

Technical Questions and Answers

Below is the response to technical questions.

19. Specification Section 01 100 00 paragraph 1.16 VA TRIRIGA CPMS indicates contractors are to procure TRIRIGA access as part of the cost of performance for this project. Please confirm TRIRIGA is required for this project.

A19. This is not required

20. Plans (reference 1&2/AS2.1) indicate to provide new sheet vinyl and VCT flooring and base to match existing. Please provide Mfr/Model/ and Color information of the existing sheet vinyl, VCT, and base material being matched

A20. For sheet vinyl see answer on question 78. For VCT flooring see answer on question 91. For rubber base use JOHNSONITE, 190 GREEGE. The contractor will present samples to be approved by the VA.

60. Can the Government please confirm that all work for this project will be expected to comply with Federal, State, and local municipal laws, building codes and regulations applicable to the performance of the work? Our research indicates that the state of Texas does not license General Contractors; rather, licensing is handled by each city. Please confirm whether offerors will be required to be licensed for each city included in this contract.

A60. Yes

45. Is the project to run during normal business hours?

A45. Yes.

46. Is the project still intended to run in multiple phases?

A46. Yes, but the contractor is welcome to present the best plan and if agreed upon by all players could be adopted. Phases are recommendations only. The G.C. shall coordinate with the VA's COTR in order to maintain the space in full operation.

47. Will the building maintenance adjust air pressure for negative air?

A47. No. the contractor will utilize an HEPA machine vented outside.

48. Is epoxy paint required in these areas?

A48. Contractor will submit submittal to VA for approval before purchasing the paint.

49. Are paint colors to stay the same?

A49. Yes - ICI PAINT, WHITE WHISPER, 44YY 84/042, SEMI-GLOSS

50. Is there a staging area for a dumpster and/or connex?

A50. Staging area available for only one dumpster.

51. Is this considered an ICRA Level 4 project requiring an ante-room?

A51. The required ICRA level is Class 4. Will coordinate with infections control on the requirements for an ante-room.

52. Are there any project specific dust protection measures like status reports?

A52. The contractor shall follow the requirements stated in the ICRA.

53. Is a dust bunny required for this project?

A53. No

54. Who will provide a storage area for relocated casework, equipment and furniture?

A54. Coordinate with the VA for temporary storage location.

55. If contractor is provided an area for storage by the facility, will this area be onsite?

A55. The VA has an offsite warehouse. Due to the small footprint, space will be sought locally but is not guaranteed.

76. Are there any other project specific requirements with regards to this area of the hospital?

A76. None. The clinic will remain operational during construction.

77. Who will provide keying for locks at temporary doors?

A77. The VA

78. Please specify the manufacturer, style name and color of the sheet vinyl to be installed.

A78. LG NATURELIFE SHEET VINYL, NLA 5303 Cherry

84. We believe that work for the seed project will be required to be performed at ICRA Level

A84. ICRA Level 4. Can be downgraded as applicable later in the project.

85. Is this correct?

A85.

86. In order to meet ICRA Level 4 requirement for the seed project, we plan to use heavy plastic at a mil thickness acceptable to the Contracting Officer's Representative/Infection Control Officer to cordon off the work area. Zipper doors will be installed in the heavy plastic for access to and egress from the work area. Is this acceptable as a means and method for meeting ICRA Level 4 requirements for the seed project?

A86. Hard dust partitions will be required.

87. We assume that we will need to establish negative pressure inside the cordoned off ICRA Level 4 work area. We intend to establish this negative pressure via a portable HEPA filtered exhaust fan system. What is the approximate distance to the nearest suitable place to vent the HEPA filtered air to the outside?

A87. HEPA machine will be required. The distance is not available at the moment but contractor will work with the VA to locate the closest vent to the outside or an exhaust duct.

88. During construction it may be necessary to temporarily cover the demolished floor covering prior to installing the new floor and if it becomes necessary to temporarily penetrate the wall. If either the floor or the wall needs to be temporarily covered prior to completing work, we plan to

temporarily cover such areas with 1/8 inch Masonite board. Is this acceptable as a means and method?

A88. When this arises, the contractor will bring it up to the COR and determine the best plan of action.

89. Note 2 to Sheet AD1.1 (and other parts of the drawings) say words to the effect of "Remove existing wall base and replace with new wall base to match existing." Without being provided the manufacturer, style and color of the existing system, we can do our very best to meet the requirement of the note but it may be difficult to do so exactly. What is the manufacturer, style, and color of the existing wall base?

A89. The information is not available. The contractor will provide samples to the VA for approval before purchase.

90. Note 3 to Drawing AD1.1 (and other parts of the drawings) say words to the effect of "Remove existing floor. Coordinate flooring installation with Manuf. to match existing." Without being provided the manufacturer, style and color of the existing system, we can do our very best to meet the requirement of the note but it may be difficult to do so exactly. What is the manufacturer, style, and color of the existing flooring?

A90. See answer to 78 question. The contractor will provide samples to the VA for approval before purchase.

91. Note 12 on Drawing AD1.1 (and other parts of the drawings) say words to the effect of "Remove of +/- 3" VCT or to nearest joint and replace with matching system. Without being provided the manufacturer, style and color of the existing system, we can do our very best to meet the requirement of the note but it may be difficult to do so exactly. What is the manufacturer, style, and color of the existing VCT system?

A91. Mannington Commercial VCT, COLORPOINT, 647 CREAM BEIGE has been discontinued but please submit TOUCHSTONE 9137, 9127, and 9133 to the VA for approval before purchasing the VCT.

92. During the site visit it was mentioned that a "white, murky substance" had previously been encountered in various areas under the floor. If we demo out the existing floor as required by the plans and drawings and again encounter a similar "white, murky substance", will we be required to test this material prior to continuing work?

A92. Yes

93. If testing of any "white, murky substances" encountered are required once the current flooring is demolished, what type of test and how many tests should we assume for pricing purposes in our pricing proposal?

A93. The testing required is specified in the specifications.

94. General Note 4 on Drawing AS2.0 requires the General Contractor to conduct moisture testing and PH testing before flooring installation to ensure that moisture conditions within the floor slab are not present in order to prevent any negative moisture impact to the finished floor. If we do find moisture conditions within the floor slab to be such that it would have a negative impact on finished floor installation, who is responsible for investigation the source of the moisture and possibly taking corrective action to eliminate the source of the negative moisture in the floor slab?

A94. The contractor. Notify the VA as soon as possible so that the best course of action can be agreed upon.

95. Once we demo the existing flooring material, bring the floor slab to CSP 3, and thoroughly clean the floor slab, we plan to apply Ardex MC Rapid at a thickness of 10 mm prior to applying Ardex K60 Self Leveler. Is this acceptable as a means and method?

A95. As long as it meets specification requirements and guidelines of the manufacturer.

96. Can the product information (Manufacturer and Style) be supplied for the existing sheet flooring and VCT?

A96. See answer to 91 question. The contractor will provide samples to the VA for approval before installation.

97. We would like to propose a different project phasing plan. Instead of removing the reception desk, associated power, network demolition, and installing hard dust partitions (drywall) for infection control, can the contractor use plastic sheeting and zipper walls for infection control in combination with a negative air machine? The construction area would be completely isolated. This would prevent the contractor from performing the costly demolition, installing hard construction partitions, and shorten the overall duration of the project. Under the new phasing plan, the work would be completed over one weekend.

A97. At the moment, hard dust partitions will be required. The contractor can propose the specific action plan to the VA for consideration but take note that the specifications call out for tests that need to be done before the floor is installed.

98. Infection Control: Please provide a project-specific *Infection Control Risk Assessment (ICRA)* for the seed project. Specific infection control measures that the VA will require the Contractor to implement must be stated. To simply state that this is (for example) an ICRA Class 3 or ICRA Class 4 project is not sufficient for bid purposes. If the project is ultimately designated an ICRA Class 4, please identify the ante room location and where the negative air duct will have to be routed to exhaust the air. Too, are Tyvek overalls and shoe covers required? In short, the infection control requirements that will be imposed must be specifically stated so we know what to bid

A98. Tyvek overalls and shoe covers shall not be required. The project will start at level 4 and can be downgraded as the project meets the requirements for a lower level. The contractor will work with the VA to determine the closest location to tie the exhaust air to.

99. Asbestos: Has the existing flooring mastic been tested for asbestos?

A99. Yes. Samples were taken during a survey for the whole hospital and not necessarily from the specific project site which is small.

109. Is there any asbestos or mastic material that needs to be abated? If so please provide asbestos survey.

A109. Because the white substance is unknown, as discussed during the site visit, the contractor will need to perform tests.

110. Is the contractor or the facility responsible for removing/replacing data drops?

A110. The contractor is responsible to have the old data and telephone cables be pulled up into the ceiling for reinstallation at the exact locations where they were removed from the wall(s).

111. Is there a preferred vendor for networking?

A111.No

112. Specification Section 01 00 00 paragraph 1.15 requires a professional photographer to provide Photographic Documentation for the project. In lieu of professional photographer providing all the requirements of 1.15, can the superintendent or project manager take project photographs which are transmitted to the owner via email?

A112. Yes. It's preferable to burn the pictures into a DVD due to email size limitations.