

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Justification and Approval

For

Other Than Full and Open Competition

- Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs,
Network Contracting Office, VISN 23
4801 Veterans Drive
St. Cloud Minnesota 56303-2099

This is a Justification for Other Than Full and Open Competition.

- Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed:**

A firm-fixed price contract for a Continuous 8 cage metabolic phenotyping system for rats with 8 separate vented acclimation cages on a sole source basis to Sable Systems International 6000 S. Eastern Ave, Bldg. 1 Las Vegas, NV .

- Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:**

Acquisition of a Continuous 8 cage metabolic phenotyping system comprised of the following components:

- 2 each- Triple gas, quad-path analyzer. Includes sensors for O₂, CO₂, H₂O, sub-sampling, internal temperature control, barometric pressure compensation, and software controlled automated drift correction GA-3m4
- 2 each- Four channel parallel flow regulator with baseline, 2.5 L/min per channel
- 1 each- Interface Module
- 8 each- Cage controller data interface for MM-1 mass sensors, running wheels, BXY and BZ position sensors
- 8 each- Cage 48cm x 26 cm, 940 cm² floor area, with solid lid and filter cover, includes spare tub and sensor mount covers (3)
- 16 each- Food hopper for Cage 4826, stainless steel
- 16 each- Water bottle, sipper tube and housing for cage 4826
- 16 each- Precision mass monitoring unit, 0 - 1000g, 3mg resolution
- 8 each- Three dimensional IR beam break array for position detection and rearing information for cage 4826. Includes mounting base
- 8 each- Cage 48cm x 26 cm, 940 cm² floor area, with internal vented lid, respirometry manifold and filter cover, includes spare tub and sensor mount covers (3)
- 1 each- Software Package for Continuous system
- 1 each- 22U instrument rack for gas analyzers and flow generators.

- 1 each- Warranty, to cover parts, labor and travel expenses, for at least three years. Warranty service period to include:
 - a. Software updates and upgrades
 - b. Support, repair and replacement by phone, email or on-site
 - c. Engineering reliability upgrades

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

- (x) (1) Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements per FAR 6.302-1;
- () (2) Unusual and Compelling Urgency per FAR 6.302-2;
- () (3) Industrial Mobilization, Engineering, Developmental or Research Capability or Expert Services per FAR 6.302-3;
- () (4) International Agreement per FAR 6.302-4
- () (5) Authorized or Required by Statute FAR 6.302-5;
- () (6) National Security per FAR 6.302-6;
- () (7) Public Interest per FAR 6.302-7;

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

This equipment is currently in use for a study being conducted by a researcher in Arizona, and as the research study is being transferred to Minnesota the same equipment is required in order to not compromise the ongoing study's results. In addition use of another systems will cause inconsistent results due to the differences in system.

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

This will be synopsized on FBO.gov in accordance with FAR Part 5.

7. Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable: The Contracting Officer will determine the price to be fair and reasonable prior to award.

8. Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or a Statement of the Reasons Market Research Was Not Conducted: Market research was conducted, and no other systems were identified that meet the government's requirements.

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

The requirement cannot be modified to enhance competition, as it is determined as a result of an Institutional review board approved protocol and are in line with the project as approved by the VHA Rehabilitation Research and Development Program Office with the support of VHA Medical Research Appropriations.

Other collaborative research projects are currently being carried out with the same equipment. (Los Angeles VA).

10. Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition: None.

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:

VHA Rehabilitation Research and Development Service and the Principal Investigator continue to monitor the market place for additional systems that will meet the government's needs, and if in the future additional systems are found any future procurements will be competed.