



VANGUARD

Vanguard Pre-Bid Conference

James H. Laros III – Chief Architect/project lead
Amy Patterson – Subcontract Manager

Introduction & Important Reminders

- Security Announcement
- Please sign in
- Recording is not permitted
- Remarks and explanations at the conference shall not change the terms of the Solicitation. Terms of the Solicitation and specifications remain unchanged unless the Solicitation is revised in writing.
- Questions must be in writing. All answers provided in the pre-proposal conference are subject to an official NTESS response to be provided in writing to all Offerors.
- Minutes will not be kept or issued. Other than official answers to written questions, no additional records of the conference will be issued following the conference.

Purpose

This meeting is designed to:

- Provide an overview of the RFP and project scope
- Highlight key expectations and deliverables from the subcontractor
- Introduce the project team
- Address questions and provide clarification of the project

RFQ Due Dates

- Question Due Date: Thursday, January 18th, 2018 by COB
- Proposal Due Date: Thursday, February 8th, 2018 at 12pm MST (Proposals are due in NASA SEWP)

RFQ Overview

- All correspondence must be directed to Amy Patterson
- This RFQ is an advanced action. The government is under continuing resolution, hopefully this will be resolved on January 19th.
- Method of Award: Competitive, Best Value
- Contract Type: Fixed Price
- NAICS Code: 541519-2 Information Technology Value Added Resellers
- Offeror must be registered in SAM under the above NAICS code before an award can be made
- This RFQ is a Small Business Set-Aside
- Subcontract Kickoff Meeting Required

Scope of Work

Subcontractor shall provide a large-scale ARM High Performance Computer (HPC) platform with storage, including software. The Subcontractor shall also provide maintenance and support.

1. The processor used for the computational portion of the platform shall be 64-bit ARM processor technology.
2. All platform hardware shall be Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratories (NRTL) certified and bear appropriate NRTL labels.

Documents Incorporated By Reference

The following documents is incorporated by reference

- Desired Attributes, Dated 12/20/2017, Revision 0
- Definitions and Glossary, Dated 12/20/2017, Revision 0
- Scalable System Improvement (SSI) Metric, Dated 12/20/2017, Revision 0

Clearance Requirements

- Q clearance is required this this project.
- Required Subcontractor General Awareness Education and Trainig is listed In Clause 14 under Section I Clauses (page 25)

Milestones

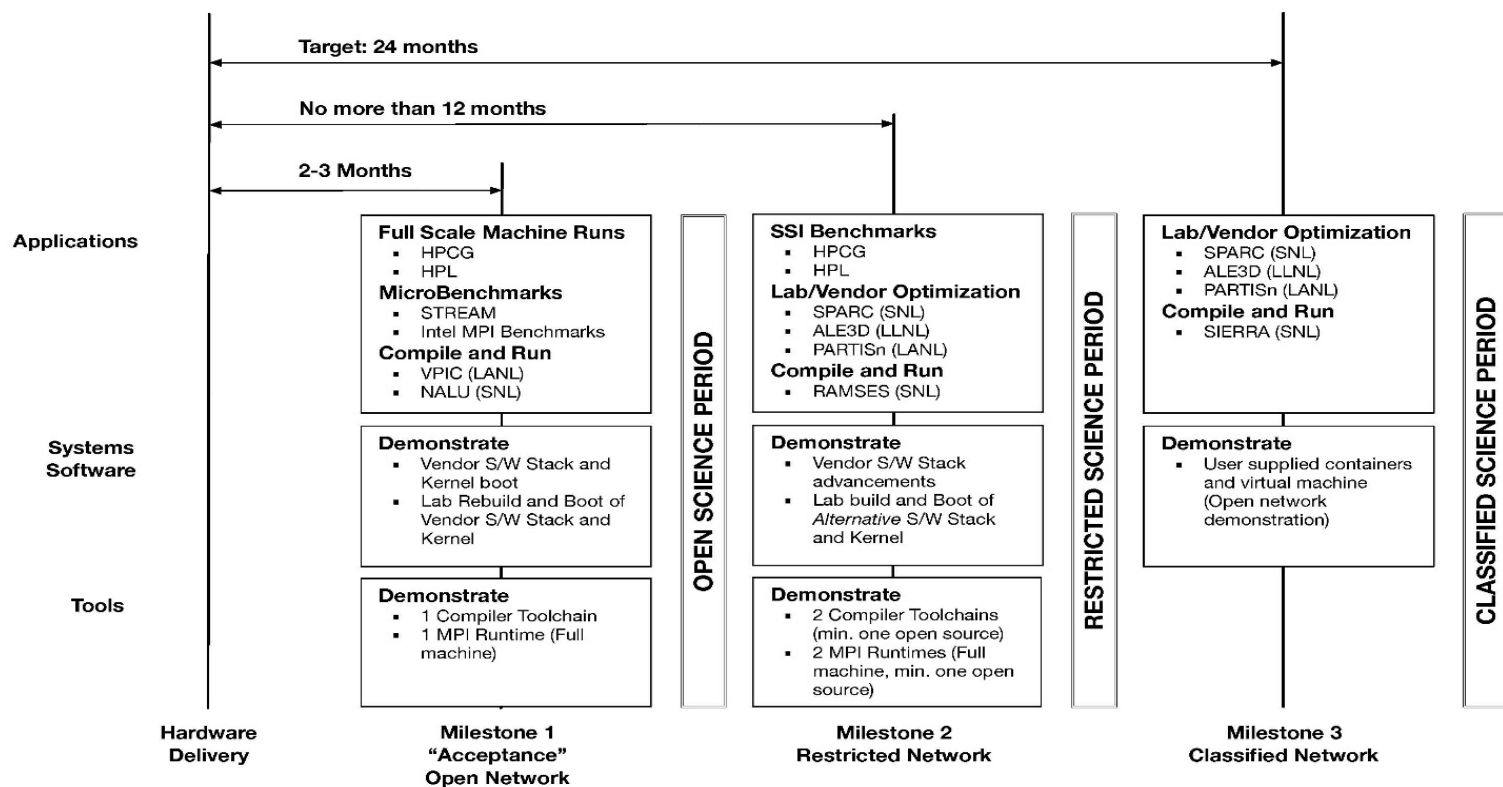
Milestone Schedule:

Milestone 1 - Acceptance of the Open Network

Milestone 2 - Restricted Network

Milestone 3 - Classified Network

Milestone 4 - Maintenance and Support



Price Proposal

BREAKDOWN OF TOTAL PRICE (page 14)

NTESS requests a Quotation on a Firm Fixed Price basis. Please provide a breakdown showing the following:

LABOR – Provide Labor hours, Labor categories with a description of those labor categories (education and experience level), and fully loaded rates. If information is available, provide further breakdown of labor rates showing salary, overhead, profit.

Note whether overhead/G&A rates are audited by DCAA or other cognizant audit agency.

OTHER DIRECT COSTS:

MATERIAL – Provide priced bill of material. For material items over \$25K provide price list or vendor quote.

TRAVEL - For travel provide number of trips, destinations, number of travelers, airfare, hotel, and per diem.

SUBCONTRACTS – For significant subcontracting, ensure the same level of detail is provided as described above.

G&A – Quote if applicable and note whether G&A rate is supported by DCAA or other cognizant audit agency.

If you require incremental payments, you may propose milestone payments tied to tangible milestones/deliverables. NTESS will not provide advance payments.

- Provide sufficient granularity such that we can understand costs and trade-offs
- This will make negotiations go much more smoothly

8. SUBCONTRACT AWARD BY BEST VALUE DETERMINATION - **SUPERIOR TECHNICAL FEATURES MOST IMPORTANT** - (Page 11)

- Describes how proposals will be evaluated
- Note the importance of the technical solution determined largely based on the **Technical Evaluation Criteria**, in particular the **Desired Attributes**
 - Desired Attributes is a separate document
 - Largely the content of the RFI previously shared

Vanguard RFQ Guidance

9. SUBCONTRACT AWARD CRITERIA – (Page 11)

Technical Proposal

Mandatory Requirements – **Yes they are mandatory**

1. The Offeror shall provide a **64-bit ARM** (Advanced RISC (reduced instruction set computer) Machines) processor technology for the processor used for the computational portion of the platform.
2. The Offeror shall only provide **Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratories (NRTL) certified** platform hardware. The platform hardware shall bear NRTL label's.
3. All responses to this RFQ shall first list the Mandatory Requirement or Desired Attribute as stated in this RFQ, verbatim, including Mandatory Requirement or Desired Attribute number, followed by the Offeror's response to the Mandatory Requirement or Desired Attribute.
 - Example provided on later slide
 - This helps us better understand your proposal
4. Proposals should be in 11 point font with 1 inch margins and have page numbers. The proposal shall not exceed 100 pages.
 - Please don't get thrown out for this one!

Vanguard RFQ Guidance

Technical Evaluation Criteria – (Page 12)

A. Desired Attributes

Respond to each desired attribute (**see document titled "Desired Attributes"**). The desired attributes are desired system characteristics. The Offeror shall describe and quantify where appropriate how they satisfy the desired characteristic.

Responses to desired attributes shall be in a form appropriate for inclusion in a final statement of work. Additional descriptive and/or explanatory information that is not intended for inclusion in a final SOW should be clearly delineated.

- Desired Attributes document is largely what you have seen in all the previous RFI's
- Propose your SOW language in your response
- Feel you want to provide some additional **IMPORTANT** information?
 - **Identify it** and include it below as long as you don't exceed page limits.

The Offerors that meet most or all the desired attributes will receive a higher evaluation rating than Offerors that can only meet a few and/or cannot provide an alternate solution. **If the Offeror cannot fully meet the desired attribute, the Offeror shall describe what it can provide in its place, or provide a plan to ultimately reach the desired attribute.**

- We want to know what you can do

Technical Response Example

List the Desired Attribute from the RFQ (11 point font)

3.2 The per socket memory bandwidth shall achieve a minimum bandwidth of 130 GiB/sec measured with the STREAM TRIAD benchmark.

Provide your answer (11 point font) both the proposed SOW language and optional additional descriptive information (contrived example)

The provided solution will achieve a minimum of 130 GiB/sec memory bandwidth measured by the STREAM TRIAD benchmark prior to acceptance.

Optional additional information: Yada Yada Yada

- Clear to the point responses are good
- What you are prepared to commit to is good
- As stated previously, this is a desired attribute, you won't get thrown out for not meeting this or any desired attributes.
- If you can't meet it tell us what you can do or provide a plan to reach it over time (and provide the timeline).

Questions

- All questions will need to be submitted in writing to Amy Patterson.