

JUSTIFICATION AND APPROVAL
FOR AN EXCEPTION TO FAIR OPPORTUNITY

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
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 task order for Autonomy TeamSite Content Management System software licenses and software maintenance. The solicitation will be issued to National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Solutions for Enterprise Wide Procurement (SEWP) IV Government Wide Acquisition Contract (GWAC) Groups A, B, C, and D.

3. Description of the Supplies or Services: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Office of Information and Technology Business Operations has a brand name requirement for 12 months of Autonomy TeamSite Content Management System Software Licenses and Software Maintenance in support of the existing Enterprise Content Management System (ECMS) located in Silver Springs, MD and Falling Waters, WV. The required software maintenance includes 24x7x365 critical application support, technical support by means of email or telephone, and on-going distribution of access to new features, maintenance releases, bug fixes, and upgrades. This requirement can be met through the purchase of Autonomy TeamSite Content Management System software licenses. This software solution provides content authorization, approval workflow processes, change control for tracking and managing updates, compliance verification and integration with other software authoring applications (e.g., Adobe Authorware, RunRev, XML editor) and development tools. The total estimated price for the proposed action is [REDACTED] for a 12 month period of performance.

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 "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: This is a brand name justification in support of FAR 11.105, Items Peculiar to One Manufacturer. The proposed sources for continued Autonomy TeamSite Content Management System software licenses and 12 months of software maintenance are Autonomy and its authorized resellers. VA determined that either Autonomy or its resellers are the only sources that can provide the software licenses and maintenance support. The Government does not possess the proprietary technical data for Autonomy TeamSite Content Management System software licenses and software maintenance. Without this proprietary technical data, no source has the ability to provide the Autonomy TeamSite Content Management System software licenses and software maintenance other than Autonomy and its resellers. This proprietary technical data allows access to the fundamental elements of the software that is essential for software version control

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and updates. Failure to acquire the aforementioned software and software maintenance would prevent VA webmasters a means to edit business content, approve workflow processes, track changes, manage updates, compliance verification approvals, and integration issues with other application development software tools. There is no other software application that will accept, validate, and process Autonomy's business content authorization approval workflow processes. There is no other software available from any vendor that will interface and communicate with Autonomy TeamSite Content Management System software licenses and software maintenance.

6. Efforts to Obtain Competition: Market research was conducted, details of which are in the market research section of this document. This effort did not yield any additional sources that can meet the Governments requirement. It was determined however that limited competition is viable among resellers for the brand name item. 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 publically available.

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 future actions to be competed.

8. Market Research: Market research was conducted by the contract specialist and subject matter expert (SME) in May and June, 2013, by searching for similar software in industry trade publications and by conducting internet research to ascertain the ability of any other sources to meet VA's needs. The research revealed that no other software maintenance solutions possess the proprietary technical data to be interoperable and compatible with Autonomy TeamSite Content Management System software term licenses and software maintenance. Based on this market research it has been determined that only Autonomy brand name software term licenses and software maintenance can meet VA's needs.

A Request for Information (RFI) was posted on the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Solutions for Enterprise Wide Procurement (SEWP) IV Government Wide Acquisition Contract (GWAC) on June 5, 2013 to identify potential resellers. One response was received from a large business. The response included pricing and confirmed their capabilities to provide the Autonomy TeamSite Content Management System software licenses and software maintenance. The contract specialist conducted additional market research by searching the Product Verification Tool on NASA SEWP IV GWAC website to ascertain if any small businesses could provide the Autonomy TeamSite Content Management System software licenses and software maintenance. The research revealed no small businesses are available. Subsequently, the contract specialist conducted another Product Verification Tool search on NASA SEWP IV GWAC website in Groups A through D for Autonomy TeamSite Content Management System software licenses and software maintenance. The research revealed an additional two large businesses. Based upon this market research limited competition is expected among NASA SEWP resellers and the

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requirement will be solicited providing fair opportunity to NASA SEWP IV GWAC Groups A, B, C, and D.

9. Other Facts: No other source has expressed written interest in supplying this item.