

## JUSTIFICATION FOR OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)  
Office of Acquisition Operations  
Technology Acquisition Center  
23 Christopher Way  
Eatontown, New Jersey 07724
2. Description of Action: This proposed sole source action is for a firm-fixed price effort for the continuation of Local Data Connections (LDC) communication voice and data services for VA Region 2 (R2), Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 12 Telecommunications Business Office (VISN 12 TBO) AT&T infrastructure. The proposed action is for a three month base period with two, 3-month option periods with AT&T Global Services, 3033 Chain Bridge Road, Oakton, Virginia 22124.
3. Description of the Supplies or Services: This proposed action is to obtain LDC communication voice and data services for the greater Wisconsin, Illinois, and Iron Mountain, Michigan VA R2 VISN 12 TBO AT&T infrastructure. Currently AT&T Global Services, provide data services to seven main VA hospitals in addition to the corporate office located in Westchester, Illinois. This proposed effort will provide all data service connectivity and necessary equipment to ensure internet and intranet communications continues between hospitals and access to mission critical information such as patient records continues. Continuity of services is essential to patient care and must not be disrupted. In order to accomplish the required services, the Contractor must use the current AT&T infrastructure to ensure service to hospitals is not interrupted. VA requires constant data connectivity between hospitals. The total estimated value of the proposed action is [REDACTED] inclusive of options.
4. Statutory Authority: The statutory authority permitting other than full and open competition is 41 U.S.C.3304(a)(1) as implemented by the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Subpart 6.302-1 entitled, "Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements."
5. Rationale Supporting Use of Authority Cited Above: The proposed source for this action is AT&T Global Services, 3033 Chain Bridge Road, Oakton, Virginia 22124. Based on extensive market research which can be found in paragraph 8 of this document, it was determined that currently AT&T Global Services remains the only responsible source capable of satisfying VA's requirements. No other contractor can provide the required services because they do not have access to the proprietary technical data within the existing Region 2, VISN 12 AT&T infrastructure. AT&T data services are the only option which will allow the current AT&T internet and voice continuity throughout the VISN 12 network. The telephonic devices currently implemented within Region 2 are manufactured by AT&T and only run AT&T's proprietary AT&T Network, which allows for the system to seamlessly function across various facilities within Region 2. The Region 2 telecommunication and data service integrates with the AT&T network to provide internet, intranet and telecommunications services for the entire VISN. Region 2 has preexisting infrastructure that is proprietary



to AT&T. Disconnecting the existing circuits to implement circuits other than AT&T presents an extreme risk to patient care. Pre-existing hardware would need to be removed in order to implement another manufacturer's hardware. In doing so, hospitals would effectively be offline; preventing access to patient records, pharmaceuticals and other services critical to patient care. Telecommunications would also be affected; preventing patients and staff from calling to/from the hospitals in the event of an emergency. AT&T is the only responsible source capable of satisfying VA's requirements for VISN 12 VA hospitals without affecting patient care.

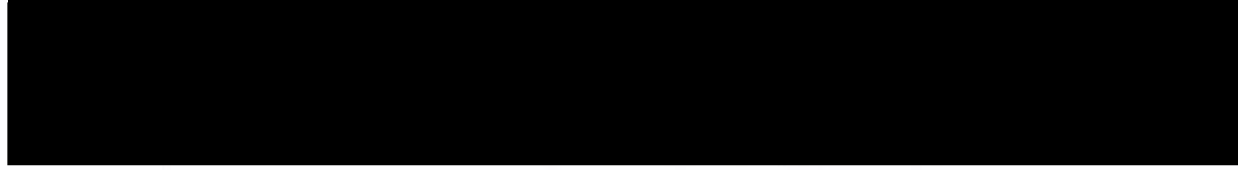
6. Efforts to Obtain Competition: Market research was conducted, details of which are in the market research section of this document. This effort did not yield any additional sources that can meet the Government's requirements. There is no competition anticipated for this acquisition. Additionally, the proposed action will be synopsisized on the Federal Business Opportunities Page in accordance with FAR 5.201. Any proposals that are received shall be evaluated.

7. Actions to Increase Competition: The Government anticipates the award of an order under the General Services Administration Network contract in fiscal year 2015 to cover all data connections for R2 VISN 12. If that effort is completed prior to exercising the options on this contract, VA would not award the option periods and transition to the new order.

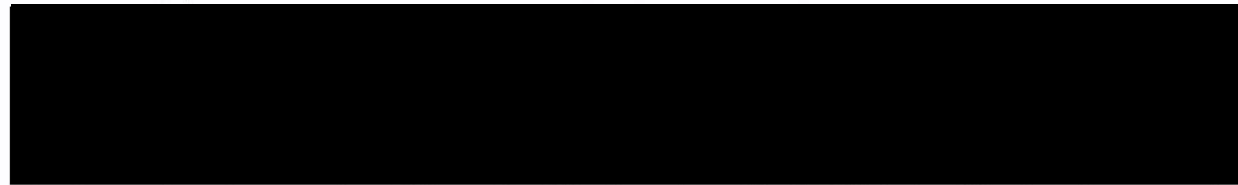
8. Market Research: In June 2014, VA technical experts conducted market research by reviewing industry websites to ascertain if there are other sources that can provide the aforementioned LDC services to the greater Wisconsin, Illinois, and Iron Mountain, Michigan VA R2 VISN 12 TBO sites. It was determined that while there were other sources, such as Quest, that could provide similar services, no other sources were available with the technical and proprietary services to support the AT&T infrastructure. Based on this market research, the Government's technical experts have determined that AT&T Global Services is the only source that can meet the Government's requirements.

9. Other Facts: None.

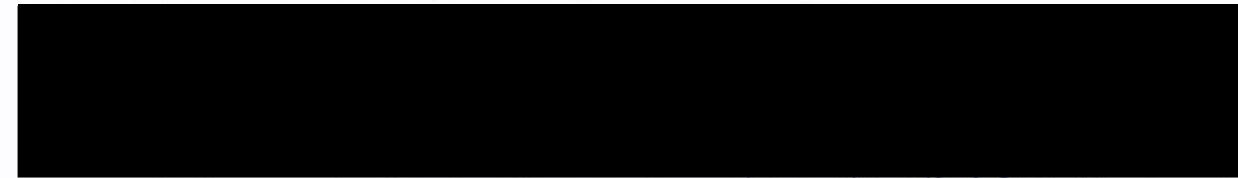
10. Technical and Requirements Certification: I certify that the supporting data under my cognizance, which are included in this justification, are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.



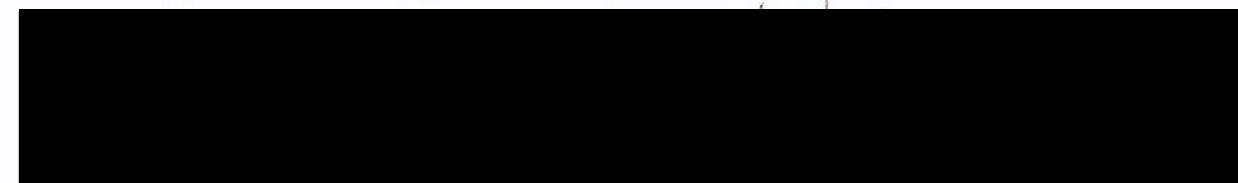
11. Fair and Reasonable Cost Determination: I hereby determine that the anticipated price to the Government for this contract action will be fair and reasonable based on a comparison with the Independent Government Cost Estimate and prices obtained through market research on the same or similar services conducted by Government Technical experts.



12. Procuring Contracting Officer Certification: I certify that this justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

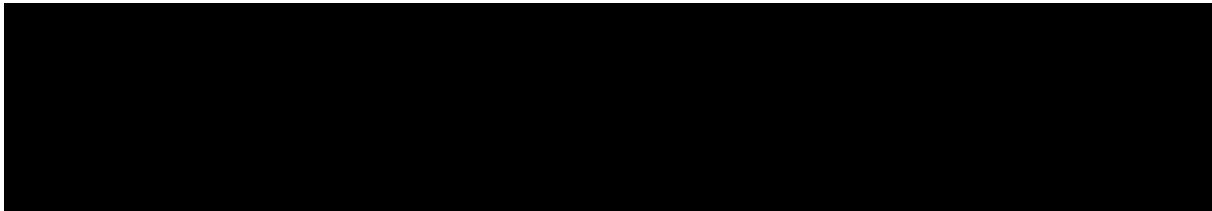


13. Legal Sufficiency Certification: I have reviewed this justification and find it adequate to support other than full and open competition and deem it legally sufficient.



Approval

In my role as Contracting Activity Competition Advocate, based on the foregoing justification, I hereby approve the acquisition of LDC communication voice and data services for the R2 VISN 12 TBO AT&T infrastructure, on an other than full and open competition basis pursuant to the statutory authority cited in paragraph 4 above, subject to availability of funds, and provided that the services herein described have otherwise been authorized for acquisition.



Head of the Contracting Activity