Justification for Other than Full and Open Competition—

Brand-Name Description (FAR 6.303-2(b))

1. Identification of the agency and the contracting activity.

NASA Armstrong Flight Research Center, Code PS, Science Mission Directorate

NASA Armstrong Flight Research Center, Code A, Acquisition Management Office

2. Nature and/or description of the action being approved.

Brand Name Justification for Universal Avionics aircraft parts for the UAV/SAR Project.

3. Description of the supplies or services required to meet the Agency's needs (including the estimated value).

UNS-1 LW WAAS/SBAS ARINC Digital/Analog

5" Flat Panel Control Display Unit , Video and Graphics

UNS-1 LW Configuration Module

Dzus Mount SSDTU, Black

GPS WAAS/SBSAS Antenna

UNS- 1LW Installation Kit

FPCDU Installation Kit

SSDTU Installation Kit

GPS Antenna Installation Kit

MFD-640 VGA/VGA WXPD/SCI CPU, DSP, Black

MFD Configuration Module

MFD Installation Kit

UL-80 1 UniLink

UniLink Configuration Module

UL-80 1 UniLink Installation Kit

4. Statutory authority permitting brand-name descriptions.

The authority for this justification is FAR 6.302-1(c).

5. A demonstration that the nature of the acquisition requires use of the authority.

This requirement is for a cockpit avionics upgrade. A significant trade study was completed looking at multiple vendors for the required equipment. Products from Universal, Honeywell, and Collins were included in the trade study. Only Universal had all the components required. Incorporating Honeywell and/or Collins components still required use of some Universal components. The trade study identified the fact that time for integration will take longer due to communication and compatibility issue between hardware from different manufacturers. Although it is believed that components can ultimately be mixed, there is risk that integration time and expense will increase and there is potential that unneeded operational complexities will be built into the system. The trade study also looked at cost and the Universal-only design was significantly less expensive than other design options. It is common in the industry for avionics system designers to use compatible components from a single manufacturer for robust operations. NASA's trade study showed that Universal components offer the best design option. There may be components from other brands available, but NASA deliberately looked at the industry leaders in its trade study. Therefore, the use of such descriptions in this acquisition is essential to the Government's requirement, thereby precluding consideration of a product manufactured by another company.

6. Description of efforts made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as is practicable, including whether a notice was or will be publicized as required by Subpart 5.2 and, if not, which exception under 5.202 applies.

The request for quote for this requirement will be posted on FedBizOpps and open to eligible small businesses for a period of 8 days, giving interested and prospective small businesses the maximum opportunity to submit a quote for these services. Market research demonstrated there are more than two small business companies that provide this brand.

7. Determination by the contracting officer that the anticipated cost to the Government will be fair and reasonable.

The contracting officer anticipates the cost to the Government to be fair and reasonable based on the level of competition expected for this new requirement, as well as on the market research results, revealing multiple vendors who can provide Universal Avionics parts included in this requirement.

8. Description of the market research conducted and the results or a statement of the reason market research was not conducted.

Market research was conducted by communicating with the Project Manager, researching the three other vendors provided by the customer, researching the required parts on GSA revealing requirement could not be fulfilled with this Source as well as identifying two other small businesses in addition to Universal Avionics, who is listed as a small business.

9. Contracting officer certification that the justification is accurate and complete to the best of the contracting officer's knowledge and belief.

Contracting Officer

9/22/14
Date

9. Evidence that any supporting data that is the responsibility of technical or requirements personnel (e.g. verifying the Government's minimum needs or requirements or other rationale for limited sources) and which form a basis for the justification have been certified as complete and accurate by the technical or requirements personnel.

//signed//

Project Officer

09/22/2014
Date