

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

**Justification for Single Source Awards IAW [FAR 13.106-1](#)
For
Over Micro-Purchase Threshold but Not Exceeding the SAT (\$150K)**

Acquisition Plan Action ID: VA252-18-AP-2108

1. Contracting Activity:

Department of Veterans Affairs
VISN 12
William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital
607-18-2-969-0037

2. Brief Description of Supplies/ Services required and the intended use/Estimated Amount:

The Neurodiagnostic Lab at the William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital located in Madison, WI has the requirement for a server used to store data that is acquired on equipment in the Epilepsy Center of Excellence which is 1 of 16 facilities in the United States. This is a new requirement that will be pursued as a fixed firm price single source purchase order on the open market to a Small Business Manufacturer, Natus Neurology, Inc.

| <u>Line Item</u> | <u>Item Number</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Qty</u> | <u>Unit</u> |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 0001 | 016083 | 16 TB Data Server - Existing Rack | 1 | EA |
| 0002 | SVC800INSTALL_INC | Installation Included | 2 | EA |
| 0003 | TRAINING | Training Included | 1 | EA |

3. Unique characteristics that limit availability to only one source, with the reason no other supplies or services can be used:

The Neurodiagnostic Lab at the William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital located in Madison, WI has the requirement for a server used to store data that is acquired on equipment in the Epilepsy Center of Excellence which is 1 of 16 facilities in the United States. The Vendor, Natus Neurology, Inc., will be required to install, assemble, configure and network all equipment for the EEG outpatient lab and Epilepsy Monitoring Unit. It will also include training and provide a customer service number for equipment issues and technical support.

The William S. Middleton Memorial Veterans Hospital currently utilizes equipment supplied by Natus Medica, Inc. which has met our needs (and is used by many other VA Epilepsy Centers of Excellence). The requested computer server allows for storage and review of a large volume of neurodiagnostic studies critical for Veteran care. Only the storage server, which includes both computer hardware and proprietary software, supplied by Natus is compatible with the existing system, which is a required and a unique feature for this item. Replacing the other units within this system from another supplier would cost approximately \$500,000.00. More importantly, retraining

of staff to use a new system would require at least 16 hours for 9 physicians, 4 EEG technicians, and multiple nursing providers. Given the urgency of the request for this critical item, the time required to switch units and retrain staff would lead to compromised care for Veterans.

The facility's current equipment is reaching its end of life and is showing signs to technical failures. If the equipment and software is not replaced, the Neurodiagnostic Lab will be unable to store data without a storage medium. The Neurodiagnostic Lab, EMG Lab, and Sleep Lab all rely on storage to keep patient data for seven years which is essential for continuity of patient care. If this equipment is not purchased before the current system has a complete failure, the labs utilizing and depending on it equipment will have to completely shut down.

4. Description of market research conducted and results or statement why it was not conducted:

Market Research for Purchase Request 607-18-2-969-0037 originally showed the procurement to be made with a 100% Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) set-aside Request for Quotation (RFQ) on the Governmentwide Acquisition Contract (GWAC) NASA SEWP V Quote Request Tool (QRT). However, to obtain more information about the product, the CO reached out to the facility, which notified it that this equipment included software that was to be purchased on a brand name only basis.

The CO contacted the manufacturer to determine if it uses any Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (VOSBs) or SDVOSBs to distribute its products. The manufacturer responded that it uses one VOSB. The CO does not have the Rule of Two for VOSBs or SDVOSBs. Therefore, purchase will be made from an open market, Small Business single source IAW FAR 13.106(b).

5. Contracting Officer's Certification: *Purchase is approved in accordance with FAR13.106-1(b). I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.*

Name: _____
Contracting Officer