

**JUSTIFICATION AND APPROVAL
FOR EXCEPTION TO FAIR OPPORTUNITY**

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Acquisition Operations
Technology Acquisition Center
260 Industrial Way West
Eatontown, NJ 07724

2. Description of Action:

The proposed action is for a firm-fixed-price delivery order issued under the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Solutions for Enterprise-Wide Procurement (SEWP) IV Government Wide Acquisition Contract (GWAC) for procurement of Informatica Data Warehouse Advisor (DWA) software license and maintenance for the exclusive-use of the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Office of Performance Analysis and Integrity, Enterprise Data Warehouse (EDW). The period of performance is 12 months from date of award.

3. Description of Supplies or Services:

The proposed action is to provide VBA with Informatica DWA software licenses, a commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) data usage solution that will improve VBA's capabilities to measure how business lines are utilizing the EDW, justifies costs, prioritizes resources, retains and optimizes the most relevant data and load processes, groups processes based on business value, sets performance thresholds, identifies dormant data that are candidates for archiving or purging, and audits user activity across business intelligence (BI) applications, reports, and databases to ensure the trusted usage of sensitive VA information and maintenance support.

The total estimated value of the proposed action is \$225,650.88. Below is a detailed breakout of the required licenses.

PART NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY
9048-15434	Data Warehouse Advisor (16-31) per CPU-Cores Multi-core Multi-OS Production License Informatica Part #: 0000010973-0001	24
9048-15435	Data Warehouse Advisor (16-31) per CPU-Cores Multi-core Multi- OS Production Standard Maintenance Informatics Part #: 0000010973-0002	24

4. Statutory Authority:

The statutory authority permitting an exception to fair opportunity is Section 41 U.S.C. 4106(c) as implemented by the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Subpart 16.505(b)(2)(i)(B), entitled "Exceptions to the fair opportunity process", 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 extensive market research, as described in paragraph eight of this document, it was determined that limited competition is viable among authorized resellers for this brand name item. Informatica DWA software is the only software in the usage monitoring and auditing marketplace capable of fulfilling all of the VBA requirements. No other brand name software is able to perform the necessary integration of VBA EDW usage data between Oracle database, Oracle Business Intelligence Enterprise Edition (OBIEE), and Informatica PowerCenter without extensive custom programming that would exceed the cost of DWA. Based on technical expertise, the customization costs are anticipated to be approximately \$500,000. Other products can access usage data from Oracle or OBIEE individually, but cannot directly access Informatica usage data and integrate it with other data because Informatica's usage data is stored in a proprietary format. Furthermore, as previously mentioned DWA capabilities are not supported by existing software or are difficult to obtain because it requires pulling information from multiple sources, integrating that information manually each time, and interpreting the results. However, DWA can access all three products, download the usage data, and integrate them automatically. Informatica DWA and maintenance support is the only solution that can provide the form, fit and function that currently is compatible with VBA EDW environment and current business needs.

6. Efforts to Obtain Competition:

Market research was conducted, the 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. There is no competition anticipated for this acquisition. In accordance with FAR 5.301 and 16.505(b)(2), this action will be synopsisized at award on the Federal Business Opportunities Page (FBO) and the justification will be made publicly available.

7. Actions to Increase Competition:

All future requirements will be handled on a case-by-case basis to determine any future acquisition strategy.

8. Market Research:

On April 2012, VA technical experts conducted market research on NASA SEWP by issuing an RFI. One response was received from Alvarez & Associates. Therefore, limited competition is expected for this proposed action. The market research indicated the aforementioned requirements is available on the VA approved NASA SEWP IV GWAC. Although only one authorized reseller responded, NASA SEWP contract holders have the ability to add items to their price list within a twenty-four hour period. Per the terms of the NASA SEWP IV contract, requirements for brand name specific equipment should be solicited to all four contract groups (A, B, C, and D) in order to fully notify all interested parties.

9. Other Facts: On April 2012, the Government's technical reviewed other similar software. Alternatives that were examined included solutions such as those from IBM, Oracle, Guardium, Imperva, and Application Security as identified from sources such as Gartner. These alternatives cannot access Informatica PowerCenter metadata and are also unable to automatically integrate usage data from VBA metadata sources. In addition, an examination of modifying existing software and configurations and creating custom code to achieve similar results (e.g., trace logs, transaction logs), was performed and found to exceed the cost of DWA as aforementioned. The Government's technical experts determined that none of products researched meet the Government's interoperability and compatibility requirements previously discussed and that only DWA met the Informatica metadata access and automatic integration needs.

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.

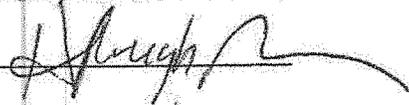
TaShonda Henry-Pugh

Date:

6/29/12

COR Representative

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 based on contracts awarded on NASA SEWP IV GWAC have already been determined to be fair and reasonable. As there are multiple vendors on NASA SEWP IV GWAC, price competition is anticipated. Finally, the successful quotation will be compared to the independent government cost estimate and a price analysis will be completed.

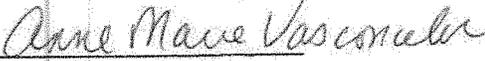
Anne Marie Vasconcelos

Date:

7/06/2012

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. As this contract action does not exceed \$650,000, the certification below required by FAR 16.505(b)(2)(ii)(C)(1) serves as approval.

Anne Marie Vasconcelos

Date:

7/06/2012

Procuring Contracting Officer

Signature:

