

**N00039-14-R-0400
Questions & Answers**

#	Reference	Question	Answer/Resolution
1	RFP	Is work to be performed under this contract subject to the Service Contract Act, Walsh-Healy Act, and/or the Davis Bacon Act? None of the associated FAR clauses are included.	Please see Clause 52.222-20 Contrats for Materials, Supplies, Articles, and Equipment Exceeding \$15,000 (MAY 2014)
2	Paragraph M-307(c)(2)(iv)	We interpret paragraph M-307(c)(2)(iv) to require offerors to price subcontractors at an amount equal to or greater than the amount of past performance that subcontractor contributes to meeting the past performance thresholds. For example, if a subcontractor contributes a single contract with a value of \$50M toward the shore based threshold, the prime must include \$50M of effort for that subcontractor in their bid. Is this interpretation correct?	Yes.
3	Paragraph L-317(b)(3)(A)(ii)	Paragraph L-317(b)(3)(A)(ii) requires offerors to submit a copy of the “signed cover sheet” of letters of commitment executed with small business subcontractors. What is the required content of the “signed cover sheet?”	The signed cover sheet should indicate the title of the agreement to include the names of those who signed the agreement and the name of the company they represent.
4	L-317(b)(3)(A)(iii), M-307(c)(2)(i), and M-307(c)(2)(ii)	Paragraphs L-317(b)(3)(A)(iii), M-307(c)(2)(i), and M-307(c)(2)(ii) define “relevant experience” as ship, submarine, and shore C4ISR or other like electronic systems installation experience taking place after 1 October 2006. Paragraph L-325(a) requires offerors to “provide information on no more than seven previous Government contracts... performed after 1 October 2009.” Request the government clarify this requirement.	This will be corrected by Amendment to conform to read “1 October 2006” and “ten previous contracts”.
5	Paragraph L-325(a)	Paragraph L-325(a) limits the number of past performance references to 7. Paragraph M-307(c)2(i) specifies “No more than ten (10) total Reference Information Sheets may be submitted per proposal.” As paragraph M-307(c)2 establishes the evaluation criteria for “Relevant Past Performance,” paragraphs L-325(a) and M-307(c)2(i) provide conflicting direction. Request the government clarify the requirement.	This will be corrected by Amendment to conform to read “1 October 2006” and “ten previous contracts”.

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6	Paragraph M-307(c)(2)(ii)	<p>Paragraph M-307(c)(2)(ii) of the RFP defines relevant experience in terms of dollar thresholds to be achieved by offerors since 1 October 2006 (prime and subcontractor experience combined in no more than 7 contracts). Although we are a premier provider of ship, submarine, and shore installations, we are unable achieve the thresholds required for four key reasons. First, almost all ship and shore C4ISR installation work being done in the past 5 years has been performed under the four Global C4ISR installation contract vehicles; by shipyards during CNO availabilities; or on contracts set-aside for small business. Almost \$500M, alone, has been awarded to the four Global C4ISR incumbents since January 2011. Second, with a limited number of contract vehicles allowed, vehicles used must have significant dollar values. Very few installation contracts issued in the past 8 years, outside of the Global C4ISR contracts, have been of large value. Three, there are few large companies in this industry with which to team (and thus to achieve the required thresholds), as almost all are current teammates with the Global C4ISR installation contract holders, with exclusive, binding teaming agreements. Fourth, offerors are required to share the work with subcontractors on a basis equal to the subcontractor's contribution to the thresholds. With the limited margins yielded on the Global C4ISR installation contracts, publically traded corporations are unwilling to enter into such advance commitments. We see the large value of the thresholds and the associated challenges to be significant impediments to competition and counter to SPAWAR's stated intentions for the on-ramp competition. We believe that without relieving the burdens of these thresholds it is unlikely that the government will achieve any on-ramp competition. Will the government remove the dollar thresholds and allow companies to compete on the basis and merits of their past performance consistent with all other solicitations for similar services?</p>	<p>The Gate will remain in the solicitation with changes made as a result of requests fielded at industry day. The number of references was increased from seven to ten and the number of years to qualify as experience was increased by three years. The subcontract experience to date under this contract nearly meets the Gate total. This subcontractor experience does not include additional subcontractor performance under predecessor contracts prior to the current MAC or the experience that qualifies as "other like electronic systems installation experience" under other contracts. The Government expects teaming arrangements that will be competitive on all platforms. If you are unsure about what qualifies as "other like electronic systems installation experience" offerors are may ask questions prior to the close of the solicitation.</p>
7	RFP Attachment 2, paragraph 3c	<p>The base qualification requirements for the Shore Antenna Installation Project Engineer, Level 4 are those specified for the Inside Plant (ISP) Project Engineer, Level 3. There is no such labor category. This same relationship exists for the labor categories Shore Outside Plant Cabling Infrastructure Installation Project Engineer, Level 4; Shore Antenna Installation Project Engineer, Level 3; Shore Outside Plant Cabling Infrastructure Installation Project Engineer, Level 3; Shore Antenna Installation Project Engineer, Level 2; and Shore Outside Plant Cabling Infrastructure Installation Project Engineer, Level 2. Request the government clarify these requirements.</p>	<p>Each labor category is shown on Attachment 6A and 6B. Attachment 2 lists labor categories broken down to individual areas of expertise and the required qualification for each area. The assignment of hours within each labor category is a determination made by the offeror.</p>

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8	Attachment 2 labor category 4k	Database Administrator requires candidates to have “two years of professional database development experience utilizing the same software that will support this contract.” What database software applications are used to support this contract?	This requirement was reviewed and Attachment 2 will be changed by Amendment to remove “4k. Database Administrator” from the Engineer/Scientist 3 Labor Category. The hours in Attachments 6A and 6B will not change.
9	RFP Clause M-307	Does a Reference Information Sheet need to be submitted for each task order under a contract or does a single contract count as one reference and therefore requires only one reference information sheet?	Per RFP Clause M-307, “A separate Reference Information Sheet shall be submitted for each contract reference.” Individual task orders under a referenced contract do not count as additional references.
10	Attachment 15	On page 5, the RFP states: This is a multiple award, Indefinite-Delivery Indefinite-Quantity (IDIQ) type contract with the flexibility to issue Fixed-Price Incentive (Firm Target), Cost-Plus-Incentive-Fee, Firm-Fixed-Price and Cost-Plus-Fixed-Fee task orders, and Section B is aligned with this approach. There does not seem to be a reference to a sample task. There is an Attachment 15 that makes reference to a the Sea Enterprise II contract (indicating that past performance must be under this contract) and also makes reference to a sample task; it provides instructions in a Price Risk Model for selecting between CPIF and FPIF - these instructions do not appear to apply. Can the Government please clarify its intent? Recommendation: Amend the RFP to remove Attachment 15.	Per RFP Clause C-326, Attachment 15 is an example of the evaluation criteria that may be utilized under the Global C4ISR Installations Contract (also referred to by some as the Sea Enterprise II Contract) for task order competitions. There is no requirement in this RFP for a sample task.
11	Attachment 10	The proposal checklist indicates that a copy of the proposal should be provided to DCAA. We have not found instructions in Section L along these lines, and it is also not clear whether (or which) subcontractors also are required to make such a submission. Please provide clarification.	The checklist is provided as a tool for offerors to ensure that the evaluation process goes smoothly. There is no requirement for the offeror to provide a copy of its cost proposal to DCAA. That being said, the RFP does state that the cost proposal (which includes prime contractor and subcontractor costs) will be compared to DCAA recommended rates. Therefore, it would be in the offeror’s best interest for both the prime and all subcontractors to submit their cost proposals to DCAA.

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12	RFP Clause C-326	In the Task Order Procedures in Section C, the RFP indicates for each installation task and subtask identified by a Government tracking number, the contractor shall provide an Installation Cost Estimate Worksheet that provides total estimated Installation Design, Installation Production and System Turnover Costs. This form does not appear to be in the RFP. Can the Government please provide for information purposes?	The Cost Estimate Spreadsheet (CES) mentioned in C-326 is a living document that is required for Task Order proposals. The CES is not a part of the basic contract and will not be provided with the RFP.
13	RFP Clause H-349	Clause H-349 indicates that the contractor will have to support all material costs with submission of paid subcontractor invoices. If the offeror has an approved accounting/billing system, and the Government can audit at any time, why is this additional administrative burden necessary? Will [sic] the Government consider removing this requirement?	No, the Government will not be removing this requirement.
14	RFP Clause 52.216-10	FAR 52.216-10 addresses withholding of incentive fee at an amount not to exceed 15% of the total or \$100K, whichever is less. Is this intended to apply at the contract or the task order level?	Payment of fee/profit under this contract is made at the task order level.
15	Provisions L-317 and L-325	Regarding Volume I, Section A requires us to submit completed Reference Information Sheets (using Attachment 7) and the completed RFP Attachment 12, Gate Review Matrix. Section C requires us to submit artifacts in accordance with Provision L-325, which in turn requires us to submit completed Reference Information Sheets (using Attachment 7), as well as send out questionnaires to our customers. Are we to submit the Attachment 7 forms in both Sections A and C? If not, what is to be provided in Section C?	Yes, Attachment 7 should be used as specified in the RFP.
16	Attachment 7	Regarding block 15 of the Reference Information Sheet, is it necessary to submit CPARS reports for a citation if the contract is in the PPIRS database, since PPIRS includes CPARS data? Please note that some subcontractors prefer not to provide CPARS reports to the offering prime for inclusion in the prime proposal.	L-325 states "The offeror shall furnish the information required in paragraph (b) of this provision or submit a statement that past performance information for an individual contract resides in the Past Performance Information Retrieval System (PPIRS)." It is the Government's expectation that the offeror would include the statement regarding PPIRS in the Reference Information Sheet (Attachment 7).

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17	RFP	As discussed at the Industry Day, we have found that many industry partners have signed exclusive teaming agreements with the incumbent contractors leading to an inordinate amount of time to assemble a viable team. Will the Government extend the due date to afford adequate time to allow the most optimal labor rate negotiations and compliant proposal preparation?	The Government has extended the proposal due date to 03 November 2014. All questions must be submitted No Later Than 24 October 2014.
18	Attachment 6A	On the Team Hours tab in the Government provided Prime Pricing Model, the Government inserted formulas which duplicate the hours allocation for subcontractors in Years 2-4 for the Professional Categories at Contractor Sites (Atlantic and Pacific)(Reference cells K8-N20, K130-N142, S8-V20, S130-V142, AA8-AD20, AA130-AD142). Because the Total Hours to be allocated fluctuate in each contract period and the Prime Contractor is limited by the formulas shown, the Prime Contractor is allocated fewer hours in Years 2-4 than may be intended. Please clarify the Government's intent: (a) Are these formulas intended to be in these cells? Should the hours be allocated similar to other labor categories without a duplication of Year 1 hours? Is it the Government's intent that the allocation of hours to subcontractors for Professional Categories at Contractor Sites remain stable across all contract periods? Alternatively, are Offerors permitted to modify the formulas in these cells to allocate hours based on the Offerors' intended structure?	The Government provided prime pricing model is correct. Offerors are reminded to read the directions tab in Attachment 6A. In the Directions tab there are 9 assumptions. Assumption number 7 is: "Contractor Site hours at Atlantic and Pacific are the assigned the same for all years for prime and subcontractors". Direction number one is: "If the assumptions are valid, fill in only those cells that are highlighted in yellow, beginning with the company name at the top of the Summary Sheet." Direction number two is: " <u>If the assumptions are not valid, modify appropriate formulas throughout the spreadsheet. Identify changes by highlighting the all cells with changed formulas in YELLOW, describing the changes as well as the reasons for those changes in the space provided at the bottom of the Summary sheet.</u> "

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19	RFP	Section L does not contain many instructions as to what information is required from subcontractors, although it does state that subcontractors are to submit electronic copies. We have only been able to identify L-328 which states that (d) Subcontractor labor hours at all tiers should be shown in the same manner as described in paragraphs (1) through (3) above. This requires subcontractors to provide direct labor rates related to solicitation labor categories, a statement of the subcontractor's labor category and position description for each of the Government labor categories, and any additional direct labor categories, qualifications and related costs. We have the following questions: (a) Is this the only information required, and is it required from all of them, regardless of value? (b) Attachment 6B requires the same level of detail in the price proposal as the prime, which implies that all subcontractors will need to submit sealed packages, regardless of value. Can the Government please confirm that all subcontractors, regardless of value, are required to submit a fully disclosed proposal?	Yes, all subcontractors, regardless of value, are required to submit a fully disclosed proposal.
20	RFP	Regarding the Government's answer to Question 15, we do understand that offerors are to complete the Attachment 7 forms as specified in the RFP. However, the question submitted was intended to clarify whether those Attachment 7 forms are to be submitted in Section A, Section C, or both. Please advise.	The RFP states that Attachment 7 is required for Section A and Section C. Offerors shall follow the instructions provided in the RFP.
21	RFP	Regarding the Government's answer to Question 16, please understand that our question was more about the CPARS reports than about the PPIRS information. Inasmuch as the PPIRS data base includes CPARS data, may we indicate (in Block 15 of the Reference Information Sheet) that our CPARS data for that citation is contained in PPIRS? This is requested specifically because some subcontractors prefer not to provide their CPARS reports, which they consider proprietary, for inclusion in the prime's proposal.	Yes.
22	Referenced documents in the SOW	May I have the SPAWAR Shore Installation Process Handbook (SIPH) and NAVSEA Navy Modernization Process Management and Operations Manual (NMP-MOM a.k.a. "One Book")?	These documents have been posted on the e-commerce website for this RFP.

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23	RFP, L-317	Please confirm that the minimum font size of 10 pt does not apply to tables and graphics.	Minimum font size does not apply to tables and graphics with embedded text that are proportional to and inherently a part of the table or graphic. Font size shall not be used to game the number of pages. Printed proposals with illegible text may result in a negative impact to the technical rating.
24	RFP, L-317	Please confirm that one 1-page acronyms list is permitted per contract reference, for a total of 10 pages of acronyms for 10 contract references.	Incorrect. The RFP reads, "One (1) acronym list (not to be evaluated) of not more than one (1) page may be submitted and is not counted toward the page count requirement (no information on this page will be evaluated)." The RFP allows for one (1) extra page for acronyms and does not allow for one acronym list per reference.

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25	RFP, M-307	Please confirm that key personnel are identified by their participation at the oral presentation and do not need to be named in the proposal submission on November 3.	<p>Incorrect. L-317 states, “All nine (9) personnel participating in the oral presentation shall be 100 percent committed/priced in the cost proposal.”</p> <p>M-307 also states, “Realistic personnel compensation will be determined by utilizing actual annual salaries of key personnel as representative of the anticipated labor costs, and these rates will be used to arrive at a realistic cost for evaluation purposes.”</p> <p>Individuals who arrive for participation in the oral presentation will be cross-checked with the cost proposal to ensure compliance with L-317. This ensures the team participating is also the team proposed for pricing purposes. Without names in the proposal the USG has no other way to confirm the participants are priced in the proposal.</p>

The questions above are all of the questions received to date. If you submitted a question and it is not listed above then we did not receive it. Please re-submit it and we will confirm receipt.