

INU-15-025 Voice Recorder Questions

1. Q - What type of database are the existing legacy Stancil voice recorder's archives stored in?
A – The current database is stored as wav recordings
2. Q - What type of file type are the recordings using? (wav, mp3, encrypted)
A –wav, and mp3
3. Q - How do vendors other than Stancil provide backwards compatibility to archived information on a proprietary system that has not been defined in the NASA specifications nor is it available as published information?
Note: We will provide the feature if absolutely required and if we receive the assistance requested.
A—NASA needs to have quick and reliable access to currently stored files, NASA does not have the resources to search through many files for the needed files. This is the reason for the backwards compatibility requirement. If a vendor can provide another method for accessing stored files by Date and Time stamp, we would entertain that option.
4. Q - Why does NASA want to have backward compatibility between recorders instead of continued accessibility?
Note: We can find written documentation by Stancil that claims no recording hardware is necessary to access archived audio from a Stancil database. Stancil provides Client Software for separate playback of audio from archived storage. We provide free Playback Software that allows playback of our archived audio without any of our hardware or dongles from any storage location. If you utilize the capability of the original vendor Client Software NASA would get the maximum utility from the data structure.
A – The current recorder has failed and is not possible to use as a playback machine. NASA needs to be able to quickly and reliably access stored files by Time and Date stamp. If a vendor can provide a method to access stored files in this manner we will entertain all options.
5. Q - Is it not true that whatever recorder you select for this solicitation that the recorder itself has nothing to do with access to the previous recorded data?
A – False the new recorders will be required to search for and access existing audio files.
6. Q - When NASA desires to review archived information for event reconstruction why would they not select the vendor client software associated with the audio and search the archive data location already established?
A – Current recorder has failed and is not possible to search. If a vendor can provide a method to search stored files by Time and Date Stamp NASA would entertain such an option.
7. Q - There is no benefit to using Windows Server 2012 R2 with our Recording Platform. In order to use Server 2012 we have to shut down most of the server functionality which is

unnecessary for recorder functions. Would it be acceptable to use an Embedded Windows 7 Operating System with only the features necessary to run recording, storage and playback functionality?

A – Please quote accordingly

8. Q - Why does NASA believe it needs to tell the recording vendor what operating system they should use for reliable recording operations?

Note: We do not need Windows software updates or patches for its embedded installation. There is no need for any changes to the original Operating System software install. Memory requirements for the Embedded Windows 7 are a fraction of that required by Windows 2012 Server.

A – NASA IT has mandated that systems no longer use Windows XP, as we are purchasing a new system it is our obligation to state what is required. These systems will be hooked to NASA intranet and are required to meet NASA IT specifications. If a vendor can provide an operating system that meets ALL NASA IT requirements we would entertain such an option.

9. Q - Is it a mistake to say in the specifications that NASA desires 2ea 2.5" 4 TB SATA Drives? I am not sure if anyone makes a 2.5" 4TB Drive.

A – Primary objective is to have 4 TB drives, physical size requirements are only limited by 4RU Chassis.

10. Q - Would the customer allow the use of high capacity solid state drives versus 7200 RPM standard spinning drives which are less reliable and slow?

A – We will consider all data storage options.

11. Q - Will the recording vendor be supplying the display screen, keyboard and mouse?

A – No

12. Q - T1 (D4/B8Zs) recording systems are not sitting on our shelf. However we are one of the few vendors that are doing this method and thus we don't have the components on the shelf ready for assembly. Why is there a criteria that states we "may be asked" to ship fully compliant systems in 10 days?

A – Delivery of the systems to on-site receiving dock must be completed no longer than 60 calendar days after purchase order (PO) award.

13. Q - Is this, or is this not an attempt to "sole source" to Stancil?

A – No

14. Q - If not, and you would like to see other voice recorder systems- Since the SOW asked that we "access Stancil software"-

Can you provide to JEI for us to 'hack into Stancil software"

- a. Audio file type and if encrypted
- b. Entity Relationship Diagram (ERD)
- c. Dataflow Diagram (DFD)
- d. Database Model (UML)

e. Large Volume of Sample Data Files for testing

A – No The requirement is to access stored files, if a vendor can provide a means to reliably access currently stored files by Date and Time Stamp NASA will entertain such an option. NASA does not have the resources to search by any other means other than Date and Time Stamp.