Q1. Referring to PERFORMANCE WORK STATEMENT (PWS) FOR TASK ORDER 0001 OF THE LINK 11 AND LINK 22 DATA TERMINAL SET DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION IDIQ CONTRACT - Section 3.1.3 HMI (CLIN 0100, RDTE) item r: "Manual initiation/cessation of network operations including the enabling/disabling of the NTDS interface to the C2P/KG-40" Some network operational modes of a Link 11 Data Terminal Set can be enabled or disabled manually. The most common operation, the Picket Roll Call, usually runs continuously. If operator selects "Roll Call" as "Picket" (in the HMI), the Data Terminal Set is automatically enabled and can only be disabled either by changing picket to NCS, or by changing roll call to another mode. This is reasonable because after a data terminal restart (e. g. after a power outage) the data terminal returns into operation as picket in roll call without requiring user attention. Manual cessation or initiation of roll call at a picket is not required in MIL-STD-188-203-1A. In the case of picket roll call, the above requirement of manual initiation / cessation of network operations seems to be in contradiction to common behavior. Is this intended?

Answer:
The requirement as written reflects the Government's intention.

Q2: Section 3.1.1, item k, of the PWS for PTO 0001 says: "The Data Terminal shall provide a wireline interface to a UHF radio, in accordance with MIL-STD-188-114 (RS-232) and the AN/USQ-YYY Common Shipboard Data Terminal Set (CSDTS) Specification, to support a Satellite Link 11 capability." What section(s) in "AN/USQ-YYY Common Shipboard Data Terminal Set (CSDTS) Specification" list the detailed technical requirements for "provision of a wireline interface to a UHF radio to support a Satellite Link 11 capability"?

Answer:
The first sentence in section 3.1.1, item k, should read "The Data Terminal shall provide a digital interface to a UHF radio, in accordance with MIL-STD-188-114 (RS-232) and the AN/USQ-YYY Common Shipboard Data Terminal Set (CSDTS) Specification, to support a Satellite Link 11 capability". A wireline interface is not required. *The PWS will be updated accordingly.*

Q3: Section "3.2.1.6.3 Interface Characteristics" of CSDTS Here Table IX lists the interface signals including RTS, CTS, DTR and DCD. We understand that these signals shall be provided.
Where is it specified:
- how these four signals shall be used?
- how the input lines (CTS, DCD) shall be observed?
- how the output lines (RTS, DTR) shall be driven?
- what action shall be taken if behavior of these signals is other than expected/allowed/specified?

Answer:
- how these four signals shall be used?
RTS is defined in MIL-STD-188-114A, section 5.4.2.1.
CTS is defined in MIL-STD-188-114A, section 5.4.2.2.
DTR (Data Terminal Ready): informs the Terminal that the Computer is ready to be connected to another Computer/Phone/etc.
DCD is defined in MIL-STD-188-114A, section 5.4.2.3, but is identified as "Receive input control".

- how the input lines (CTS, DCD) shall be observed?
The PWS will be updated to include a requirement to display the status of the signals.

- how the output lines (RTS, DTR) shall be driven?
They are driven by the Data Terminal.

- what action shall be taken if behavior of these signals is other than expected/allowed/specified?
No specific action is required other than to display the status of the signals in accordance with the new requirement.

Q4: Section 3.2.1.6.3.1 "Interface Protocol" of CSDTS states: "… Information shall be transferred at 2400 bps, synchronous." Section 3.1.1, item k states: "The Data Terminal shall be capable of using both standard RS-232 timing and synchronous RS-232 timing". Is standard RS-232 timing equal to asynchronous RS-232 timing?

Answer:
The PWS requirement will be updated to the following: "The Data Terminal shall be capable of using RS-232 synchronous timing in two ways; one where the data communications equipment generates both the transmit clock and the receive clock and second where the data communications equipment generates the receive clock for the received data and the Data Terminal generates both the transmit clock and the transmit data"

Q5: The CSDTS uses the term "digital data link interface" to refer to the serial port. The CSDTS uses the terms "satellite modem" and "wireline modem" in order to refer to the two possible use cases of the one digital interface. The Potential Task Order 001 PWS section 3.1.1, item k states: "The Data Terminal shall provide a wire-line interface to a UHF radio … to support a Satellite Link 11 capability". Is this sentence meant to be "The Data Terminal shall provide a digital interface to a UHF radio … to support a Satellite Link 11 capability"?

Answer:
See the response to question #2.

Q6: CLEW fast and SLEW have a data rate of 2250 bit/s CLEW slow has a data rate of 1364 bit/s. The digital interface has a net data rate of 2250 bit/s (2400 bit/s * 30 data bits / 32-bit-word). CLEW fast, SLEW, and the digital interface have a nominally equal net data rate. Is the Mixed Mode useable with the analog mode set to SLEW? Is the Mixed Mode useable with the analog mode set to CLEW fast? Is the Mixed Mode useable with the analog mode set to CLEW slow? In case mixed mode should be usable with analog mode set to CLEW slow, how shall the Data Terminal handle the data rate difference?

Answer:
Is the Mixed Mode useable with the analog mode set to SLEW? Yes.
Is the Mixed Mode useable with the analog mode set to CLEW fast? Yes.
Is the Mixed Mode useable with the analog mode set to CLEW slow? Yes.
In case Mixed Mode should be usable with analog mode set to CLEW slow, how shall the Data Terminal handle the data rate difference?
The Government anticipates that the Contractor will develop a Data Terminal design that handles the data rate difference and that the design will be presented at the Data Terminal Design Reviews.

Q7: Is section 3.2.1.6.4 Digital Network Test Modes, and its corresponding subsections, of CSDTS a requirement?

Answer:
Yes

Q8: Section 3.1.1, item k of PWS PTO 001 says: "The Data Terminal shall interface with a satellite modem, such as an AN/WSC-3, in order to enable the exchange of Link-11/TADIL-A data over satellite links." Where is the interface for the satellite modem interface specified?

Answer:
The satellite modem interface is specified in AN/USQ-YYY Common Shipboard Data Terminal Set (CSDTS) Specification, section 3.2.1.6.3 (Interface Characteristics).

Q9: The PTO 001 PWS Section 3.9.1. “Classroom and On-The-Job Training” identifies a significant amount of potential effort by the Contractor, but the expected level of support (quantity, duration, location etc.) is not provided. Can the Government please provide the assumed level of support anticipated by the Contractor?

Answer:
PWS section 3.9.1 will be updated to quantify the level of support required by the Contractor.

Q10: …referring to Potential Task Order 001 PWS, dated 6-APR-2015, Section 1.1 Introduction: "This effort will include the following types of work: ..." Please confirm our below understanding: This effort to develop the Data Terminals, HMI software, documentation, etc. will include the following:

(a) Section 3.1.3. HMI (CLIN 0100, RDTE),
"The Data Terminal SHALL display the following information and indications to the operator to support operations, test and maintenance:
m. Software version"
Is this correct or should the PWS be changed to:
“m. Software version of HMI software”?

Answer:
The intent is to display the version of all installed software and firmware in the Data Terminal and the Data Terminal HMI software. *The PWS will be updated to reflect this.*

(b) Section 3.4. Software Development, Maintenance, and Test (CLIN 0100, RDTE),
item f "Support Government testing as required" Do we understand this requirement to mean, “Support Government testing as required in section 3.3.6.2”?

Answer:
Section 3.4, item f of the PWS will be updated to “Support Government testing as required in section 3.4.7 of the PWS”.

(c) Section 3.4. Software Development, Maintenance, and Test (CLIN 0100, RDTE),
item h "Support delivery and installation of Data Terminals at customer sites" Do we understand this requirement to mean, “Support delivery and installation of Data Terminals at customer sites as required in section 3.5.3?”

Answer:
Yes. *The PWS will be updated accordingly.*

(d) Section 3.4.7. Software Acceptance Testing (CLIN 0200, OPN),
"The contractor SHALL provide technical support for IV&V testing of the delivered capability against the approved Acceptance Test Procedures." Do we understand this requirement to mean, “The contractor SHALL provide technical support for IV&V testing of the delivered capability against the approved Acceptance Test Procedures as required in section 3.3.6.2”?

Answer:
See response to question 10b.

Q11: Is there a cut-off date for submission of questions on this RFP?

Answer: Yes, the cut-off date for questions is 30 April 2015. The Government cannot guarantee answers will be provided after this date. Also, should questions come in after this date anyway, the Government does not anticipate extending the proposal due date because of them.