

National Aeronautics & Space Administration
Goddard Space Flight Center
Wallops Flight Facility
Wallops Island, VA 23337-5099



July 27, 2012

Request for Information
BACKGROUND:

THIS IS A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), Wallops Flight Facility, is seeking qualified sources capable of performing aircraft program management and maintenance support services. In addition, NASA is seeking capabilities from all categories of SB for the purpose of determining the appropriate level of competition and/or SB subcontracting goals for this requirement.

NASA's Wallops Flight Facility (WFF) conducts international airborne scientific research in uniquely modified aircraft/UAS (unmanned aerial systems), and performs program support flights within the continental U.S. Aircraft/UAS are primarily based at Wallops Island, VA but assigned aircraft/UAS may be located at other NASA centers and deployed worldwide. Currently WFF operates the following aircraft/UAS:

- P-3 Orion – approximately 400 flight hours per year
- C-130 Hercules – approximately 150 flight hours per year
- C-23 Sherpa – approximately 350 flight hours per year
- B-200 King Air – approximately 300 flight hours per year
- Rigel UAS (modified Pioneer UAS) – under development

Other aircraft/UAS, but not limited to, such as UH-1 Huey, T-34 Mentor, and Global Hawk UAS may be added to the WFF inventory in the future.

All aircraft/UAS can be outfitted with unique, custom built instruments that are uploaded for specific missions which last an average duration of one week to several months. The average mission upload requires one month or more of installation of its payload, which necessitates the expertise of skilled and experienced technicians capable of:

- Maintaining both aircraft/UAS in accordance with NASA directives, which are based on OEM (original equipment manufacturer) procedures for both scheduled and unscheduled activities
- Installing and integrating project equipment to the aircraft/UAS. This involves mechanical and electrical interfaces with aircraft system and structures.
- Deploying with the aircraft/UAS for periods of up to, but not limited to, 12 weeks

Additionally, as there are more requirements to support remote sensing instruments than can be met by the NASA-owned aircraft/UAS, NASA requires the ability to acquire airborne flight support through commercial sources. Such aircraft/UAS would require the ability to be outfitted with a variety of remote sensing instruments, and be able to satisfy various requirements depending on the instrument such as specific airspeed or altitude regimes. Aircraft/UAS required would vary, but may include a variety of platforms including but not limited to the following:

- a. Twin engine turbo-prop such as Twin Otter or King Air
- b. Light jet such as Citation or Gulfstream
- c. Light-weight unmanned aerial systems capable of carrying 1+ pound payload

NASA is also seeking aircraft/UAS support for visiting and tenant aircraft at WFF. This support would include, but is not limited to, basic aircraft needs such as chocks, servicing of tires, struts, nitrogen/oxygen support, marshalling duties, etc.

Personnel Required:

2. Technicians required are: Airframe and Powerplant mechanics; at least two (2) of whom also hold a turbo-prop flight engineer rating in the Lockheed P-3 aircraft and/or Lockheed C-130 Hercules, and who have at least ten (10) years experience with maintenance and operations of aircraft. Applicable FAA certificate is required.
3. Experienced electricians who have at least ten (10) years experience with maintenance and operations of aircraft. Individuals are required to install and maintain the project equipment in working order during remote mission operations.
4. Experienced Flight Operations Project Manager, who is also an Airframe and Powerplant mechanic possessing at least ten (10) years experience with maintenance and operations of aircraft. This individual is required to stay on-site to oversee management of operations, provide manpower planning, scheduling, purchasing, resolution of employee related issues and other duties as assigned.
5. Experienced Technicians capable of supporting and maintaining aircraft records, Ground Support Equipment, Aviation Life Support Equipment, and aviation store keeping functions.
6. Highly experienced Flight Operations Project Manager, who is also an experienced P-3 Captain with a minimum of ten (10) years experience managing P-3 flight operations. This individual shall manage daily flight operations and crew requirements.
7. Experienced Flight Operations Project Manager who is also qualified to fly as Captain on the B-200, and who holds an FAA Air Transport Pilot Certificate. If the Project Manager is also an experienced P-3 Captain meeting the category above (bullet 6), then this requirement is satisfied.

All employees must be willing to travel for extended periods, both domestically and internationally. All flights are conducted under "Public Use" government operations, which are governed exclusively by NASA regulations. In addition to maintenance activities, the vendor

must have the capability and proven experience to directly or indirectly provide services (*use of subcontractors is acceptable*) for all aspects of the operation to include:

- Flight crew duties
- Engineering services
- Fabrication services
- Procurement of all parts sufficient to maintain the aircraft/UAS and instrument suites
- Networking with partners that can provide major structural repairs
- Obtainment of science support in the field to include gases and material support to maintain science instruments in the field

NASA intends to contract with only one vendor to supply all of the aircraft/UAS services and material support noted above, *however subcontracting for services in addition to maintenance activities as referenced above is acceptable*. It is anticipated that performance will be for five years, commencing on or after February 21, 2014.

Please send capability statements to the following point of contact and address:

NASA, Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), Wallops Flight Facility (WFF), **Attn: Finale M. Uptegrow**, Code 210.W, Wallops Island, VA 23337, telephone 757-824-2794, fax 757-824-1974, **e-mail address: Finale.M.Uptegrow@nasa.gov** on or before August 13, 2012 at 4:30 p.m. eastern standard time.

Email communication of this information is acceptable and encouraged. *This request is for information and source list planning purposes only and is not to be construed as a commitment by the Government nor will the Government pay for any information solicited.*

Finale M. Uptegrow
Contract Specialist