

JUSTIFICATION FOR A SOLE SOURCE AWARD  
UNDER THE TEST PROGRAM FOR CERTAIN COMMERCIAL ITEMS

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: The proposed action is for a firm-fixed-price contract for renewal of maintenance for the existing SnapWeb software licenses, and image production services.
3. Description of Supplies or Services: The VA Austin Information Technology Center (AITC), requires software maintenance and image production services for the existing software SnapWeb. AITC uses SnapWeb software to load payroll and financial reports viewable by VA users. The software supports the following VA applications: Central Fee (Fee), Financial Management System (FMS) and Personnel Accounting Integrated Data (PAID). The software creates station specific reports for each of 288 VA facilities. The SnapWeb solution is comprised of two components, SnapWeb-Web viewer and SnapNet-SnapWeb manager. SnapWeb-Web viewer is hosted on a server maintained at AITC which allows stations to retrieve reports via the VA Intranet. SnapNet-SnapWeb manager is hosted on an AITC server that updates the index database and adds reports to the server. SnapWeb software processes, stores, and transmits data that can be made compliant with all applicable policies governing the transmission and use of the data transmitted by VA, including the Privacy Act, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, and applicable VA policies and procedures. The required maintenance renewal provides for software updates, and 24-hour a day, 7-day a week software support. The required maintenance and image production services for the SnapWeb software ensures continued operability and report production. The period of performance consists of a 12-month base period with three 12-month option periods; delivery due within 30 days of award. The total estimated value of the proposed action is [REDACTED]
4. Statutory Authority: The statutory authority permitting other than full and open competition is Section 4202 of the Clinger-Cohen Act of 1996 as implemented by the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Subpart 13.501, entitled "Special Documentation Requirements."
5. Rationale Supporting Use of Authority Cited Above: The proposed source for this action is SnapShot Technologies (SST), 16149 Westwoods Business Park, Ballwin, Missouri. SST developed the SnapWeb software and is the only provider of the required software maintenance support and image production services. AITC procured a perpetual software license in 2005, and annual maintenance and image production services are required. Any source, other than SST, would require the

proprietary technical data of the SnapWeb software in order to publish software updates and perform remote technical support. The Government does not possess this proprietary technical data. In July 2015, the Government contacted SST to ascertain if the proprietary technical data of the SnapWeb brand name software was for sale. SST informed the Government that the technical data was not for sale and they do not have any resellers. SST has intimate knowledge of the design and architecture of the SnapWeb software and is the only source with access to the SnapWeb proprietary technical data. The software provides a robust reporting process for VA financial management customers. The SnapWeb software provides a unique solution that is compatible with the existing architecture and current VA business needs. The Veterans Health Administration, Veterans Benefits Administration and National Cemetery Administration currently have access to the software and resultant reports. These financial management customers use the software for viewing of reports data. SnapWeb provides accurate and timely data reporting within each application (Fee, FMS and PAID) and is critical for accountants daily operations. If another vendor is selected, additional risk would be incurred as the new contractor would need to first gain a full understanding of the complex applications, including Fee, FMS and PAID, and then develop and integrate a new software solution. Implementing a new software solution would delay critical financial processing research necessary for VA Station-level reporting analysis.

6. Efforts to Obtain Competition: Market research was conducted, details of which are in the market research section of this document. The efforts did not yield any additional sources that can meet the Government's requirements. Additionally, the proposed action will be synopsized on the Federal Business Opportunities Page in accordance with FAR 5.201. Any proposals that are received shall be evaluated.

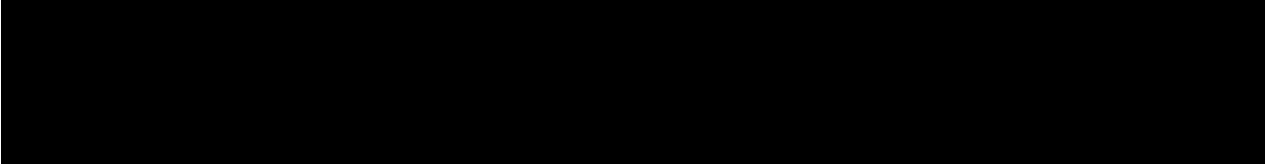
7. Actions to Increase Competition: The Government will continue to conduct market research to ascertain if there are changes in the market place that would enable future actions to be competed.

8. Market Research: Market research was conducted in July 2015 to ascertain the ability of any source other than SST to provide the aforementioned software maintenance and image production services. The research consisted of reviewing service plans and capabilities from other sources. Based on these reviews, the Government's technical experts could not identify any other sources that could provide the aforementioned support without access to the SnapWeb proprietary technical data.

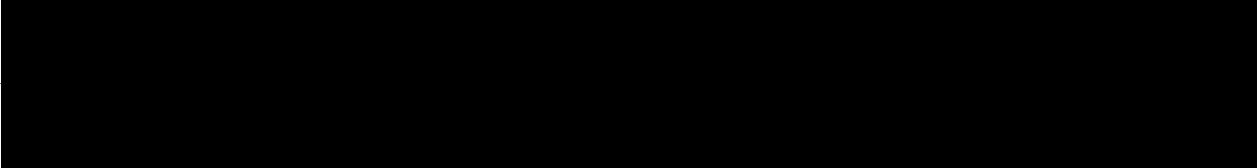
VA conducted additional market research in July 2015 through a web search of Immix Group, Inc. (Immix), to determine if they could provide the type of software support needed. Immix was specifically targeted as they are a recognized leader in the public sector for similar technology solutions. Although Immix is capable of providing similar software support, without access to the proprietary technical data Immix is unable to provide the required SnapWeb software support.

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.



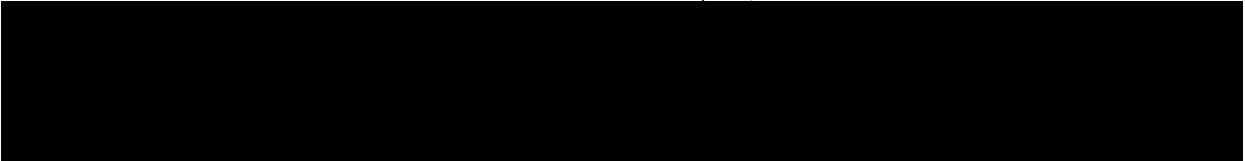
11. Fair and Reasonable Cost Determination: I hereby determine that the anticipated price to the Government for this contract action will be fair and reasonable based on comparison to the Independent Government Cost Estimate, previously received pricing and review of existing VA acquisitions of comparable software.



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

Based on the foregoing justification, I hereby approve the acquisition of SnapWeb software maintenance and image production services in the estimated amount of [REDACTED] on an other than full and open competition basis pursuant to the statutory authority cited in section 4 herein, subject to availability of funds, and provided that the property and services herein described have otherwise been authorized for acquisition.

[REDACTED]