

Note: FAR 52.215-3 Request for Information or Solicitation for Planning Purposes (Oct 1997)

(a) The Government does not intend to award a contract on the basis of this solicitation or to otherwise pay for the information solicited except as an allowable cost under other contracts as provided in subsection 31.205-18, Bid and proposal costs, of the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

(b) Although “proposal” and “Offeror” are used in this Request for Information, your response will be treated as information only. It shall not be used as a proposal.

(c) This solicitation is issued in DRAFT form for planning purposes only. ACC-WRN intends to review and consider all feedback from Industry submitted in response to this DRAFT solicitation regarding the TS3 acquisition.

A.1 Background/Description of the Action

TACOM Strategic Service Solutions (TS3) is a Multiple Award Indefinite-Delivery Indefinite-Quantity (MA IDIQ) contract that provides scope coverage for the following four primary Portfolio Groups: Knowledge Based Services, Equipment Related Services, Facility Related Services, and Research and Development (R&D) Services. Specific requirements under the MA IDIQ Statement of Work (SOW) will be solicited and awarded as subsequent competitive task orders for the following Requiring Activities (RAs): Program Executive Office (PEO) Combat Support & Combat Service Support (PEO CS&CSS); PEO Ground Combat Systems (PEO GCS); System of Systems Engineering & Integration (SoSE&I); Tank Automotive Research and Development Command (TARDEC); and the enterprise agencies of TACOM Life Cycle Management Command (LCMC),.

A.2 Maximum Ordering Value

The maximum ordering value for all MA IDIQ contracts awarded is \$3.2 Billion.

A.3 Scope of the MA IDIQ Contract

The scope of the MA IDIQ contract will allow for the procurement of services in four primary Portfolio Groups, as structured by Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy (DPAP). A general description of these Portfolio Groups are as follows:

Knowledge Based Services – This Portfolio Group relates to tasks that involve program and/or project management and administration, the furnishing of professional advice or assistance, including those of an engineering and technical nature, to include Engineering Management Services, Logistics Management Services, Management Support Services, and Professional Services.

Equipment Related Services – This Portfolio Group pertains to actions performed to keep some machine or system functioning or in service such as Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul, Equipment Modification, Installation of Equipment, and Technical Representative Services.

Facility Related Services – This Portfolio Group allows for the design, maintenance, and repair of facilities to include Operation of Government Owned Facilities, Machinery and Equipment Maintenance, and Facility Purchases and Leases.

Research and Development (R&D) Services – This Portfolio Group covers requirements associated with Research, Development, Testing, and Evaluation (RDT&E) and includes support to any R&D lab across any service.

A.4 Solicitation Structure

Although TS3 will be issued as one solicitation, it will contain two separate Suites for proposal submission and evaluation purposes. In the first Suite, Restricted Suite, only those Offerors that certify as a small business concern under the primary TS3 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code, 541330 (Engineering Services (except Military and Aerospace Equipment and Military Weapons)), will be permitted to submit a proposal for a MA IDIQ contract. In the second Suite, Unrestricted Suite, only those Offerors that qualify as an other-than-small business concern under NAICS code 541330 (Engineering Services (except Military and Aerospace Equipment and Military Weapons)), will be permitted to submit a proposal for a MA IDIQ contract.

The primary NAICS code for the TS3 solicitation and resultant MA IDIQ contract(s) is 541330, Engineering Services (except Military and Aerospace Equipment and Military Weapons). Therefore, in order to qualify as a small business concern for the Restricted Suite at both the MA IDIQ and task order-level, Offerors shall be certified as a small business for NAICS code 541330.

At the task order level, however, any one of following three NAICS codes may be used, based on the preponderance of work of the task order:

- 541330, Engineering Services (except Military and Aerospace Equipment and Military Weapons);
- 561210, Facilities Support Services; or
- 541742, Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences (except Biotechnology).

The Government does not intend to re-categorize any prime contractor between Suites based on the business size of either 541712 or 561210, if different than 541330; a prime contractor will remain in either the Restricted Suite or Unrestricted Suite for the life of the TS3 ordering period, not-to-exceed five years in accordance with FAR

Subpart 19.301-2(b)(3). Each Offeror (to include subcontractors and teammates) shall self-certify in System for Award Management (SAM) prior to submitting a proposal on TS3. Failure to register in SAM may preclude an award being made to your company. Similarly, failure to self-certify for all the above-listed NAICS codes may preclude an award being made to your company.

A.5 Number of Prime MA IDIQ Contract Awards Anticipated

The Government plans to award approximately 40 MA IDIQ contracts between the Restricted Suite and the Unrestricted Suite (approximately 25 each and 15 each, respectfully), as a result of this solicitation. However, the Government reserves the right to award more or less than 40 IDIQ contracts (thus, more or less than 25 IDIQ contract to the Restricted Suite and 15 IDIQ contracts to the Unrestricted Suite).

A.6 TS3 Ordering Period

The TS3 Ordering Period will be five years from the date of MA IDIQ award.

A.7 Task Order Period of Performance

All task orders issued against TS3 will be issued bilaterally. The Government anticipates each task order to have up to a three year period of performance, however, each solicited and awarded task order will define its own specific performance period.

A.8 Small Business Participation

TS3 will not be used to award task order requirements valued below the Simplified Acquisition Threshold (SAT). All task orders will be set aside for competition among the Restricted Suite contractors whenever the Procuring Contracting Office (PCO) has a reasonable expectation that offers will be obtained from at least two responsible small business concerns and award will be made at a fair market price.

If the contracting officer does not have a reasonable expectation that offers will be obtained from at least two responsible small business concerns and award will be made at a fair market price, regardless of dollar value, the task order will be open for competition between the contractors in both the Restricted Suite and Unrestricted Suite, deeming the task order 'full and open' for competition among all prime TS3 contractors.

A.9 Subcontracting and Teaming Relationships

Due to the magnitude and complexity of TS3, and the wide range of capabilities required by the MA IDIQ, responsible potential Offerors, specifically small business concerns, are hereby encouraged to form teams, subcontracting relationships, and/or joint ventures of small business concerns, in accordance with Section 1312 of the Small Business Jobs Act (Public Law 111-240) and 15 USC § 644(q)(1). In accordance with 13 CFR 121.103(h), a JV of "two or more small business concerns may submit an offer

[in response to the TS3 solicitation] as a small business...without regard to affiliation” so long as each concern is small under the size standard for NAICS 541330 (except Military and Aerospace Equipment and Military Weapons). Any Small Business Teaming Arrangement(s), subcontracting relationships and/or JVs entered into as a result of this acquisition shall be in writing and submitted to the PCO as part of its proposal.

At the task order level, if a requirement is set-aside for small business concerns, the requirements set forth in FAR Clause 52.219-14 shall be followed; however, in accordance with the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013, small businesses concerns can team/subcontract with another “covered small business concern” or “similarly situated entity” in order to meet the requirements mandated by FAR Clause 52.219-14.

A.10 Source Selection Process

The evaluation of proposals submitted in response to this solicitation will be conducted on a Best Value basis using Source Selection Trade-Off Procedures in accordance with FAR Subpart 15.3. In accordance with 15 USC § 644(e)(4), all small business offers (which propose the use of a particular team or subcontractor) will be evaluated with due consideration to the capabilities of all teammates and/or subcontractors.

Section L of this solicitation provides information and instructions for each Offeror to prepare its proposal. Section M describes how proposals will be evaluated for possible award. Sections L and M will not become a part of the awarded MA IDIQ contracts. It is important to understand the distinction between the solicitation, proposal preparation, evaluation, and award process for task orders (see Section H).

The Government will evaluate all Offerors using, among other criterion, three representative task orders, which the Government fully intends on awarding. These task orders are representative of the task orders that may be executed under the resultant contracts.

A.11 Adequacy of Accounting System

Prospective contractors are requested to provide “information” that their accounting system is adequate in accordance with FAR Subpart 16.301-3 and 16.403-1, and in compliance with FAR Part 31, Contract Cost Principles and Procedures.

“Information” may include:

- (1) Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) Report on the Adequacy of Contractor’s Accounting System, or Accounting System Review, Date, Branch Office, and Auditor’s Opinion (Dated within the last 4 Years), or

- (2) In lieu of a current DCAA Accounting System Review, prospective contractor's may, at their own expense, provide an Accounting System Compliance Review, performed by an independent Certified Public Accounting firm, who have determined after review, that the prospective contractor's accounting system is acceptable, meaning that the contractor's accounting system must have the attributes listed below, and have written documentation of these procedures via an SF 1408 entitled Preaward Survey of Prospective Contractor's Accounting System Checklist.
- a. Compliance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP)
 - b. Proper segregation of direct costs from indirect costs
 - c. Identification and accumulation of direct costs by contract
 - d. A logical and consistent method for allocation of indirect costs to intermediate and final cost objectives
 - e. Accumulation of costs under general ledger control
 - f. A timekeeping system that identifies employees' labor by intermediate or final cost objectives
 - g. Interim (at least monthly) determination of costs charged to a contract through routine posting to books of account
 - h. Exclusion of "unallowable" costs in accordance with FAR 31.

Prospective contractor's are advised that in the event, they are the successful Offeror, and at some later time, a DCAA Post Award Review/Audit of the contractor's accounting system discloses that the accounting system is inadequate, that payments, in accordance with the payment clause, may be suspended until the contracting officer has determined the accounting system is adequate.

A.12 Inconsistencies between the Executive Summary and the Solicitation

This Executive Summary has been prepared as an aid to potential Offerors. Every attempt was made to accurately reflect the requirements and information contained in the balance of this solicitation. However, if you find any inconsistency between this executive summary and the solicitation, the solicitation takes precedence. Please contact the TS3 mailbox (usarmy.detroit.acc.mbx.wrn-ts3@mail.mil) with any inconsistencies noted.