

SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
Office of Procurement, Acquisition, and Logistics (OPAL)
Technology Acquisition Center
1701 Director's Blvd.
Austin, TX 78744
2. Description of Action: This proposed action is for a sole source, firm-fixed-price purchase order to EMS Software for their Event Management Systems (EMS) Workplace Package software.
3. Description of Supplies or Services: The requirement is for one annual EMS Workplace Package subscription to include Database, Desktop Client, Web Application, EMS for Outlook, HR Tool Kit, Integrated Authentication, Floorplan, and annual maintenance. The total estimated value of the proposed action is [REDACTED].
4. Statutory Authority: In accordance with Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 13.106-1(b)(1)(i), "Contracting officers may solicit from one source if the contracting officer determines that the circumstances of the contract action deem only one source reasonably available..." for purchases not exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold.
5. Rationale Supporting Use of Authority Cited Above: The VA Central office currently uses EMS Workplace software, and this requirement is to reinstate the annual EMS Workplace package that was greatly expanded last year for Office of Administration. It will allow the entire VACO campus to use one standard system for Space Reservation. This method leverages the Office of Administration's existing EMS system which was recently upgraded to 11,000 users. The EMS Workplace package has passed security testing and is approved in TRM (Technical Reference Module) and already installed on the VA server. EMS is the only know software that is compatible with Microsoft Outlook and would allow for VACO to use one standard system. EMS Software is the sole manufacturer, supplier, distributor, and service provider for the EMS software products.
6. Efforts to Obtain Competition: Market research was conducted, details of which are in paragraph eight below. This effort did not yield any additional sources that can meet the Governments requirements. There is no competition anticipated for this acquisition. In accordance with FAR 5.101, the VA will post an intent to sole source, Solicitation and redacted J&A in the Government Point of Entry (FBO).
7. Actions to Increase Competition: The Government will continue to conduct market research to ascertain if there are changes in the market place that would enable competition in future actions.
8. Market Research: The Government's technical experts conducted market research in June 2018 by reviewing similar software, including products provided by Aqilquest, RegOnline, XING Events, and MIE Software. None of the reviewed products were compatible with Microsoft Outlook or the existing VA system. In addition, the Contract Specialist issued a sources sought notice on FBO in July

Sole Source Justification Event Management Systems Software Licenses

2018. The notice stated VA's intent to award a sole source action to EMS. The notice also included the salient characteristics required for the software and requested information on other available products that would meet the VA's requirement. No responses were received. Based on this market research, it was determined that EMS is the only software that meets the VA's requirement.

The Contract Specialist (CS) conducted additional market research in July 2018, utilizing the NASA SEWP V GWAC Market Research look up tool, General Services Administration (GSA) website and the Vendor Information Pages database to determine if there were any possible resellers. The searched did not identify a contractor that met the full requirement (See eCMS briefcase for results). EMS Software, LLC provided a memo stating they are the only providers of its software and support services and do not have any authorized resellers.

9. Interested Sources:

Sole Source Justification Event Management Systems Software Licenses

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.

[REDACTED]

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. Comparisons of the Independent Government Cost Estimate with competitive published price lists, published market prices of commodities, similar indexes, and discount or rebate arrangements were favorable.

[REDACTED]

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

[REDACTED]