

<b>AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT</b>				1. CONTRACT ID CODE	PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES
2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO. 0001	3. EFFECTIVE DATE 10 October 2008	4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO. N/A	5. PROJECT NO. (If applicable) N/A		
6. ISSUED BY NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER, DAHLGREN DIV. Attn: CXS10 17632 Dahlgren Road, Suite 157 Dahlgren, VA 22448-5110		7. ADMINISTERED BY (If other than Item 6)	CODE		

8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No. Street, county, State and ZIP- Code)  (TO BE COMPLETED BY OFFERORS)	(*)	9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO. N00178-08-R-4001
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11) 18 September 2008
	<input type="checkbox"/>	10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 13)
CODE	FACILITY CODE	

## 11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS

The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in Item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers  is extended,  is not extended. Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods:

(a) By completing Items 8 and 15, and returning one (1) copy of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATA SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and data specified.

12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required)

## 13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS, IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.

(*)	A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation date, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b).
<input type="checkbox"/>	C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:
<input type="checkbox"/>	D. OTHER Specify type of modification and authority)

E. IMPORTANT: Contractor  is not,  is required to sign this document and return \_\_ copies to the issuing office.

14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible.)

THIS AMENDMENT PROVIDES THE ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS RECEIVED BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON 06 OCTOBER 2008.

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.

15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print)		16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (Type or print)	
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR		16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	
15C. DATE SIGNED		16C. DATE SIGNED	
(Signature of person authorized to sign)		BY (Signature of Contracting Officer)	

This amendment is issued to provide answers to questions that were received by close of business on 06 October 2008.

1. The answers to questions received by close of business on 06 October 2008 are included as Attachment 1 to this amendment.

Attachments:

1) Answers to Questions, 20 pages.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR  
SOLICITATION N00178-08-R-4001

Q1. Page 77, paragraph 5.6 states "Offerors are required to complete Table A for each zone(s) in which they wish to be considered during the Task Order, Fair Consideration Process." If an offeror demonstrates a valid 'presence' in three zones and wishes to be considered for all three zones, is the offeror to submit three copies of Table A (one for each zone - totaling six pages) or indicate three zone numbers in the zone column of Table A (totaling two pages) for each of the Functional Areas being proposed?

A. A separate Table A needs to be submitted for each zone being proposed. In this example, three Table A's would be submitted for the three zones. The page limit on the narrative for depth and breadth in the technical proposal is 10 pages regardless of the number of zones being proposed. The Table A is in addition to the narrative and is not included in the page count.

Q2. Reference to Pg. 75 5.4.1 section (a) Depth and Breadth section: If we propose a team, can the team member be non-8(a) and 8(a) business?

A. Yes, the team members can be both 8(a) and non 8(a). Any prime contractor submitting a proposal under this Rolling Admissions solicitation must be an 8(a) company.

Q3. Page 77 of 83 in the RFP titled Zone Consideration - "Presence" states, "For the purpose of the qualification requirement, contract means meaningful work performed for one or more of the ordering activities sites and field activities in one or more of the Functional Areas." Further, it was stated in the answer to Q.81 from the March 18, 2008 Q&A that, "For purposes of meeting the zone presence criteria, the contract should be from one of the Navy, Marine Corps, or DTRA activities." However, this seems to contradict other Q&A (for example Q.53) that states, "Work performed for other than Navy, Marine Corps or DTRA activities could be considered meaningful if it is equivalent to the work described in the Seaport e Statement of Work and performed for the DoD." Please confirm that relevant DoD contracts for activities other than Navy, Marine Corps or DTRA qualify the offeror for presence in a zone.

A. It is desired that the work was performed for one of the authorized ordering offices under Seaport e. Work performed for other than the Navy, Marine Corps or DTRA activities may be considered meaningful if it is equivalent to the work described in the Seaport e Statement of Work and performed for DoD activities.

Q.4 General question - Will contracts for relevant civilian agencies within the Federal Government be considered demonstrated relevant experience in the Functional Area for which it is cited and be eligible to receive an "Outstanding" rating towards Technical Capability?

A. If a company does not have any contracts or subcontracts with one of the authorized ordering offices or with other DoD activities, contracts with civilian agencies may be submitted and will be reviewed to determine relevance. It is unlikely that an "Outstanding" rating would be assigned if the only contracts or subcontracts referenced are with civilian agencies.

Q5. General question - Can a company for which we are currently a sub on SeaPort-e now be proposed as a sub to us on the 8(a) rolling admissions?

A. Yes, they could be included as a team member.

Q6. Question 24 from the March 18, 2008 Q&A suggests that it is possible to receive an "outstanding" on the evaluation with no subs "if your proposal meets the criteria for an 'Outstanding' rating that are specified in Section M of the solicitation." However, Section M on p. 80 of 83 of the solicitation indicates an "Unsatisfactory" rating will be given if "No subcontracting/teaming arrangements are in place." Is this requirement for large businesses only? Please clarify if 8(a) firms can receive an "Outstanding" rating if we have no subs or teaming arrangements in place.

A. If a company does not include any team members in their proposal, then the evaluation factor concerning teaming arrangements would not be applicable. This factor would only be relevant if a company has included team members in their proposal.

Q7. Will the Government please confirm that offerors are to submit the following three (3) volumes? (a) An untitled volume that includes the cover letter and the RFP in its entirety, including attachments, with all of the required information filled in and signed; (b) Volume I - Technical Proposal; and (c) Volume II - Cost/Price Proposal. (Reference Section L.2.1 on p. 72, L.4.3 on p. 74 and L.5.2 on p. 75.)

A. Offerors need to submit the completed and signed solicitation document with any amendment change pages, all attachments, an original and one copy of the technical proposal, a cost proposal (which includes a completed Attachment J.5), a cover letter, and CCR information. A copy of the complete submission must also be included on a CD-ROM.

Q.8 Assuming that a copy of the signed/filled in/entire RFP is to be included on the CD-ROM with Volumes I and II, will the Government please provide a copy of the RFP plus attachments in a Microsoft Office compatible format? The Government-provided copy of the RFP is in PDF, which is not a Microsoft Office compatible format. (Reference Sections L.2.1 and L.2.3 on p. 72.)

A. A Word version of all solicitation fill-in pages is provided on the Seaport e homepage ([www.seaport.navy.mil](http://www.seaport.navy.mil)) under the "Quick Links" section.

Q.9 Does the "[n]o graphics, or pictures" requirement found in Section L.4.2 on p. 74 also apply to (a) front/back covers and spines of three-ring binders and (b) the CD-ROM label?

A. Graphics are allowed on the covers and spines of the binders and on the CD-ROM label.

Q10. Section 5.4.1(a) on pp. 75-76 of the RFP states in part that "The offeror shall complete a copy of Table A ... for each zone being proposed on to: ... (3) provide its depth and breadth of experience and expertise in the functional areas (SOW paras. 3.1 through 3.22) performed within the past three (3) years..." Page 1 of Table A, Past Performance Information, does not include any wording about contract references being limited to the past three (3) years. Is the Offeror correct in assuming that contract references should be limited to the past three (3) years?

**A. Yes, the contracts listed on Table A should be within the past three years.**

Q11. Page 1 of Table A, Past Performance Information, includes a column that reads "Prime or Sub." Is this column intended for the offeror to fill out in its role as a prime or sub under the referenced contract? Or is this column intended to differentiate between the prime's past performance references and a subcontractor/teaming partner's past performance references? Please clarify.

**A. The offeror should indicate if they were the prime contractor or a subcontractor on the contract listed on Table A.**

Q12. Page 68 of Section L, FAR 52.215-1(e)(1) provides the legend (non-disclosure statement) that shall be included on the "title page" of the proposal. May the Offeror put this legend on the front cover of its proposal instead and dispense with a title page?

**A. A title page should be included with the nondisclosure legend.**

Q13. Are subcontractors required to individually register on the SeaPort-e Contractor Registration site IAW para 5.4.1 (pg 76) of the RFP in addition to the Prime (I recognize the Prime is required to list the team members)? If so, is this the website (which appears to apply only to the Prime)?: <https://auction.seaport.navy.mil/registration/> If it is required, and this is not the site, can you provide the proper link?

**A. Team members are not required to register on the site. The prime contractor needs to complete information about their team members at the registration site.**

Q14. Question general to 8a contractors - Will awarded 8a Seaport e contractors be required to do 51% of the work in a task order where they are utilizing teaming partners or subcontractors?

**A. Yes - if a task order solicitation is issued on an 8(a) set aside basis, the prime contractor must perform at least 50% of the work.**

Q15. Page 75, Depth and Breadth, and Zone Consideration - Please clarify if the prime 8a firm submitting the offer has relevant FA experience, but has no experience with the Navy, Marines or DTRA, but their teaming partners or subcontractors do, is this a sufficient response to the FA past performance and the Zone presence requirements?

A. The offeror's depth and breadth includes the experience of the prime contractor and its team members. To establish presence in a zone, the offeror must meet one of the following criteria: the prime contractor has a local office in the zone being proposed; the prime contractor has received a contract or subcontract from one of the authorized ordering offices in the zone; or a team member has a local office in the zone.

Q16. Can an 8a contractor submitting an offer, use their subcontractors and or teaming partners past experience (who are not 8a) to qualify for past performance and zone presence?

A. Experience listed in the proposal should be a good mixture of both the prime contractor and any team member. If using a team member to establish presence in a zone, that team member must have a local office in the zone being proposed.

Q17. With regards to contents of the cover letter, Item 10 in the directions on page 75 of the solicitation, state: " The date the cognizant DCAA office has determined the offeror's accounting system to be adequate for the accumulation, reporting, and billing of costs under cost reimbursement contracts." This contract is restricted to 8(a) companies. There are thousands of 8(a) companies that have never held a cost reimbursement contract. As such, there are thousands of 8(a) companies that have never been audited by DCAA. Is it the intent of your organization to eliminate from consideration 8(a) companies that have not been audited by DCAA?

A. Since the Seaport e contract will contain both Firm Fixed Price and Cost Reimbursement CLINs, the lack of a DCAA approved accounting system will not eliminate any offeror from consideration for award. If an offeror has an approved accounting system, they would note the date that it was approved in item 10 of the cover letter. If the

offeror does not have an approved accounting system, this would need to be stated in the cover letter. For any offeror that receives an award that does not have an approved accounting system, the Government will request an accounting system review from DCAA after award of the contract.

Q18. Table A asks for "Mission Areas for Which Function Was Performed". I see in the previously published responses that the link had been corrected and was corrected in the WORD document table but I am unable to access the referenced portion of the Seaport website to find this information. When I select the link, an error page displays indicating the webpage cannot be found. Can you verify the link works or point me in another direction with this reference information?

A. The link in the Word version of Table A included on the Seaport e homepage is working. If you are unable to access the document, please send an email to the [e-pco@seaport.navy.mil](mailto:e-pco@seaport.navy.mil) account and a Word version of the document can be provided.

Q19. Page 73 Section 3.10 The Small Business Administration (SBA) requires that firms certified under the 8(a) program confirm their current status. Firms interested in participation in the Seaport e Program should submit, as part of their proposal, the date for their graduation from the 8(a) program

And:

Page 24 H.5.c To be eligible as a Small Business, Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB), 8(a) Business, or HubZone Business during the competitive ordering process, the Offeror must have had that status at the time of proposal submission that resulted in the award of the SeaPort Enhanced IDIQ contract award,

And:

Page 34 H.19 SMALL BUSINESS SIZE STATUS

Small Business size status will be re-evaluated prior to exercising the Option and Award Term Option.

Our firm will have 8(a) status at time of proposal submission. At the time of the anticipated Award Term Option we will have graduated from the 8(a) program and will be able to Recertify our Business Size Status (under 27,000,000) and certify as a disadvantaged small business. Will this change in status from 8(a) to disadvantaged small business preclude us from being eligible for an Award Term Option?

A. All prime contractors are required to re-certify their business size status prior to the exercise of an Award Term Option. Any changes to the status will be reflected in the modification that is issued to exercise the award term option. Prior to the mandatory re-certification, the status that the prime contractor had when the basic contract was awarded will remain in effect until the award term option is exercised.

Q20. Page 75, Section 5.2 COVER LETTER: states in part "9. A copy of the prime contractors CCR registration information from the CCR website." May we assume this is an attachment and is not included in the five page limit?

A. That is correct - the copy of the CCR registration is not included in the page limit of the cover letter.

Q21. Page 81, Section M Factor 3 Cost Price, reads in part, " OUTSTANDING: The offeror must demonstrate a strong commitment to price reduction. This must include the following:

- The percentages proposed in the savings clause must exceed 5% per year, which is convincingly substantiated in the price proposal. "

Is this savings to be based on labor rates, performance improvement, or volume discounts or a combination of all three?

A. The Savings Clause in section H.10 of the solicitation pertains to reductions that would be applied to high-dollar repetitive requirements. If this is applicable, it will be determined at the task order level and included in the task order solicitation. The reduction would consist of the percentage proposed that would be applied to the total price that was proposed for the previous year for the effort.

Q22. Page 34, H.I0 SAVINGS CLAUSE, A . Reads in part "the contractor agrees to the maximum extent practicable to reduce the price for services performed under each subsequent year by at least: % Reductions from base period or price from previous year": How is escalation factored in to this calculation? For example if labor rates include a 3% per year escalation, is a 2 % reduction in overall cost for subsequent year from previous year equal a 5% reduction after taking in to account the escalation?

A. The savings would be applied to the total price proposed of the previous year - it would not be applicable to only certain cost elements or be able to be offset by factors such as escalation.

Q23. I 52.244-2 page 51: May proposed subcontractors be large companies (i.e., annual revenue greater than \$25 million)?

A. Yes, team members can be both large and small businesses.

Q24. K 52.204-8 (a) (2) page 58: Indicates the small business size standard is \$27M, whereas .the SeaPort synopsis indicates \$25M. Which is correct?

A. The SBA recently revised the threshold associated with the NAICS code of 541330. The threshold is now \$27 million which is reflected in the solicitation.

Q25. L 4.2 page 74: "All files named with the file extension .doc" - will the Navy accept .pdf files to ensure proper print formatting?

A. All files should be provided with the file extension .doc.

Q26. L 52.215-1: Indicates requirements for 1st page of proposal, and L 5.3 calls for much of the same information in the Cover Letter. L 4.3 does not provide for such information in either Volume I or II. May we provide all of the required information in the Cover Letter?

A. On page 75 of the solicitation, under Section 5.2, it is stated that the requirements listed for the Cover Letter

super cede and replace the requirements referenced in FAR 52.215-1 concerning the "First Page".

Q27. L 5.3.1.1 page 75: "This rate will be the highest (direct cost) labor category with the team proposed to cover all zones proposed." After award is it possible to add a subcontractor with higher rates than those proposed?

A. Team members can be added at any time after you receive a basic contract award. Actual labor categories and rates (for either you or a team member) will be submitted in proposals in response to task order solicitations.

Q28. L 5.5 (b) page 77: If the Ceiling Unit Price is for a subcontractor labor category, is it sufficient to show the rate charged by the subcontractor and the pass through rate breakdown, escalation, and fee? Or must the subcontractor's direct labor rate derivation, indirect burdens, escalation, and fee be also shown?

A. A breakdown of the rate being proposed under CLIN 1000 must be provided. If the rate being proposed is by a team member, the team member can either provide the breakdown in a sealed envelope to be included with your proposal submission or they can send it directly to the Government. They would need to ensure that it arrives at NSWC Dahlgren by 2:00 P.M. EST on 20 October 2008 and is clearly marked on the outside that they are submitting the rate as a team member to your company.

Q29. L 5.5 (b) page 77: If the Ceiling Unit Price is for a prime contractor labor category, is it necessary to provide subcontractors' direct labor rate derivations (indirect burdens, fee, escalation)?

A. The single highest labor rate for either the prime or team member must be included in the proposal. If the rate is from the prime contractor, then the breakdown showing how that rate was derived is required from the prime contractor. No rate information for the team member would be provided.

Q30. M 4.0 Factor 3 Cost/Price B. Ceiling Unit Price page 81: Is the actual amount of the Ceiling Unit Price evaluated, or just the annual escalation and fee/profit percentage?

A. The rate proposed for CLIN 1000 will be evaluated.

Q31. Evaluation Factor 3 requires to submit a compensation plan for professional employees. Is one Compensation Plan by the Prime Contractor, that is representative of all team members sufficient?

A. The Compensation Plan for the prime contractor needs to be submitted. Please refer to FAR 52.222-46 for additional information concerning the compensation plan.

Q32. Our understanding is that only Key Personnel information is to be included In Sheet 2 of Table A. Please clarify.

A. One key individual per Functional Area being proposed should be included in Table A.

Q33. Section G, Contract Administrative Data, Page 19, Paragraph (h) Small and small disadvantaged businesses doing business with the federal government are not required to have a DCAA audit unless they have performed on a "cost-plus" contract. Generally DCAA will not conduct an audit of a small businesses accounting system unless that firm has been awarded a contract that is of a "cost-plus" type. Please define what the term "acceptable" means in the first sentence in relationship to the Administrative Contracting Officer and the Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA)?

A. In order to receive a cost type task order, a contractor must have a DCAA approved accounting system. The system must be adequate for the accumulation, reporting, and billing of costs under cost reimbursement contracts.

Q34. Section L, Instructions, Conditions, and Notices to Bidders, Page 75, Paragraph 5.2; Cover Letters; item numbers 5 and 10 state that the contractor shall include in the proposal:

"5. Name, address and telephone number of the cognizant DCAA office,"

"10. The date that the cognizant DCAA office has determined the offeror's accounting system to be adequate for the accumulation, reporting, and billing of costs under cost

reimbursement contracts. Offerors must also state if they have an established electronic invoice process in place."

If an audit has been conducted of a contractor's accounting system in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards; and if proper verifiable documentation on behalf of the contractor's independent Certified Public Accountant (CPA) is presented in the proposal establishing that the contractor's operations and cash flow are in conformity with generally "accepted accounting principles", is such documentation "acceptable" to the Administrative Contracting Officer?

A. The accounting system must be determined adequate by DCAA. If an audit of the accounting system has not been performed by DCAA, then this needs to be noted in item 10 of the cover letter. For item 5, the cognizant DCAA office can be found at [www.dcaa.mil](http://www.dcaa.mil) under the "Audit Office Locator" link.

Q35. In Section 5.4.1.a on PP. 75-76, it's stated that "Experience in these functional areas may be gained from working with any of the Navy, Marine Corps and/or DTRA activities, as well as other Government organizations." Please clarify the definition of "other Government organizations" and if U.S. state/local government experience that is similar or equivalent is qualifying for row listings on Page 1 of Table A.

A. It is desired that the work was performed for one of the authorized ordering offices under Seaport e. Work performed for other than the Navy, Marine Corps or DTRA activities may be considered meaningful if it is equivalent to the work described in the Seaport e Statement of Work and performed for DoD activities.

Q36. Passage 3.1 of "Section M - Evaluation Factors for Award Paragraph" on P. 79 states that "The Government shall focus on past performance on similar procurements." Does this statement include similar procurements for U.S. state governments and will the evaluation committee evaluate state and federal experience equally?

A. The Government prefers that the contracts provided for past performance have been performed for one or more of the

authorized ordering offices under Seaport e. Additional contracts may be evaluated if determined to be relevant.

Q37. If an 8(a) company with considerable U.S. government experience submits the Table A, will the company be considered for award as a prime contractor if all row entries on Page 1 of Table A refer to the Federal government experience of its teaming partners (sub-contractors). Stated differently, is an 8(a) company able to qualify for award if the company has no experience within the last 3 years with the Federal Government (assuming its sub-contractors do)?

A. The entries listed in Table A should contain a good mixture of contracts performed by both the prime contractor and the team members. The prime contractor needs to demonstrate that they have technical capability on their own and not rely solely on its team members.

Q38. In section 3.9 on page 73 it states "The Navy will allow a prime to add or subtract team members during the life of the contract only with approval of the SeaPort Contracting Officer." Can a prime contractor be approved for additional zones subsequent to contract award by adding sub-contractors who have experience in the new zones?

A. Team members can be added at any time after a contract award has been made. The only time that a prime contractor can request additional zones is when a Rolling Admissions is conducted. A message will be sent to all prime contractors letting them know what documentation will need to be submitted to request the additional zones.

Q39. If a Contractor receives an award for this contract for specific sector(s) or functional area(s), is there a provision under the contract to add additional sector(s) and functional area(s) at a later juncture, either through qualifying contracts by the prime contractor or sub-contractors listed on the original proposal?

A. If an offeror receives a contract award, the contract will contain all 22 Functional Areas. This allows for additional experience gained by hiring new employees or

adding team members with expertise in additional Functional Areas.

Q40. On P. 72 of the RFP under the heading "2.0 Instructions for Submission of Offers," is perhaps Volume II unintentionally left out of the proposal submission items under 2.1.? It seems that Volume II should be listed after the Volume 1 reference in 2.1.1. Please clarify.

A. Offerors need to submit the completed and signed solicitation document with any amendment change pages, all attachments, an original and one copy of the technical proposal (classified as Volume 1), a cost proposal (which includes a completed Attachment J.5), a cover letter, and CCR information. A copy of the complete submission must also be included on a CD-ROM.

Q41. Please clarify the required copies (and their contents) to be included in the proposal. There seems to be anomalies in the current 2.1 listing of copies required in the "Instructions for Submission of Offers" section? Is the list of three items (2.1.1, 2.1.2, & 2.1.3) complete and correct as stated, or is additional correction and clarification needed?

A. The items listed on page 72 are correct. Offerors need to submit the completed and signed solicitation document with any amendment change pages, all attachments, an original and one copy of the technical proposal, a cost proposal (which includes a completed Attachment J.5), a cover letter, and CCR information. A copy of the complete submission must also be included on a CD-ROM.

Q42. Does the Government have a preference on the organization of the physical copy of the RFP's response? From a reading of the RFP instructions for submission of offers beginning on P. 71, it seems the preferred organization is 3 separate volumes. Please comment on the Government's preferences.

A. The preference is that one volume consists of the items listed in Item 1 on page 72; a second volume contains the technical proposal; and the CD-ROM that includes a copy of the entire submission.

Q43. Is the ordering of items in 2.1.1. on P. 72 indicative of the order the Government expects to see in proposal submissions?

**A. Yes, it is preferred that the proposal submission be in accordance with the listing on page 72.**

Q44. In Table A, are offeror's limited to providing one contractual example of past performance per functional area of the SOW, per zone proposed?

**A. A separate Table A needs to be submitted for each zone that is being proposed. A single contract should be listed on the Table A for each Functional Area that is being proposed. Additional information can be included in the narrative section of the technical proposal.**

Q45. There does not appear to be a column on page 1 of Table A to denote whether a contract provided as an example of past performance is work of the Prime Contractor or a teammate. Is it the government's intention that this information remain omitted?

**A. You can include this information in the narrative section of your technical proposal.**

Q46.. Can one contract be used as an example of past performance on multiple functional areas of the SOW within Table A?

**A. Yes - the same contract can be used on multiple Functional Areas if applicable.**

Q47. As Table A has been utilized during previous Seaport-E solicitations, would it be possible to provided a sanitized sample of a completed Table A as a guideline of how to properly fill it out?

**A. There is no sample available for a completed Table A. The headings of the table provide a description of the type of information that needs to be entered in each column.**

Q48. Our proposed team is comprised of multiple companies with extensive overlapping experience in particular SOW functional areas on Table A. Is it the Government's intention that we select, from these multiple past performance contracts (whether it be the prime's or a

teammate's), the best example of experience performing the services within that functional area? Or is there another approach intended by the statements of the RFP?

A. The entries on Table A should be a good mixture of experience of the prime contractor and the team members. Additional information to demonstrate technical capability can be included in the narrative section of the technical proposal.

Q49. On Page 2 of Table A, please elaborate on what is meant by "minimum company qualifications to hold position".

A. This would be a brief description of the qualifications that an employee must have in order to be classified as the labor category. For example, the qualifications that an employee must have to be a Senior Engineer.

Q50. Is it the Government's intention for contractors to list all personnel currently staffed on contracts listed on page 1 of Table A? If no, please explain what personnel should be provided.

A Only one key individual per Functional Area proposed should be included on Table A. Additional employees can be listed in the narrative of the technical proposal.

Q51. PAGE 59 of the RFP, under section 52.219-1: The small business size standard is \$27,000,000. Does an 8(a) company's annual revenue have to be in excess of \$27,000,000 per year in order to bid on this solicitation?

A. In order to submit a proposal, an offeror's average annual sales over the past three years must not exceed \$27 million.

Q52. If an 8(a) company's accounting and purchasing systems and disclosure statements are not yet approved by DCAA, can the company bid on this solicitation?

A. Yes, the offeror would need to indicate in item 10 of the cover letter that their accounting system has not yet been reviewed by DCAA.

Q53. Can an extension be provided until 31 October 2008?

A. It is not anticipated that an extension will be granted. The current closing date of 20 October 2008 remains in effect.

Q54. Previously Seaport required Deltek software. Does that requirement exist with this RFP?

A. There is no specific software required under the Seaport e solicitation for the basic contract. If there are any specific requirements at the task order level, they will be identified in the task order solicitation.

Q55. Page 29, parg. H7 states "The Contractor agrees that a partial basis for award of this IDIQ is the list of team members (companies) proposed." Is the size of the team an important factor in the award? If so, what is considered optimum from the Government perspective?

A. The size of the team does not impact the evaluation of an offeror's proposal.

Q56. Page 75, parg. 5.3.1.1 states : "The Offeror must propose labor rates to establish ceiling prices for CLINs 1000, 4000, and 7000." Is there a standard template and what are the various labor categories? How do we submit the pricing template?

A. The rate proposed for CLIN 1000 must be the single highest fully burdened rate for a single labor category. This labor category can be from either the prime contractor or a team member. In the one page breakdown provided in the cost proposal, an offeror must show how the proposed rate was derived. This would include the labor category title and base hourly rate along with what rates were used to burden the proposed rate (overhead, fringe, G&A, etc). Actual labor categories and labor rates will be included in proposals that are submitted at the task order level.

Q57. Do the rates need to be DCAA rates? If we do not have DCAA rates can we still submit under this RFP?

A. The rate proposed must be the actual hourly labor rate from the most recent accounting year. In the cost proposal, the offeror will need to state whether this rate has been reviewed by DCAA. Failure to have DCAA approved rates would not prevent an offeror from submitting a proposal.

Q58. Page 76. parg. 5.4.1(a) states "...The Offeror's labor mix should be multi-disciplinary that identifies one key individual per Functional Area proposed." Can the same individual be used for more than one Function or Area? For example, an individual directing a project covering two different areas under the same contract.

**A. Yes, the same individual can be used in multiple Functional Areas. The narrative in the technical proposal will need to discuss how the individual demonstrates capability in the areas.**

Q59. As with the previous question, can a contract covering multiple Areas and multiple Functions be used to meet the Past Performance for more than one Function or Area?

**A. Yes, the same contract can be used for multiple Functional Areas.**

Q60. Page 77 parg. 5.6 states" To be considered in one or more zones you must have held or currently hold a prime contract, subcontract ...." If the past performance is not with the Government but a large prime, what additional support is needed to qualify under the Past Performance arena?

**A. In order to demonstrate presence, the prime contractor must have either: a local office in the zone, received a contract or subcontract from an ordering activity in the zone, or have a team member that has a local office in the zone. Having received a contract from a large company located in the zone would not meet the presence criteria.**

Q61. Page 76. parg. 5.4.1(a) Is a Past Performance required for each labor category or can a single Past Performance cover more than 1 labor category?

**A. The contracts listed on Table A will be used for past performance - it does not cover a specific labor category.**

Q62. An answer to a question in last spring's solicitation says that the Past Performance is considered meaningful if it is performed in DoD. Are the Intelligence Agencies considered part of DoD? Can we include equivalent work done in the Commercial sector or in State and Local Governments?

A. It is desired that the work was performed for one of the authorized ordering offices under Seaport e. Work performed for other than the Navy, Marine Corps or DTRA activities may be considered meaningful if it is equivalent to the work described in the Seaport e Statement of Work and performed for DoD activities. DoD refers to any of the Department of Defense activities such as Army, Air Force, etc.

Q63. Table A - We are interpreting the "Prime or Sub" column as the place to put the name of the team member who performed on the contract, right?

A. No, in this column you would enter whether you were the prime contractor or subcontractor under the referenced contract. If the contract belongs to a team member, you would enter the team member's name in the column.

Q64. Table A - We are not familiar with a Navy Mission Area. How would the Mission Area be filled in for say a contract with the Naval Surface Warfare Center. Crane Division. NVEO Devices and Chemical, Biological, Explosive Detection Systems Acquisition, Engineering and Industrial Base Support?

A. You need to review the document describing the mission areas for the various ordering offices and list the mission area that is most relevant to the contract being listed in Table A.

Q65. Table A - For other governmental contracts to be referenced, to what level should we be going for the Mission Area? Is there are possible other reference like Mission\_Areas we can draw upon?

A. The mission areas must be from the document provided as a link in Table A. There are no other documents that should be used.

Q66. Table A - When filling out sheet 2, we assume that degree means college degree. Is that to be the highest degree obtained by the individual or all?

A. The entry should be the highest degree that the individual has obtained.

Q67. Table A - Do the people named on sheet 2 need to work out of an office in that Zone?

A. Yes, the individuals should work in an office in the zone being proposed.

Q68. Table A - Must we have at least one of our employees included on sheet 2 for each of the functional areas we claim on Sheet 1?

A. The individual listed can be from either the prime contractor or the team member. There should be a good mixture representing both the prime contractor and the team members.

Q69. Table A - Must we have at least one of our team members in that zone included on sheet 2 for those functional areas mentioned on sheet 1 when we do not have an employee for that functional area?

A. If a team member is being used to demonstrate technical capability in a functional area, then the employee listed on page 2 of Table A would be from the team member.

Q70. In order to balance our time performing on existing contracts and working on RFPs for immediate business with the time to respond to this solicitation we need to know if we show our relevant experience in two or three of the functional areas that we will be able to win an award even though we could qualify in others if we spent more time on answering this solicitation? That is to say, if we were to be awarded a prime designation on the basis of the two or three we document, could we pursue solicitations for Task Orders in the other functional areas?

A. If your company receives a contract award, it would include all 22 Functional Areas to allow for hiring new employees with experience in additional areas or adding team members with the expertise. When responding to a task order solicitation, your company would need to demonstrate technical capability for the effort being solicited.

Q.71. My company is a certified 8(a) and we are considering submitting our Seaport-e Prime proposal response. How long does the process take to be approved once we submit our response? If we get our response in

sooner than the deadline of 10/20, is that at all helpful to speeding up the approval process?

A. As stated on page 72 of the solicitation, it is anticipated that awards will be made from this Rolling Admissions solicitation on 05 January 2009. All awards will be made at the same time.

Q.72 Is the vehicle open to any other DoD agencies other than those listed in Section 1.1 of the SOW?

A. Only those activities listed under the "Ordering" clause contained on page 15 of the solicitation are authorized ordering offices under Seaport e. If an activity is not listed, then they are not able to use Seaport e for placing task orders.