

VA NEW ENGLAND HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

OBJECTIVE

This document highlights the requirements, technical specifications, and services being requested by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers listed below for consideration towards purchase of a diagnostic ultrasound system. The Ultrasound System will either replace or be an upgrade to current units. Offerors under this proposal shall provide all labor, material, parts, tools, software, project management and equipment necessary to furnish and install a fully functional ultrasound system in each of the following VISN 1 medical centers.

- VA Maine Healthcare System, Togus
- VA Manchester New Hampshire
- VA Central Western Mass, Northampton
- VA Providence Rhode Island

DEFINITIONS

The following are definitions to terms used within this document.

TERM

VistA

DEFINITION

Veterans Health Information Systems and Technology Architecture - is VA's award winning Health Information Technology (IT) system. It provides an integrated inpatient and outpatient electronic health record for VA patients, and administrative tools to help VA deliver the best quality medical care to Veterans. This serves as the VA's HIS/RIS.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

This procurement will include all interface and networking required to utilize this portable equipment in multiple locations within each facility.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

The following technical specifications represent a minimum set of requirements for each of the ultrasound systems. Offerors must reply outlining specifically how they meet the requirements for a diagnostic ultrasound system in a format that is easy to interpret by a common lay person. Each facility may require a different primary function from the ultrasound system so the final quote(s) should be configured in such a way as to allow selection of additional option package(s) in addition to the base proposal. The intent is to present a quote for a system suitable for general or interventional radiology use with the options representing increased functionality as needed.

- Hardware
 - Main unit
 - Ergonomically adaptive features
 - 17" or better high resolution color display
 - Backup power supply for controlled shutdown during power loss
 - Ability to power from a standard wall outlet
 - Quick start up
 - Light weight and easy portability

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- Solid state or vibration isolated hard drive 1Tb or better
- Multiple transducer ports
- 4M plus digital channels
- Tissue harmonics and Pulse Inversion harmonic imaging
- Color Doppler and assisted Doppler vascular flow imaging
- Intrinsic noise and artifact reduction

- Probes
 - Lightweight ergonomic design
 - Easy attachment connectors
 - Wide availability of frequency ranges
 - Endocavity specific applications
 - Multi-plane imaging

- Video Display
 - Articulating antiglare LCD high resolution (1280x1024 or greater) monitors
 - Articulating support arm to allow for vertical and horizontal adjustment of the monitors for optimum viewing angle anywhere in the room.
 - Touch screen controls (optional)

- User interface
 - Automated and manual gain optimization
 - Keyboard and/or touchscreen keyboard
 - User configurable customized workflow
 - Worklist integration for ease of patient entry
 - Image annotation
 - Multi-modality display
 - Retrospective and prospective image capture
 - Built in, customizable, PACS compatible forms
 - Specific applications and workflows for all imaging specialties including interventional guidance

- Image Processing-
 - Anatomy based image optimization automatic and/or protocol based
 - Image optimization pre and post-acquisition.
 - On board image storage and image retrieve from PACS (Bi-directional DICOM interface)
 - Interface with VistA (Bi-directional worklist/HL-7)
 - Annotation, measurement (length, volume)
 - Multi-modality merge and registration

EDUCATION/TRAINING TO BE PROVIDED

The following is a list of education and training options that each medical center may be interested in purchasing along with their scanner. Offerors are encouraged to list out their education and training options that can be provided.

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- Clinical Education
 - At least one (1) week of onsite training for the technologist from each medical center with options for additional training (i.e. 2 weeks on-site to be used in the next 2-3 years). (*Option*)
 - On-going Clinical education for technologist(s) from each medical center via on-line, webinar, etc. (*Option*)
 - Clinical phone applications support for the technologist(s) from each medical center.

- Clinical or Biomedical Engineering Training- Biomedical Engineering training for one (1) Biomedical Engineering Support Specialists (technicians) from each medical center at Offeror's training location to include travel and accommodations with options for additional training. (*Option*)

NETWORKING CAPABILITIES

The Offeror's product must be able to meet the following network capabilities.

- Must be on the VistA Imaging Approved DICOM Modality Interfaces list. [VA DICOM Website](#)
- Must have the ability to interface with hospital Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS) and third (3rd) party post-processing workstations, specifically Carestream's PACS product.

The Offeror is required to submit the following documentation along with their proposal.

- A complete Manufacturer Disclosure Statement for Medical Device Security (MDS²) form. See attachment A.
- A complete VA Directive 6550 Pre-Procurement Assessment form. See attachment B.

SERVICE

- VPN/Remote Access – The vendor shall provide, at no additional charge, any and all equipment service programs, such as remote diagnostics, during the warranty period. The vendor shall provide post-warranty remote diagnostic service program as an “Add Option” with the offer. The system shall provide Vendor Remote Diagnostics via VPN. Vendor shall utilize the VA national Site-to-Site VPN, or the vendor shall work with the Office of Cyber and Information Security and the Boston VAMC Information Security Officer to establish a Client-Based VPN.
- Service and Operator Manuals – The vendor shall provide the following documentation for the proposed system:
 - Two (2) copies of operator's instruction manuals per unit purchased
 - Two (2) copies of complete technical service manuals including detailed troubleshooting guides, necessary diagnostic software, service keys, schematic diagrams, and parts lists
 - Two (2) copies of a system manager's manual outlining back-up procedures, managing privilege group limits, routine tasks, etc.

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EVALUATION CRITERIA

Offerors will be evaluated on the following factors. There is no specific ranking for any factors listed.

- General System Offering (Functional Capabilities and Technical Performance as Outlined Above and Additional Features Listed)
- Ergonomics
- Training Plan (both Clinical and Technical)
- Anticipated Reliability and Serviceability
- Past Performances
- Human Factors Design (i.e. Ease of Use, Intuitive Operation, Capabilities, and Workflow Efficiencies)
- Implementation Management and Schedule
- Price

It is understood that every Offeror's product(s) may differ from the specifications outlined in this document. As such, Offerors are encouraged to propose these variances. It is required that each Offeror clearly identify how they meet the specifications listed above. It is also required that, whenever a variance from these specifications occurs, the proposed item meets or exceeds the specified characteristics or level of performance. The Offeror shall also identify each product line item that differs from the specifications and list its associated cost.

FURTHER CONSIDERATION

Offeror's are provided the opportunity to obtain further details from the VA New England Healthcare System in order to better tailor the product quote(s). All requests for information derived from any Offeror will be shared with each Contracted vendor per the National Acquisition centers supplied vendor list for this modality.