

AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT		1. CONTRACT ID CODE	PAGE OF PAGES 1 6
2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO. Two (2)	3. EFFECTIVE DATE January 15, 1997	4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO. RS-IRM-97-195	5. PROJECT NO. (If applicable)
6. ISSUED BY U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Contract Management Branch No.3 Div. of Contracts & Prop, Mgmt. Mail Stop: T712 Washington, DC 20555	CODE	7. ADMINISTERED BY (If other than Item 6)	CODE
8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No., street, county, State and ZIP code) All Offerors		X	9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO. RS-IRM-97-195
			9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11) December 12, 1997
			10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO.
			10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 13)
CODE	FACILITY CODE		

11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS

The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in Item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers is extended, is not extended. Offerors must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods: (a) By completing Items 8 and 15, and returning 1 copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.

12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required)

13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS, IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.

A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.
B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation data, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b).
C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:
D. OTHER (Specify type of modification and authority)

E. IMPORTANT: Contractor is not, is required to sign this document and return _____ copies to the issuing office.

14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible.)

SEE ATTACHED PAGES

THE CLOSING DATE FOR THIS SOLICITATION REMAINS JANUARY 23, 1998, @ 3:30 P.M.

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.

15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print)	16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (Type or print) Sharon D. Mearse Contracting Officer
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR	15C. DATE SIGNED
(Signature of person authorized to sign)	16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY <i>Sharon D. Mearse</i> (Signature of Contracting Officer)
	16C. DATE SIGNED 1/15/98

B-6

RS-IRM-97-195
Amendment No. 2
Page 2 of 6

The purpose of this Amendment No. 2 to Solicitation No. RS-IRM-97-195 is to provide answers to written questions received through close-of-business, Friday, January 2, 1998.

As a result of the Government's responses to some of these questions, clarifications and changes to certain sections of this solicitation are hereby made as follows:

Question No. 1

C.1.4.1.2 Senior Lead Computer Operator. Requirement two appears to severely restrict competition to only those that have actually worked in the NRC Data Center. The requirement as stated is:

"Three years experience in the operation of all of the following operating systems; DG AOS/VS II, IBM VM/ESA, DEC VMS and UNIX. No fewer than six months experience in any operating systems is considered acceptable."

It is believed that two elements of this requirement (**bolded**) are severely limiting competition to the point of only the incumbent or those personnel that have actually worked in the NRC environment as being able to meet the requirement.

First, it is believed that the requirement to have three years experience, six months minimum in each, in four specific operating systems is overly restrictive. Without working in the NRC environment it appears unlikely that any person would have acquired the exact skill mix as written in the NRC Experience Requirements. It is requested that NRC modify the requirement so as not to so severely restrict available personnel who might support the effort or restrict potential competition for the work.

Secondly, IBM VM represents a very small portion of the IBM operating system marketplace. VM/XA and VM/ESA further reduce the numbers of sites utilizing these "pre-MVS" operating systems and architectures. It is believed that this restricts the number of trained personnel that have been exposed to a "particular" variation and or version of the VM operating system. As well, several versions of VM were in the marketplace prior to the /XA and /ESA versions. The procedures and commands are so similar among the variants as to not be distinguishable at the operator levels.

RS-IRM-97-195
Amendment No. 2
Page 3 of 6

With respect to both elements discussed above, it is therefore requested that the requirement be rewritten to the following less restrictive version:

"Three years experience in the operation of any three of the following family of operating systems; DG AOS/VS, IBM VM or MVS, DEC VMS, and UNIX. No fewer than six months experience in any of the three operating systems is considered acceptable."

Answer No. 1

The requirement for an offeror to provide a Senior Lead Operator with six months experience in each of the NRC environments does not require the offeror to provide an operator with previous NRC experience. These operating systems are commercially available and run in other data centers in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. This is the mix of operating systems that the NRC uses which justifies this requirement.

The MVS operating system originally came from the VM operating system. However, this was over 30 years ago. These two operating systems have since evolved into two totally different operating systems. An operator trained only in MVS would have no idea how to perform any work in VM and would therefore be considered unacceptable.

Accordingly, the request to modify Subsection C.1.4.1.2 in the above manner is hereby denied.

Question No. 2

In addition to the detailed position descriptions under Subsection C.1.4.1 for personnel that are considered "Key Personnel, Subsection C.1.4.2 identifies six "other" positions that will be required to provide support under the contract. Minimum experience, education and/or other requirements for the "other" positions are not specified. It is requested that minimum experience qualification standards for the other non-key positions be added to provide comparable labor categories, personnel qualifications and costs.

Answer No. 2

It has been determined that minimum experience qualification standards for non-key personnel positions are required. As a result of this determination, the following change is hereby made to this solicitation:

Page 20. Subsection C.1.4.2 - OTHER POSITIONS is hereby deleted in its entirety and substituted with the following in lieu thereof:

"C.1.4.2 OTHER POSITIONS

NRC anticipates the following positions shall be needed to complete this contract. Other personnel may be recommended that are not on the list. None of these positions are considered key personnel.

Technical Writer - shall have a minimum of five years of experience in writing technical documentation of which two years shall be in writing computer operations or computer systems support manuals.

Systems Analyst - shall have a minimum of five years of experience in system analysis in the development of configuration management systems.

Computer Operator - shall have a minimum of one year of experience in the operation of a computer system using DG AOS/VS II, IBM VM/ESA, DEC VMS or UNIX.

Tape Librarian - shall have a minimum of six months of experience as a tape librarian, data entry clerk or computer operator. Computer operator training may be substituted for experience. Certification of training being provided at an accredited institution must be provided.

Data Entry Clerk/Clerical - shall have 3 months of experience as a typist or shall have successfully completed a basic typing course. Certification of training being provided at an accredited institution must be provided.

Computer Cleaner - shall have 3 months of experience in the cleaning of computer equipment."

Question No. 3

There is a disparity between the level of effort specified in Subsection C.1.4, page 18, paragraph 3, and in the annual estimate in Subsection L.10. Please clarify.

Answer No. 3

You are correct. Accordingly, page 72, Subsection L.10 - NRCAR 2052.216-70 LEVEL OF EFFORT (JAN 1993) is hereby deleted in its entirety and substituted with the following in lieu thereof:

"L.10 NRCAR 2052.216 70 LEVEL OF EFFORT (JAN 1993)

The NRC's estimate of the total effort for this project is approximately 10.0 professional and 0.1 clerical staff years for the first year and 8.6 professional and 0.1 clerical staff years for the duration of this contract. This information is advisory and is not to be considered as the sole basis for the development of the staffing plan. For the purposes of the Government estimate, 2000 hours constitute a staff year."

Question No. 4

Page 72, Subsection L.9(e)4.a.i., directs offerors to demonstrate a sound management approach to implementing this contract by including, among other things, a description of the offerors proposed management techniques to oversee the administration of the contract. However, Subsection M.3.4, page 76, does not address this requirement in the evaluation criteria for Management Approach. If the intent is to evaluate this important aspect of Management Approach, Subsection M.3.4 should be revised to include it as well.

Answer No. 4

You are correct. Accordingly, page 76. Subsection M.3, item 4 - MANAGEMENT APPROACH is hereby deleted in its entirety and substituted with the following in lieu thereof:

"4. MANAGEMENT APPROACH

The offerors' proposed (1) management techniques to oversee the administration of the contract, (ii) management approach to provide ongoing and backup support, and (iii) approach to providing continuing education and training to personnel under this contract shall be evaluated."

ADDITIONAL MODIFICATIONS:

Paragraph iv. is hereby added to Subsection L.9(e), item 4 - MANAGEMENT APPROACH. Accordingly, this subsection is hereby deleted in its entirety and substituted with the following in lieu thereof:

"4. MANAGEMENT APPROACH

Demonstrate a sound management approach to implementing the contract. This shall include:

- i. A description of the offeror's proposed management techniques to oversee the administration of the contract.
- ii. Procedures to provide on-going and backup support to avoid system interruptions. As a minimum, this procedure description should include the designated point of contact both principle and backup (if applicable), and the maximum time backup personnel can be available from the time the contract is notified of the need for a backup person by the NRC Project Officer.
- iii. The offeror's training plan to keep personnel up-to-date with the new features of the hardware/software listed in the Statement of Work. State any assumptions, interpretations, and requirements involved in this training plan.
- iv. The offeror shall also provide a shift staffing plan to demonstrate that each shift shall be staffed with operators that collectively have thorough knowledge and experience with all operating systems run at NRC.

All other terms and conditions of this solicitation remain unchanged. Any assumptions on the offerors' part should be delineated under their proposal in response to this solicitation.