

## SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)  
Office of Acquisition Operations  
Technology Acquisition Center  
1701 Director's Blvd.  
Austin, TX 78744
  
2. Description of Action: This proposed action is for a firm-fixed-price delivery order to be issued under the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Solutions for Enterprise-Wide Procurement (SEWP) V Governmentwide Acquisition Contract (GWAC).
  
3. Description of Supplies or Services: VA, Office of Information and Technology, Information Technology Operations (ITOPS) Infrastructure Operations (IO) Security Division has a requirement to augment mainframe security. The proposed action will provide TSS Admin Express brand name software, warranty/maintenance and technical support. The expansion of the current IO solution is required in order to sustain IO's Information Technology Center Information Technology Security protection. The architecture expansion will meet the centralized Information Technology (IT) security standard that is currently implemented by IO. This requirement is for TSS Admin Express to support existing IO security architecture requirements in mainframe production. The TSS Admin Express solution will provide alerts to high-risk or unusual changes (such as bypass, all records), enable resource owners to review and certify user access, report detailed security activity metrics to help management with decision support. The IO Security group has a requirement to sustain IO's network environment in accordance with the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Federal Information Security Management Act of 2002 and Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program controls. Additionally, TSS Admin Express software, warranty, and maintenance support is required. TSS Admin Express brand name TSS Admin Express, warranty, and maintenance support will allow for remedying software defects as well as enhancing and optimizing software; it includes all new fixes, patches, corrections, releases, updates, versions and upgrades to the software. TSS Admin Express shall be delivered 30 days after receipt of order. The warranty/maintenance period will commence upon VA's acceptance of the TSS Admin Express. The period of performance for this action shall include a 12-month base period, and two 12-month option period. The total estimated price of the proposed action is [REDACTED]
  
4. Statutory Authority: In accordance with Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 13.106-1(b)(1)(i), "Contracting officers may solicit from one source if the contracting officer determines that the circumstances of the contract action deem only one source reasonably available..." for purchases not exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold.
  
5. Rationale Supporting Use of Authority Cited Above: TSS Admin Express is the only software interoperable and compatible with VA's existing IT Security architecture and mainframe environment. TSS Admin Express is the only software that integrate with CA Top Secret on mainframe currently in use at IO. Any other software, other than TSS Admin Express, would not communicate and work with the existing infrastructure. This

Sole Source Justification for Access Solutions: TSS Admin Express

is due to the proprietary code and constraints that allow only TSS Admin Express items to work with the CA Top Secret. Any other brand name appliance would require an extensive redevelopment effort on the existing IT Security inline protection architecture. It would result in extensive delivery delays of two years, and duplicated cost at over \$1M to retool the current infrastructure to a different vendor. This is based on previous efforts to develop the infrastructure. TSS Admin Express fulfills all of the requirements without causing reconfiguring and retooling due to mixed configurations. Finally, no other source, other than TSS Admin Express can provide the warranty and maintenance support due to the same proprietary code and constraints discussed above.

6. Efforts to Obtain Competition: Market research was conducted, details of which are in the market research section of this document. In accordance with FAR 5.301 and 16.505(b)(2)(ii)(D), this action will be synopsisized within 14 days of award on the Federal Business Opportunities Page. In addition, the Justification for an Exception to Fair Opportunity shall be posted to NASA SEWP V GWAC website along with the solicitation.

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 competition in future actions.

8. Market Research: The Government's technical experts performed market research to confirm the ability to meet VA's needs. Specifically, during June 2015 through December 2016, the Government's technical experts conducted reviews of online vendor materials and other similar appliances to ascertain if these items could meet VA's requirements. The products researched included IBMs Resource Access Control Facility (RACF) and CA Technologies ACF2. Based on this market research, the Government's technical experts concluded that no other software is interoperable and compatible with VA's existing IT Security architecture and mainframe environment. Accordingly, the Government's technical experts have determined only TSS admin Express, warranty and maintenance support meet all of the Government's requirements. Additionally, it was determined that there are no resellers of the required software and competition is not available for the aforementioned TSS Admin Express, warranty, and maintenance support.

9. Interested Sources:

