

JUSTIFICATION AND APPROVAL
FOR A LIMITED SOURCE AWARD UNDER A FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULE

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs
Office of Acquisition Operations
Technology Acquisition Center
1701 Directors Blvd. Suite 600
Austin, TX 78744
2. Description of Action: The proposed action is for one 12-month firm-fixed price (FFP) task order with three 12-month option periods to extend services for Xerox Free Flow VI Design Pro Licenses and maintenance support. The solicitation will be issued to General Services Administration's (GSA) e-Buy portal under Federal Supply Schedule (FSS) 70, General Purpose Commercial Information Technology Equipment, Software, and Services.
3. Description of the Supplies or Services: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has a brand name requirement for 10 Xerox Free Flow VI Design Pro Licenses and 12 months of software maintenance in support of the Virtual Veterans Affairs and the Compensation and Pension (C&P) Paperless Claims Processing Initiative. The required software maintenance includes 24x7x365 critical application support, technical support by means of email or telephone, and ongoing distribution of access to new features, maintenance releases, bug fixes, and upgrades on annual basis. This requirement can be met through the purchase of Xerox FreeFlow VI Design Software Licenses. This software solution will be used to develop Variable Data Intelligent Postscript Printware (VIPP) projects and to modify existing VIPP files. The total estimated price for the proposed action is [REDACTED] for a 12-month effort with three 12-month option periods.
4. Authority Cited: Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 8.405-6(a)(1)(i)(B), Only one source is capable of providing the supplies or services required at the level of quality required because the supplies or services are unique or highly specialized.
5. Reason for Authority Cited: This is a brand name justification in support of FAR 11.105, Items Peculiar to One Manufacturer. The proposed sources for continued Xerox Free Flow VI Design Pro Licenses and 12 months of software maintenance are Xerox and its authorized resellers. VA determined that either Xerox or its authorized resellers are the only sources that can provide the software licenses and maintenance support. The Government does not possess the proprietary technical data for Xerox Free Flow Design software. Without this technical data, no source has the ability to provide Xerox software and maintenance support other than Xerox or an authorized reseller. This technical data allows a source access to the fundamental elements of the software that is essential for software version control and updates. Failure to acquire the aforementioned software and software maintenance would prevent VA users (employees and Veterans) from performing essential functions necessary for providing benefit claims and payments to our Nation's Veterans. There is no other software application that will accept, validate, and process Veteran benefit application claims and payments. There is no other software available from any vendor that will interface and communicate with Xerox Corporation's mainframe printing infrastructure.
6. Efforts to Obtain Competition: It was determined that limited competition is viable among authorized resellers for this brand name item.

Xerox Free Flow VI Design Pro Licenses and 12 months of software maintenance

7. Actions to Increase Competition: In order to remove or overcome barriers to competition in future acquisitions for this requirement, the agency will work with the program office to perform additional market research so that other solutions can be considered for future requirements. The Government will continue to conduct market research to ascertain if there are changes in the market place that would enable future actions to be competed.

8. Market Research: Market research was conducted by Government technical experts in December 2012 and in April 2013. The Head of the Contracting Activity approved VA Form 2268, Procurement Request Review for the Small Business Program and Contract Bundling, and associated market research memorandum April 12, 2013. This documentation showed competition was available among National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Solutions for Enterprise Wide Procurement (SEWP) IV Government Wide Acquisition Contract (GWAC) service-disabled Veteran-owned small businesses. VA issued a Request for Quote (RFQ) on NASA SEWP GWAC April 30, 2013. The RFQ closed on May 8, 2013, and VA received no responses from SDVOSBs. The contract specialist conducted additional market research by searching the Product Verification Tool on NASA SEWP GWAC website to ascertain if any small businesses could provide the Xerox Free Flow VI Design Pro Licenses and software maintenance. The research revealed no small businesses are available. Subsequently, VA issued a Request for Information (RFI) via the General Services Administration (GSA) e-Buy website under Federal Supply Schedule (FSS) 70, General Purpose Commercial Information Technology Equipment, Software, and Services. The RFI revealed that one certified small disadvantaged 8(a) business concern can provide the Xerox Free Flow VI Design Pro Licenses and software maintenance as an authorized reseller. In order to find additional small business sources on GSA e-Buy for the Free Flow Design software and software maintenance, the contract specialist researched the Xerox federal resellers website. The search revealed one Hubzone small business, one Veteran-owned small business, and one small business that are authorized resellers of the Xerox Free Flow VI Design Pro licenses and software maintenance. Based on this market research, a small business set-aside is appropriate and competition is expected among GSA small business schedule 70 contract holders.

9. Interested Sources: No other source has expressed written interest in supplying this item.