wheeled Vehicle “o”. Radio mounts and connection shall be provided in the cab compatible with radio 24V specified. Detailed specification needed: dimension, connectors?

**Answer 186 See Question/Answer 91.**

Question 187 Heavy Wheeled Vehicle “s”. Vehicle shall be equipped with winch. All vehicles should be equipped winch?

**Answer 187 Yes.**

Questions 188 Heavy Wheeled Vehicle “u”. Vehicle shall be equipped with all weather and all terrain radial tires. The tires shall be designed to operated both off and on road. Type of radial tires: tube or tubless?

**Answer 188 Either are acceptable.**

Question 189 Heavy Wheeled Vehicle w. If equipped with ignition and door locks, all ignition and door locks shall be identically keyed for all vehicles. Is it possible without door lock system?

**Answer 189 Yes.**

Question 190 Heavy Wheeled Vehicle x. The vehicle shall be equipped with two 20 liter Jerry cans. The Jerry cans shall be mounted on the rear of the vehicle. The mount configuration should not limit ingress or egress from the rear vehicle when the Jerry cans are installed. Possibility of changing location of Jerry can?

**Answer 190 See Question/Answer 180.**

Question 191 Refueling Vehicle c. Total weight of the pod and fuel will not exceed 3200 kilos. Requirement: fuel tank capacity: 3,000 L over; fuel + tank weight: 3,200 kg below; tank weight shall be 500 kg below. Is it possible fuel tank weight is around 1,000 kg?

**Answer 191 The 3,200 kilo requirement will be removed from the SOW and the final solicitation.**

Question 192 Refueling Vehicle r. External surfaces shall be painted desert tan color. What is actual international color code?

**Answer 192 Any shade of tan is acceptable.**

Question 193 Recovery Vehicle d. The vehicle shall be equipped with a shelter/tent extension for weather protection shall be provided and shall be detachable from the vehicle along with necessary supports. The shelter/tent extension shall be desert tan in color. Detailed specification needed?

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**Answer 193** The revised SOW C.2.7.d is in the final solicitation.

Question 194 Recovery Vehicle. Floor jack, sand jack, air jack and airbag jack. Detailed specification needed?

**Answer 194** Detailed specifications for these items are left to the offerors.

Question 195 Recovery Vehicle. Heavy rated MIG/MAG welder with all safety accessories. Type of welder power supply: self-power assisted or outside-power assisted?

**Answer 195** The requirement for MIG/MAG welder is removed from the SOW and will be reflected in the final solicitation.

Question 196 Recovery Vehicle h. The vehicle shall be equipped with a winch for self recovery. The self recovery winch shall have a minimum capacity of 6800 kg. Minimum capacity of 6,800 kg can be reduced to 4,500 kg?

**Answer 196** No.

Question 197 Recovery Vehicle i. The vehicle shall be equipped with blocks and tackle and/or possess an articulated crane capable of lifting approximately 2,500 to 3,000 kilos. What is the crane boom length for lifting 2,500 ~ 3,000 kg?

**Answer 197** Length is not specified. Crane boom length to lift objects weighing 2,500 – 3,000 kilos will depend on boom location and configuration.

Question 198 Recovery Vehicle i. The vehicle shall be equipped with blocks and tackle and/or possess an articulated crane capable of lifting approximately 2,500 to 3,000 kilos. Crane will be located at the rear of the vehicle and cargo space will be center of vehicle?

**Answer 198** See revised SOW C.2.7 (l) and (o) in the final solicitation.

Question 199 Recovery Vehicle o. The vehicle shall be capable of carrying cargo and supplies around the flatbed rear of the vehicle (flatbed space not occupied by crane/boom equipment shall be available for carrying of cargo). Crane will be located at the rear of the vehicle and cargo space will be center of vehicle?

**Answer 199** Locations of crane and cargo space are optional.

Question 200 Recovery Vehicle p. The vehicle shall be painted desert tan in color. What is actual international color code?

**Answer 200** Any shade of tan is acceptable.