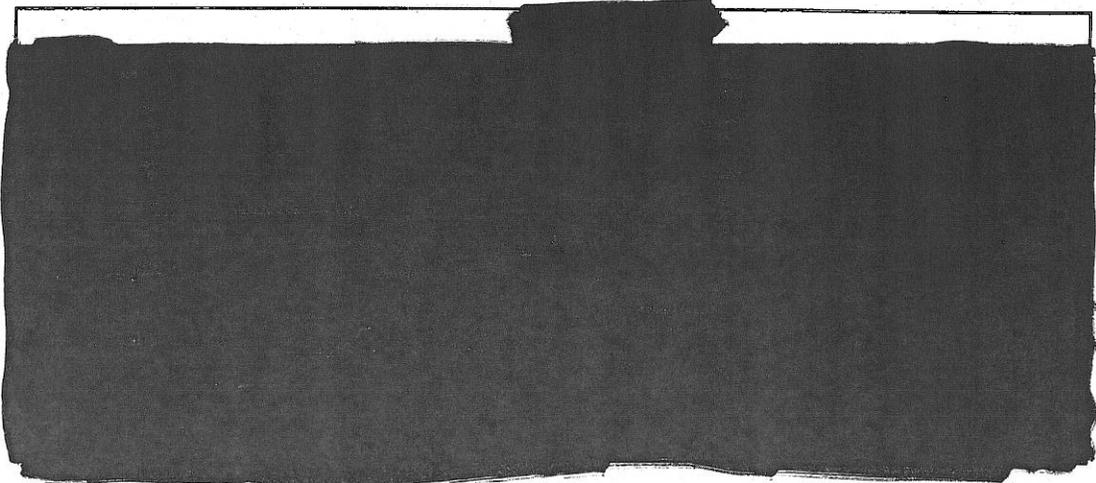


**NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION  
NASA SHARED SERVICES CENTER**

**LIMITED SOURCE JUSTIFICATION**

I recommend that the NASA Shared Services Center (NSSC) compete the Government's requirements with responsible value added resellers (VARs) holding GSA Federal Supply Schedule Contracts (August Schell Enterprises, Inc., Carahsoft Technology Corporation, DLT Solutions, LLC, and EC America, Inc.) in order to establish a Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) to procure Red Hat software licenses and maintenance (i.e., Red Hat Enterprise Linux Server, etc). The BPA will include a one year base period and three one year options (i.e., four years total). This action will be competed among GSA Schedule 70 Contracts GS-35F-0794M, GS-35F-0119Y, GS-35F-0511T, and GS-35F-4543G.

The total estimated cost of the BPA is [REDACTED] See the Independent Government Cost Estimate (IGCE) below for specific details on pricing by Center:



This BPA will provide a vehicle to procure new and recurring requirements for all NASA Centers beginning in the third quarter of fiscal year (FY) 14. The establishment of a BPA is an excellent option for NASA, as an agency, to conveniently and efficiently procure new products at a reduced cost. A Red Hat BPA will also offer the NSSC the ability to negotiate improved discounts, satisfy new and recurring customer requirements, reduce administrative costs by eliminating repetitive acquisition efforts and greatly reduce procurement lead time, thus allowing the NSSC the ability to be more responsive to the Agency's needs. Furthermore, this BPA will enable all NASA Centers to leverage their combined buying power to obtain advantageous pricing, while simultaneously allowing the Agency to centrally track and manage Red Hat product purchases. Transferability is also available for NASA Centers through the BPA for existing licenses that have been procured through other contract vehicles.

This recommendation is made pursuant to FAR 8.405-6((b)), Items Peculiar to One Manufacturer.

Alternative manufacturers are impractical for the following reasons:

1. Only select sources are capable of responding due to the unique specialized nature of the work as identified by the manufacturer, Red Hat. Various departments and organizations throughout the Agency require the inherent capabilities and features found only in the Red Hat Linux software to perform critical analyses needed to support NASA projects/programs. NASA Langley Research Center (LaRC) in particular leverages the inherent functionality of Red Hat Linux currently supporting segments of the LaRC Office of the Chief Information Officer's (OCIO) implementation of the Central Storage System (CSS). The CSS is LaRC's trusted archival system. The archival area of CSS offers users long-term data preservation with near-line

availability. The LaRC CSS provides data backup and restoration services for information systems in various communities at LaRC. Data in CSS backups offer data integrity and at-rest confidentiality of stored backup data. The LaRC CSS protects mission-critical data against loss in a catastrophic disaster furthermore; the CSS takes advantage of media redundancy to protect user data.

Additionally, the LaRC Engineering Directorate (ED) provides system concepts, advanced technology solutions, ground test systems, flight systems, and operational systems to support the research, technology, and development objectives of the agency's aeronautics, science, and exploration missions. LaRC ED's use of Red Hat Linux currently supports the Mars Science Laboratory and the Orion Crew Exploration Vehicle (CEV) missions. The LaRC Science Directorate is a unique NASA organization devoted to finding out how the earth and its atmosphere are interacting and changing -- and what that means for the health of the Earth and quality of human life. The Science Directorate's use of Red Hat Linux at the Atmospheric Science Data Center (ASDC) at LaRC greatly assist the ASDC with processing, archival, and distribution of NASA Earth science data in the areas of radiation budget, clouds, aerosols, and tropospheric chemistry. Other Centers that leverage Red Hat functionality include the NASA Johnson Space Center's (JSC) support of the International Space Station (ISS) Mission Evaluation Room (MER). The ISS MER is a flight control facility used by the JSC Engineering Directorate to support ISS vehicle operations and science projects.

2. As NASA has invested extensively in Red Hat Linux functionality within various projects/programs across the Agency it would be cost prohibitive and cause major disruption in software availability and work production if the current Red Hat solution is replaced. NASA civil servants and NASA contractors have made sizeable investments of infrastructure, training, and knowledge that leverage Red Hat Linux software functionality. Approximately \$5M has been invested in Red Hat Linux software that currently supports the various NASA programs and projects throughout the Agency today; however, this estimate does not include the cost of the infrastructure (servers/desktops) and labor that was used to implement and maintain the infrastructure and the various Red Hat instances within NASA. Every NASA contractor that supports or leverage Red Hat Linux to support the various programmatic missions throughout the Agency uses their Red Hat Linux implementation differently based on their unique contractor requirement and processes. However, this estimate does not fully account for a replacement product that may also require customization, expanded functionality, and training to meet the current capabilities and Mission needs that the various Red Hat Linux implementations provide to projects and programs. The high amount of risk and increased cost (in excess of \$5M to replace the Red Hat licenses and infrastructure that is currently in the Agency) offsets the perceived benefits gained by considering alternative solutions. As such, no other supplies or services will satisfy the agency's requirements. The IGCE includes costs that support maintenance support for NASA's current Red Hat license install base. The remaining portion of the estimate accounts for additional purchases derived from the initial software densities, support and training that was procured at various NASA Centers that are anticipated to incrementally increase once the centralize BPA is in place for the Agency's use.

Pursuant to FAR 8.404(a), BPAs and orders placed against a Multiple Award Schedule (MAS) are considered to be issued using full and open competition. Therefore, when establishing a BPA or placing orders under Federal Supply Schedule contracts using the procedures of 8.405, ordering activities shall not seek competition outside of the Federal Supply Schedules or synopsize the requirement.

Pursuant to FAR 8.404(d), GSA has already determined the prices of supplies and fixed-price services, and rates for services offered at hourly rates, under schedule contracts to be fair and reasonable. Therefore, ordering activities are not required to make a separate determination of fair and reasonable pricing, except for a price evaluation as required by 8.405-2(d). Since this requirement does not include a Statement of Work, the price evaluation will include a review of the GSA price list, a comparison of the proposed price with the IGCE and competition between the participating VARs.

Pursuant to FAR 8.002, NASA has previously leveraged GSA Schedule 70 as a means to satisfy requirements for the procurement of the referenced Red Hat software and associated maintenance. The Contracting Officer conducted market research on GSA E-buy on July 1, 2014. Market research confirmed that the aforementioned VARs offer Red Hat products and services on the schedule. In accordance with FAR Subpart 8.002, Priorities for use of Government Supply Sources, NASA will satisfy the priority of fulfilling these requirements by utilizing an existing GSA Supply Schedule contract that has already been competed and the prices determined to be fair and reasonable in lieu of soliciting on the open market. Based on the market research that was performed, Carahsoft Technology Corporation, DLT Solutions, LLC, and EC America, Inc.; three of four VARs that are capable of meeting the government requirements.

The Agency previously purchased Red Hat products and support under delivery order number NNX14MC21D, which was also conducted under limited sources conditions. The Agency will continue to examine the market in the future for alternative solutions before executing any subsequent contract action for the requirements herein. Due to the nature of the expressed requirement, there are no known actions which the Agency may take to give consideration to other manufacturers for the requirements described herein. Competing the requirements of Red Hat Software and associated support and support through August Schell Enterprises, Inc., Carahsoft Technology Corporation, DLT Solutions, LLC, and EC America, Inc., is the only reasonable approach.

I hereby certify the facts in this justification and any supporting data used for this justification are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge for Red Hat and other product offerings.

[Redacted Signature]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Enterprise License Management Team (ELMT)  
NASA Shared Services Center (NSSC)

I hereby certify that the above justification is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. In addition, I hereby determine that the order represents the best value to the Government consistent with FAR 8.404(d)

[Redacted Signature]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Contracting Officer

CONCURRENCE:

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Signature]  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Procurement Officer

APPROVAL:

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Signature]  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

NSSC Competition Advocate