

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Justification and Approval

For

Other Than Full and Open Competition

1. Contracting Activity:

Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Network Contracting Office (NCO) 21-VA Sierra Nevada Health Care System (VASNHCS), A&MMS intends to enter into a sole source contract to purchase a Nurse Call System for the new Specialty Clinic building from Innovative Communications Systems, LLC. The VA has the availability of legally sufficient funds to award any resultant contract. The Purchase Request Number is 654-14-3-055-0300.


2. Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed:

This is a new action to purchase a Nurse Call System for the new Specialty Clinic building. This will be a commercial item, firm-fixed price supply contract.

3. Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:

VASNHCS is requesting a new contract for a Nurse Call System for the new Specialty Clinic building.

This Nurse Call System for the new Specialty Clinic building must be compatible with the facilities existing Rauland Responder Nurse Call System without the replacement of current hardware. Based on the existing infrastructure, only Rauland products are acceptable for this requirement. The facility's current Nurse Call System is under warranty with Innovative Communications Systems, LLC. They are the only authorized distributor/installer of Rauland Nurse Call Systems in the region. The new Nurse Call System for the Specialty Clinic building shall have a five (5) year warranty on new equipment and one (1) year warranty on installation. Additionally, the prospective contractor must have a service representative located within the Reno, NV area who has received maintenance training specific to the Rauland Responder 5 system and who can respond onsite within two (2) hours for a service call.

The estimated contract value for the Nurse Call System is 

4. Statutory Authority Permitting Other than Full and Open Competition:

41 USC §253(c)(1), as implemented by FAR 6.302-1. Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements per FAR 6.302-1.

5. Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualifications or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority):

Per market research, Innovative Communications Systems, LLC appears to be the only authorized distributor and installer of Rauland Nurse Call Systems in the region.

The VA's minimum needs can only be satisfied by Rauland Nurse Call Systems which are distributed and installed by Innovative Communications Systems, LLC in the Reno, NV area.

The new Nurse Call System for the Specialty Clinic building must be compatible with the facility's existing Rauland Responder Nurse Call System without the replacement of current hardware. Innovative Communications Systems, LLC is the only firm capable of providing the supplies and services described in Section 3 above without the VA experiencing substantial duplication of cost that could not be expected to be recovered through competition and unacceptable delays in fulfilling its requirements.

6. Description of Efforts Made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as deemed practicable:

A Special Notice (VA261-14-I-0707) was posted via FBO on 06-17-2014 and closed on 06-24-2014. The Special Notice was issued for the purpose of synopsisizing that the VASNHCS intends to negotiate a sole source contract with Innovative Communication Systems, LLC to furnish and install a complete Rauland Responder 5 Nurse Call System for the new Specialty Clinic building. Any firm that believed it could meet these requirements had the opportunity to provide written notification to the Contracting Officer for consideration. Supporting evidence had to be furnished in sufficient detail to demonstrate the ability to comply with the requirements. No responses were received from additional sources indicating that they could furnish and install a Rauland Responder 5 Nurse Call System or an equivalent system that is compatible with the facilities existing Rauland Responder Nurse Call System.

7. Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable:

By signing this document the Contracting Officer is determining that the anticipated cost to the Government will be fair and reasonable. The estimated cost of this action is below the threshold for requiring cost and pricing data. The basis for determining fair and reasonable pricing will include reviewing pricing from prior similar contracts for this requirement and additionally reviewing the producer price index for this designated industry.

8. Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or a Statement of the Reasons Market Research Was Not Conducted:

As described in Section 6 above, market research, in accordance with FAR Part 10, was conducted by synopsis of the proposed acquisition, advising industry of the pending acquisition and soliciting inquiries from interested parties.

9. Any Other Facts Supporting the Use of Other than Full and Open Competition:

Specifications, engineering descriptions, statements of work, statements of objectives, or purchase descriptions suitable for full and open competition are not being used because VA has determined that only one supplier can furnish and install this system which VA requires.

10. Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition:

No sources expressed interest as stated above in Section 6.

11. A Statement of the Actions, if any, the Agency May Take to Remove or Overcome any Barriers to Competition before Making subsequent acquisitions for the supplies or services required:

No follow-on competitive acquisition is planned. However, VA will continue to monitor the commercial marketplace to determine if other manufacturers have started to manufacture systems that are compatible with Rauland Responder Nurse Call Systems.