

JUSTIFICATION FOR AN EXCEPTION TO FAIR OPPORTUNITY

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: This proposed action is for a firm-fixed-price delivery order under the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Solutions for Enterprise-Wide Procurement (SEWP) V Government Wide Acquisition Contract (GWAC) for the procurement of Intermec Printers and Scanners with Manufacturing System Services' (MSS) Software which supports VistA's Generic Inventory Package (GIP).

3. Description of Supplies or Services: VA Office of Information and Technology requires the purchase of 200 brand name Intermec Scanners and 44 Intermec Printers to support the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), Procurement and Logistics Office (10NA2), Logistics Operations inventory management function at 22 VA Medical Centers. The Intermec printers and scanners are loaded with KWedge software, which interfaces with MSS that supports VistA's GIP. GIP is an application within VistA that manages the stock on hand of consumable medical supplies to treat our Veterans. The period of performance for this action shall be 30 days after receipt of order

4. Authority: The statutory authority permitting an exception to fair opportunity is Section 41 U.S.C. 4106(c)(2) as implemented by the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Subpart 16.505(b)(2)(i)(B), entitled "Only one awardee is capable of providing the supplies or services required at the level of quality required because the supplies or services ordered are unique or highly specialized."

5. Rationale Supporting Use of Authority Cited Above: Based on market research, as described in Section 8 of this document, it was determined that limited competition is available for the aforementioned Intermec Printers and Scanners among NASA SEWP value added resellers. The brand name Intermec printers and scanners are currently the only interoperable and compatible hardware with VA's existing VistA's GIP application, which is comprised of MSS Software. MSS Software created the proprietary interface, called KWedge, which is pre-installed on each scanner and printer that enables the equipment to function upon plug-in. No other brand printer or scanner is capable of interfacing with the MSS software that comprises VA's GIP application.

6. Efforts to Obtain Competition: Market research was conducted, details of which are in the market research section of this document. This effort did not yield any additional sources that can meet the Government's requirements. It was determined however that limited competition is viable among authorized resellers for this brand name item. In accordance with FAR 5.301 and

16.505(b)(2)(ii)(D), the award notice for this action will be synopsisized on the Federal Business Opportunities Page (FBO) and this justification will be made publicly available within 14 days of award.

7. Actions to Increase Competition: Limited competition for this requirement among Intermec resellers is anticipated. Additionally 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 fully competed, such as whether MSS will develop an interface for another brand of printers and scanners, allowing interoperability with VA's GIP application.

8. Market Research: On December 27, VA confirmed with MSS that no other interfaces have been developed that would allow an alternate brand printer or scanner to interface with the GIP application. Since the software is proprietary, there is no other possibility for interoperability.

Additional market research was conducted in December 2016 utilizing the NASA SEWP Market Research tool to identify that Intermec Printers and Scanners were available on the NASA SEWP GWAC. The search yielded 10 Intermec Printer and Scanner resellers capable of providing this requirement. Therefore, limited competition is anticipated for the required hardware.

9. Other Facts: None.