

JUSTIFICATION AND APPROVAL
FOR AN EXCEPTION TO FAIR OPPORTUNITY

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
Office of Acquisition Operations
Technology Acquisition Center-Austin
1701 Directors Blvd. Suite 600
Austin, TX 78744
2. Description of Action: The proposed action is for a brand name 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 the Supplies or Services: VA, Eastern Colorado Health Care System requires Zebra Technologies original equipment manufacturer (OEM) brand name printers and one year of warranty, to support Project Eagle, the new Rocky Mountain Regional VA Medical Center in Denver, Colorado. This is a hardware only delivery. All printers will be delivered to the Rocky Mountain Regional VA Medical Center. The total estimated price of this proposed action is [REDACTED], to be delivered within 30 days after receipt of order.
4. Statutory Authority: The statutory authority permitting this exception to fair opportunity is 41 U.S.C. 4106(c) as implemented by the Federal Acquisition Regulations (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: More than one awardee is capable of providing the supplies or services required, but fair opportunity is limited by restriction to a brand name. Zebra branded barcode printers are the only brand specified to work with Maximo, the logistics Asset Management system. Other barcode printers are interoperable with VistA, but not with Maximo at this time. Therefore, only Zebra brand barcode printers can be used in conjunction with Maximo.
6. Efforts to Obtain Competition: Market research was conducted, details of which are in section 8 of this justification. This effort did not yield any additional sources that can meet the Government's requirements. However, it was determined that limited competition is viable among resellers for these brand name items. In accordance with FAR 5.301 and 16.505(b)(2), this action will be synopsisized at award on the Federal Business Opportunities Page and the justification will be made publicly available. Additionally, the Justification will be posted on the NASA SEWP V GWAC website to notify all interested parties.
7. Actions to Increase Competition: The VA will continue to look for solutions that

provide ease of centralized configuration and management of deployed print devices.

8. Market Research: VA technical experts conducted market research in June and July 2017, by assessing the current VA infrastructure and reviewing similar thermal barcode printers to determine if other brands were capable of meeting VA's needs. The technical experts reviewed other similar brands such as [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] barcode printers have been tested with Maximo, but the Zebra printers are the only ones that reliably work with Maximo. Zebra printers are the only barcode printers that can be used with Maximo. As a result of this market research, only Zebra branded printers will meet VA's interoperability needs.

The Contract Specialist (CS) conducted market research in July 2017, by using the NASA SEWP V GWAC Market Research tool. Based on this market research, the CS found several NASA SEWP V GWAC holders capable of meeting the full requirement.


9. Other Facts: No additional facts at this time.

10. Technical and Requirements Certification: I certify that the supporting data under my cognizance, which are included in this justification, are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

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Date: August 31, 2017

VA Technology Manager

Signature: 

11. Fair and Reasonable Cost Determination: I hereby determine that the anticipated price to the Government for this contract action will be fair and reasonable because NASA SEWP GWAC prices have previously been determined fair and reasonable. Additionally, price competition is expected among authorized resellers for this action. Additional price analysis may be performed in accordance with FAR 15.404-1(b).

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Date: 8/31/2017

Procuring Contracting Officer

Signature: 

12. Procuring Contracting Officer Certification: I certify that this justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

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Date: 8/31/2017

Procuring Contracting Officer

Signature: 