

**Computational Sciences Research and Development Services
Highlights #1**

Introduction

This DRAFT Statement of Work (SOW) highlights key aspects of Ames Research Center's Computational Sciences Research requirement.

CSRDS Requirement and History: This requirement is for research, development and infusion support services to the Computational Sciences Division, Code IC, is part of the Information Sciences and Technology Directorate. Code IC conducts scientific research, develops technologies, builds applications, and infuses and deploys advanced information systems technology into NASA missions and other federal government projects.

Contract History: In 2000, a five (5) year Cost Plus Award Fee (CPAF) contract, NAS2-00065, consisting of a two-year base period, one one-year option, and one two-year option was awarded to QSS Group, Inc. This current contract includes research and development support for fourteen technical areas. This contract has historically been a small business set aside under the Small Business Administration's 8(a) program. The contract expires February 28, 2005.

Seeking Feedback

There are several specific areas throughout this Highlights #1 document where the Government is actively seeking feedback from the vendor community and, particularly, from firms who previously expressed interest in this procurement as a result of the sources-sought synopsis published in February 2004.

1) NAICS Code Size Standard

There have been questions from interested parties about the small business size stated for the subject procurement, 500 or fewer employees, under NAICS code 541710 – Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences. They have requested that the size standard be changed to 1000 or fewer employees for Space Vehicles and Guided Missiles, their Propulsion Units, their Propulsion Units Parts, and their Auxiliary Equipment and Parts. Based on industry's interest, we have reexamined the size standard and the research and development support under this requirement and determined the following:

The NAICS code will remain 541710, although we are referencing the following two elements:

- Aircraft Research and Development
- Space Vehicles Research and Development

The size standard determined as the most appropriate is 1500 or fewer employees.

2) Statement of Work

The SOW has been expanded to include eighteen technical areas: 1. System Administration, 2. Program Support, 3. Automated Learning and Data Mining, 4. Automated Software Engineering, 5. Autonomous Systems and Agents, 6. Intelligent Mechanisms and Robotics, 7. Intelligent Collaboration and Assistant Systems, 8. Information Structures and Design, 9. Human Centered Computing, 10. Aviation Safety and Security, 11. Systems Health and Safety, 12. Research in Intelligent Vehicle Automation, 13. Adaptive Control Technologies, 14. Evolvable Systems, 15. Smart Systems, 16. Extension of the Human Senses, 17. Information Physics, 18. Human Factors Research Support. Feedback is requested concerning any areas of the SOW that require further clarification (i.e. technical clarification, concerns with pricing, additional information needed, etc.).

3) Contract Type

The Government is considering a Cost-Plus Award Fee contract. The Government is considering the award fee evaluation to include the following categories: management, technical performance, cost, and schedule. Feedback is requested on this contract type and how it might incentivize performance.

4) Contract Term

The Government is considering a longer term contract, six to ten years. Feedback is requested on the Contractor's ability to provide accurate costing for this extended period.

5) Oral Presentations

The Government is considering the use of oral presentations for the offerors' proposed organization, management, staffing plan, and key personnel plans. The oral presentations may also include a requirement to respond to sample Task Orders in real time.

6) Special Clauses or FAR deviations

The significant special clauses that are anticipated in the solicitation and subsequent contracts will be as follows:

ARC 52.203-91 (Limited) Release of Contractor Confidential Business Information (CBI)

ARC 52.227-93 Management and Protection of Data

ARC 52.227-96 Handling of Data

Please reference the following website for the above clauses:

http://server-mpo.arc.nasa.gov/Services/Proc/ProcDocs/Center_Clauses/Index.html

CSRDS Highlights Document #1

7) Projected Milestones for the Acquisition Cycle

Issuance of Draft Solicitation	May 2004
Pre-proposal Conference	Late May 2004
Issuance of Final Solicitation	July 2004
Proposal(s) due	September 2004
Contract Award and Phase-in	Early January 2005

Ames is seeking feedback in various areas of this CSRDS Highlights Document #1 as set forth above. There are several specific areas where the Government is actively seeking feedback from the vendor community and, particularly, from firms who previously expressed interest in this procurement as a result of the sources-sought synopsis published in February 2004. The Government requests that potential offerors submit feedback related to this procurement no later than Monday, April 19, 2004. The comments shall be sent electronically to the Contracting Officer at Lupe.M.Velasquez@nasa.gov