

**Network Contracting Office 23 (NCO 23)  
708 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 200E  
Minneapolis, MN 55415**

**JUSTIFICATION  
FOR  
OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION  
(Brand Name)  
Expand Biomed Instrument Server Room 618-12-301**

1. REQUIRING ACTIVITY: VA Midwest Health Care System
2. CONTRACTING ACTIVITY: Network Contracting Office 23, Minneapolis. <M
3. PROPOSED ACTION:  
Brand name procurement of Liebert Computer Room Air Conditioners (CRAC) Equipment

4. Description of Requirement:

The existing biomedical sever room has two existing 42kW 12 ton Liebert CRAC units with SiteLink communication interface software. The biomedical server room space will double in size and will require an additional two new CRAC units for cooling of additional computer servers. The two new CRAC units will interface with the exiting CRAC units to provide redundancy for both the existing server room and the new and expanded server room.

5. STATUTORY AUTHORITY PERMITTING OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION

- FAR 11.104-(b), Use of brand name or equal purchase descriptions

6. NATURE OF ACQUISITION TO MEET THE AUTHORITY CITED IN PARAGRAPH 5

The new CRAC units required for the expanded server room must interface with the existing Liebert CRAC units in the existing server room. The sequence of operation of the new and the existing CRAC units will be the ability to provide cooling to the existing server room and to the new server room. The CRAC units must interface with each other to coordinate redundancy in the cooling system as supply and return systems will be connected allowing CRAC units in the existing server room to provide cooling to the new server room and the new CRAC units to provide cooling to the existing server room. The biomedical server room supports all patient related computer systems in the hospital. The ability of all CRAC units to work seamlessly is essential to patient safety in the hospital. The staff using the computer systems located in the new and existing server rooms require the servers to be functioning at all times, 24/7/365. The cooling of the server rooms is mandatory to provide an environment where overheating of servers cannot be tolerated.

7. DESCRIBE THE ACTIONS TAKEN TO CONDUCT ANY MARKET RESEARCH TO LOCATE SOURCES

- As the COTR for the project, I have found that there are not any other pieces of equipment that provide and match all of the features and interfaces currently provided with the existing pieces of equipment. In addition no other pieces of equipment provide the exact same menu control structures currently found in the existing units providing consistency between new and existing equipment.

8. CUSTOMER'S SUBMISSION OF PRICE ANALYSIS:

Based on the estimates provided by the VA COR the new CRAC units will cost between \$40,000 and \$60,000.

9. ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR SUPPORT OF SUBMISSION

Supporting rationale for sole sourcing this equipment:

- Patient safety is our main concerns regarding the installation of the new CRAC units. The maintenance requirements of the existing CRAC units and the new CRAC units should be the same allowing staff to maintain the same equipment serving a critical cooling environment.
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11. FUTURE ACTIONS TO OVERCOME BARRIER TO FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION

Should there be a need for additional equipment compatible with the existing, a search for additional vendors will once again be conducted.

12. This justification is accurate and complete to the best of my belief and knowledge.

**Submitted by:**



Mark Angell  
Facilities Engineering, Project Section

Date May 29, 2012

**Approved By:**



Kathryn J. Crowthers  
Contracting Officer

Date June 15, 2012