

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Justification and Approval
Under
Simplified Acquisition Procedures (SAP)
For Restricting Competition under FAR 13.106-1(b)(1) "Single Source"

1. **Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs, Network Contracting Office (NCO) 20, Puget Sound Health Care System, 1660 S Columbian Way, Seattle, Washington 98108-1587.
2. **Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed:** This procurement under PR # 663-12-1-2141-0022 is for the research project entitled *Effect of Prosthetic Foot Ankle Stiffness on Amputee Function*, where in accordance with FAR 6.001(a), acquisitions conducted under FAR 13 for SAP are exempt from the requirements of FAR Part 6, but still require a justification using the format of FAR 6.303-2, IAW the VHA SOP for Other Than Full And Open Competition dated 3-22-2011. This research will be funded by Rehabilitation Research and Development grant number N7128R.
3. **Description of Supplies or Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:** Kyle Yeates, in the Department of Bio-Engineering at the University of Washington, will provide services to the VAPSHCS Rehabilitation Research and Development Center of Excellence for Limb Loss Prevention and Prosthetic Engineering.

The Department of Orthopedics and Sports Medicine's responsibilities include: collecting data, designing the analysis algorithms and determining the ability of the systems to differentiate between control subjects and knee osteoarthritis patients. Additional complexity in the system design will be necessary for issues related to prosthetic control in trans-tibial amputees.

The proposed project with the University of Washington, Bio-Engineering involves defining the relationship between prosthetic foot-ankle stiffness on amputee gait during straight-line walking and turning gait. Research activities will include biomechanical modeling, prototype design and development, conducting experiments, and interpreting results. Specific detail involve identify the effects of sagittal plane foot stiffness on amputee gait through a human subject experiment with unilateral amputees (n=20) wearing prosthetic feet with five different stiffness levels during straight-line walking and turning gait. We will use rapid prototyping techniques to fabricate feet that match the stiffness properties in both the sagittal and coronal planes of each subject's own clinically prescribed prosthesis and four others (=25% and = 50% more or less stiff). The patient specific properties of each foot will be precisely determined using a robotic gait simulator.

The total estimated value of this acquisition is \$60,535.70.

The period of performance is 1 November 1 2011 - 30 September 2012.

3. **Statutory Authority Permitting Restriction in Competition:**
The statutory authority for restricting competition under SAP, or Single Sourcing, for acquisitions under \$150,000 or Simplified Acquisition Threshold (SAT) is 41 U.S.C. 253(c), as implemented by FAR 13.106-1(b)(1). The specific reason for restricting competition is grant funding specific to this project only. Utilizing an organization other than for Kyle Yeates in the Department of Bio-Engineering at the University of Washington could cause faulty analysis and corrupt the study.
4. **Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualifications or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority):** Kyle Yeates will serve as a consultant on the affiliated study N7128R, and will be responsible for executing all requested duties. Kyle Yeates is the only

one with the requisite knowledge, skills, abilities, and experience to perform simple vs. complex design and fabrication of novel prosthetic limbs, experimental design (bench and human subjects), experimental data collection, data analysis and interpretation and presentation results. The success of these studies and the fulfillment of the Government's interests are contingent upon the assistance and knowledge of Kyle Yeates in performing these studies

5. **Description of Efforts Made to Ensure that Offers are Solicited from As Many Potential Sources as Deemed Practicable IAW FAR 13.104:** In accordance with FAR 5.202 and VAAR 809.302-5(a)(2), this requirement is not required to be publicized as it was accepted as an unsolicited research proposal. Under the Department of Veterans Affairs, Research and Development approved grant titled "Effect of Prosthetic Foot Ankle Stiffness on Amputee Function funded for the period October 1, 2010 through September 30th, 2013.
6. **Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable – IAW FAR 13.106-3:**
The anticipated total dollar amount of the proposed acquisition is \$60,535.70. This is based on 1 study at \$10,089.00 and 10 studies at \$5,044.67. This price is in accordance with the established price schedule agreed upon between the contractor and the Government, grant number N7128R. Based on this data, the prices are expected to be fair and reasonable.
7. **Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or Statement of Reasons Market Research was not Conducted (FAR 10):**
No market research was performed based upon the justification that the contractor is written into a federally funded grant. The grant number is N7128R.
8. **Any Other Facts Supporting the Restriction of Competition:**
Utilizing an organization other than Kyle Yeates in the Department of Bio-Engineering at the University of Washington could cause faulty analysis and corrupt the study.
9. **Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition:** None.
10. **Statement of Actions, if any, the Agency May Take to Remove or Overcome any Barriers to Competition before Making Subsequent Acquisitions for the Supplies or Services Required:** None.
Funding and grant work is specific to the University of Washington for this research.

11. **Requirements Certification - IAW FAR 6.303-2(c):** I certify that the requirement outlined in this justification is a bonafide need of the Department of Veterans Affairs and that the supporting data under my cognizance, which are included in the justification, are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Wesley Edmundson
Name: Wesley Edmundson
Position: AO

11-4-2011
Date

12. **Approvals IAW VHA SOP 3.22.11:**

- a. **Contracting Officer's Certification: (required)** I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Bianca Sealey
BIANCA SEALEY
Contracting Officer
NCO 20 Services Acquisitions Team

11/7/11
Date

- b. **Quality Assurance Manager:** I have reviewed the foregoing justification and find it to be complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief and recommend approval for other than full and open competition.

Dennis Riches
Dennis Riches of Thomas Loy
NCO 20 Contracts QA Manager
NCO 20 Acquisition Division

11-8-2011
Date

- c. **Acquisition Manager's Review and Approval:** I have reviewed the foregoing justification and find it to be complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief and recommend approval for other than full and open competition.

Lynndal E. Trusty Jr.
Lynndal E. Trusty Jr.
NCO 20 Network Contracts Manager
Service Area Office - West

11/14/2011
Date