

Questions and Answers

Question #1: Can companies from Outside of the USA apply for this? (Like from India or Canada?)

Answer: Under 19 USC 2501 Trade Agreements Act, federal agencies may acquire only US or designated country services. Services from countries of origin other than the United States or identified designated countries will not be considered for award. See also FAR 25.4 Trade Agreements.

Question #2: Do we need to come to the USA for meetings?

Answer: The vendor will need to be physically present at certain meetings. Please see RFP 4.3, which concerns attendance as well as travel provisions under the contract.

Question #3: Can we perform the tasks (related to the RFP) outside USA? (Like from India or Canada?)

Answer: Please also see the response to Question #1. When analyzing the origin of services the determination is made based on “the country in which the firm providing the services is established.” Therefore, it is possible that tasks related to the RFP be performed outside the US as long as the vendor is qualified as per 19 USC 2501 and FAR 25.4.

Question #4: Can we submit proposals via email?

Answer: Yes, you may submit your proposal via email.

Question #5: Which is correct: 150 employees or 500 employees under NAICS 541519?

Answer: The NAICS code is 541512 with size standard of \$27.5M. There is no conflict between the information in block 10 on the cover page of the 1449 and paragraph E.6

Question #6: Need to find out if we can just bid on the remediation services piece?

Answer: You must submit a bid for all the requirements in the solicitation.

Question #7: What documents are required to remediate? IE Do they reside on a website. We need to base our proposal/quote on something.

Answer: Documents may be on a web site, in a web application, or submitted to the Office for auditing as an individual document. They are often PDF's but can be MS-Word documents or any other technology used in the VA.

Question #8: Is there anything in the RFP to preclude us from doing remediation outside the USA?

Answer: There are no remediation services in the contract. It contains advisory services concerning how the remediation can be done, but no direct remediation.

Question #9: Would the government please provide the name of the incumbent contractor and the associated contract number?

Answer: Deque Systems; Contract VA118-14-C-0006. Technatomy; Contract VA118-11-D-1005. Technatomy partners with Level Access.

Question #10: Should 5.7 be included in Option Period 1-2, and be reflected on the Performance Periods table? The section reference is 4.1.

Answer: Section 5.7 should not be in the optional periods of performance. Paragraph 5.7 and 5.10, Data Migration both occur only once for 5.7 and once for 5.8 and 5.9 when they are exercised. The requirements in 5.7, 5.8 and 5.9 all occur in the base year.

Question #11: 5.12 & 5.13 are not included performance periods table. Should they be? The reference is 4.1.

Answer: 5.12 and 5.13 will be added to the PWS next to option periods 1-2

Period	PWS Task	Period of Performance
Base Period	5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6	12-Months
Option Periods 1-2	5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6	12-Months
Optional Task 1	5.8	May be exercised a single time in each period (Base, Option Period 1, and Option Period 2) and shall be co-terminus with that period.
Optional Task 2	5.9	May be exercised a single time in each period (Base, Option Period 1, and Option Period 2) and shall be co-terminus with that period.
Optional Task 3	5.10	May be exercised a single time in each period (Base, Option Period 1, and Option Period 2) and shall be co-terminus with that period.
Optional Task 4	5.11	May be exercised a single time in either the Base, Option Period 1, or Option Period 2, and have a PoP of 60 days from award.

Work at the Government site shall not take place on Federal holidays or weekends (but may require off-hour work due to network loading or other disruptions that could occur) unless directed by the

Question #12: The VOL I – Technical Factor only addresses 5.3, 5.4, 5.8, 5.7. Should the other sections be included also...such as 5.1, 5.2, 5.5, 5.6, 5.9 thru 5.13? The reference is Section E14(C)(1).

Answer: This question will be addressed in the next release.

Question #13: I just want to confirm the following as well. There is no remediation services in this RFP. This is our interpretation after looking at it again. Please confirm.

Answer: Correct. Also, see Question 16.

Question #14: Confirm that this RFP is not for remediation services. It rather is for a (primarily web) scanning tool to replace the tools from SSB Bart and Deque (VA has both as indicated in the RFP.) The tool is to report on web sites, web applications, PDFs and other content (video, non-web.)

Answer: Correct. However, nowhere in the RFP is the tool classified as a tool for “primarily web.” The tool will be used to audit all technologies the VA uses with the exception of “legacy,” or client server applications. Audits will be performed using either automated scans, manual audits or a combination of both. Results of all audits will be documented and monitored within the capabilities of the tool. Also, see Question 16.

Question #15: Confirm that the way the RFP is worded seems to suggest that VA may be planning to consolidate into one of the above tools (or acquire a new similar scanning tool) and require services surrounding this implementation including having the vendor do the actual audits (i.e., run the tool).

Answer: The VA may, at its discretion, exercise Optional Tasks 5.8, 5.9, and 5.10 to consolidate tasks and have the vendor conduct audits using the tool. .

Question #16: Remediation guidance (not actual remediation) for all formats including PDF is to be provided via a help desk.

Answer: Under this RFP, remediation guidance will be provided by HelpDesk (5.6) and within the audit reports (5.4, “...as well as provide remediation guidance when conformance has not been achieved.” Deliverables for 5.4 are Audit Reports.). This may include content provided by the tool itself or “linked to,” from a project’s audit report.