

GGSG Final RFP Questions and Response – Set #1

Question #1: What format and version are DORIS data provided in?

Response #1: DORIS data are provided in two formats, depending on the generation of receiver on-board the satellite. DORIS data from all satellites are provided in DORIS format, currently V2.2 (<ftp://ftp.ids-doris.org/pub/ids/data/doris22.fmt>); the last update to this format specification was in 2004. The newer generation model of satellite receiver (currently flying on Jason-2 and CryoSat-2) provides data in both DORIS format and RINEX format (V3.0, ftp://ftp.ids-doris.org/pub/ids/data/RINEX_DORIS.pdf).

Question #2: Reference Section L, page 95, subparagraph (7). The RFP requires the offeror to complete Exhibit 13, SMALL BUSINESS SUBCONTRACTING PLAN GOALS. The RFP did not provide Exhibit 13; however, the example table on page 96 appears to comply with the requirements associated with the missing Exhibit. Are offerors to consider this table as the missing Exhibit 13, and modify as necessary?

Response #2: The government has reviewed your question and will issue Amendment #1 to correct this typo to update the Exhibit 13 to Exhibit F and to attach the appropriate Exhibit F that must be completed. This Exhibit F shall be submitted with the Small Business Subcontracting Plan and will be Excluded from the page restrictions.

Question #3: Reference paragraph L.13(b)(2) of the final RFP, and Question 17 and your response to the draft RFP. Subject paragraph makes two references to fonts to be used. The first reference is part of defining a page and the text on a page. The RFP states, "...using not smaller than 12 point type Times New Roman." This is clear and we expect to meet this requirement for the page text of our proposal. Our concern and confusion is of the second reference that states, "Text in Diagrams, charts, tables, art work and photographs shall be no smaller than 10 point." One could interpret this statement to imply that text in graphics, while at least 10 point in size, must also be "Times New Roman" as stated in the first font reference. Others could interpret that by not specifying a font style, offerors are free to choose the most appropriate style as long as it is no smaller than 10 point. We are asking for clarification that the second interpretation is correct and it is acceptable for our graphic artist to choose the most appropriate font style to make graphics easier to read and our message clearer. Our intent is not to circumvent

size standards or page limitations, but to make our proposal easier to read and less tiring to a reader.

Recommendation: That the phrase, “Text in Diagrams, charts, tables, art work and photographs shall be no smaller than 10 point” be interpreted to mean offerors are free to select an appropriate font style in proposal graphics.

Response #3: The Government has reviewed and considered your comment and hereby clarifies that the Government’s intent is to have all text fonts be Times New Roman and Amendment #1 will reflect this clarification.

Question #4: Regarding L.17(b), the RFP requires that “The Offeror shall instruct each of its references to return the questionnaire directly to the Government in a sealed envelope.” Will it be acceptable for the government to receive these questionnaires via facsimile or email? We find that many of our references prefer to email responses to these questionnaires and often do so despite our request that they use the addressed envelopes that we give them.

Response #4: Yes, Draft RFP Question #32 answered this as follows: The government has reviewed and considered your request, and will allow for Past Performance Questionnaires to be faxed to the Contracting Officer at 301-286-5373 or emailed at Jennifer.A.Oconnell@nasa.gov.

Question #5: Would the Government consider relaxing the Mission Suitability page limit from 80 pages to 100? The RFP is requiring a substantial amount of data, and it is extremely difficult to provide a detailed, fully compliant and responsive proposal within this limited page restriction.

Response #5: The Government has reviewed and considered your comment, however, the language will remain unchanged. The Government’s 80 page limitation is adequate for the Mission Suitability section.

Question #6: RFP Section L, paragraph L.9 states in part, “The compensation plan shall include the salaries/wages, fringe benefits and leave programs proposed for each of these categories of labor.” RFP Section M, paragraph M.1 states in part, “As part of their proposals, offerors will submit a total compensation plan setting forth salaries and fringe benefits proposed for the professional employees who will work under the contract.” How does the Government desire salaries/wages to be provided? Are you anticipating a range (Minimum & Maximum) for each labor category?

Response #6: The government has reviewed and considered your comment and the salaries/wages for the total compensation plan can be proposed as a range of minimum and maximum for each labor category.