

JUSTIFICATION
FOR OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
Office of Acquisition Operations
Technology Acquisition Center (TAC)
23 Christopher Way
Eatontown, NJ 07724
2. Description of Action: The proposed sole source action is for a firm-fixed-price contract with XpoLog LTD at Kfar Truman 1, 73151, P.O.B 174, Israel for the procurement of software maintenance for brand name XpoLog Enterprise Package for the VA Office of Information and Technology, Service Delivery and Engineering, Enterprise Operations (EO).
3. Description of Supplies or Services: The proposed action is for brand name Xpolog, software maintenance. The software maintenance will consist of software upgrades and updates to include major releases, point releases, service releases and security releases of applicable software on a quarterly basis, and/or within 48 hours in cases in which a high risk vulnerability fix becomes available. The period of performance for this effort will be 12 months.
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) 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 current EO infrastructure is based on existing Xpolog software and VA requires support compatible with the existing infrastructure protocols and functionality for continued operational availability. VA requires software upgrades and updates to include major releases, point releases, service releases of applicable software on a quarterly basis, or within 48 hours in cases where a high risk vulnerability fix becomes available. The software updates are required for Xpolog software. Only Xpolog can provide the necessary software updates, because of the proprietary source code required to develop and implement software updates. No other source is capable of providing the required software maintenance that meets VA's unique functional requirements. In addition, a prior implementation of Xpolog, software licenses already exists in EO. Acquisition of a different product would require multiple support costs if the Xpolog, software licenses were abandoned in favor of a different product. EO would need to purchase new software licenses in addition to the previously purchased licenses and purchase their respective maintenance support as each is proprietary to their unique products. No other license is compatible with or interoperable with the existing Xpolog proprietary database structures, protocols, and software application programming interfaces. The brand name Xpolog software maintenance is the only software maintenance that meets the Government's requirements.
6. Efforts to Obtain Competition: Market research was conducted, details of which are in section 8 of this justification. This effort did not yield any other sources that

can provide the required software maintenance. 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 will continue to conduct market research to ascertain if there are changes in the marketplace that would enable future actions to be competed.

8. Market Research: Xpolog is a commercially available off-the-shelf software license package currently in use in VA. When conducting market research in January 2015 the Government's technical experts reviewed similar software products such as Solarwinds Log Management and ManageEngine EventLog Analyzer to ascertain if these items could meet VA's requirements. Specifically, the Government's technical experts conducted research on web sites. As a result of the market research the technical experts confirmed that as the source code required to issue the updates is proprietary, Xpolog is the only source capable of providing the required maintenance and upgrades for Xpolog software. No other firm has the capability of developing and issuing software updates and fixes for Xpolog software necessary to support existing EO requirements. All of the products researched were unable to meet the functional requirements as stated in section 5. Additionally, none of these other software products could meet VA's interoperability and compatibility requirements as outlined in paragraph 5 of this document. Based on the above, only Xpolog software licenses and maintenance meets all of the Government's requirements.

The Contract Specialist conducted market research on September 10, 2015, by utilizing the Quick Request for Information (RFI) and Provider Lookup tools on the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Solutions for Enterprise-Wide Procurement (SEWP) website. No NASA SEWP contract holders were identified as being capable of providing the required brand name software maintenance. Additionally, on July 27, 2015, the Government received a letter from XpoLog LTD, the original equipment manufacturer, indicating that they were the only source for the required software maintenance and that no other source can upgrade existing software and hardware suite of software management products and services.

9. Other Facts: None.