

BROAD AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENT (BAA)

INTRODUCTION:

This publication constitutes a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) as contemplated in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.102(d)(2). A formal Request for Proposals (RFP), solicitation, and/or additional information regarding this announcement will not be issued.

The Office of Naval Research (ONR) will not issue paper copies of this announcement. The ONR reserves the right to fund all, some or none of the proposals received under this BAA. ONR provides no funding for direct reimbursement of proposal development costs. Technical and cost proposals (or any other material) submitted in response to this BAA will not be returned. It is the policy of ONR to treat all proposals as sensitive competitive information and to disclose their contents only for the purposes of evaluation.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Agency Name

Office of Naval Research

2. Research Opportunity Title

Mine Countermeasures (MCM) Systems for Littoral Combat Ship Advanced Flight Mission Package

3. Program Name

Mine Countermeasures (MCM) Systems for Littoral Combat Ship Advanced Flight Mission Package

4. Research Opportunity Number

ONR BAA 07-023

5. Response Date

Phase 1 White Papers: 17 May 2007 1600 (Washington, DC Local time)

6. Research Opportunity Description

The first Littoral Combat Ships (LCS) are under construction with the delivery of the first sea frame scheduled for FY07. This new class of ship is designed for multiple mission types, and will support those missions with interchangeable Mission Packages. The first Mission Package to deploy is the Mine Warfare (MIW) Mission Package, and it will consist of Navy Program of Record systems from the Organic Mine Countermeasures program, including Airborne Mine Countermeasures (AMCM) systems, the Remote Minehunting System (RMS), the Unmanned Surface Sweep System (US3), and the Battlespace Preparation Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (BPAUV) for LCS. Each system will be considered a Mission Module within the Mine Warfare Mission Package.

Previous ONR S&T investments in the LCS program included the development of prototype Unmanned Underwater Vehicle (UUV) Mission Modules. The prototype UUV modules were deployed for Fleet Battle Experiments, technology demonstrations and numerous unmanned system experimentation trials. They incorporated advanced UUV system technologies and state-of-the-art processing algorithms from the ONR portfolio, and were operated and evaluated by a trained cadre of Fleet sailors. The success of this program provided a foundation for LCS Flight 0 mission modules, and resulted in the transition of the UUV and mission module technologies to the LCS Flight 0 MIW Mission Package.

LCS Flight 0 calls for a ship's crew that is significantly smaller than typical Navy war fighting vessels with an expected allowance of 15 sailors to maintain and operate the systems of the MIW Mission Package. Crew-load modeling has shown very high demand on the LCS MIW Mission Package crew in typical war fighting scenarios. While the continued investment in advanced, unmanned and standoff MCM systems are expected to provide an enhanced MCM war fighting capability, their tactical employment and routine maintenance also have the possibility of placing additional burden on the limited Mission Package crew.

ONR is seeking to develop **MCM Systems for the LCS Ship Advanced Flight Mission Package** in order to advance the capabilities of the war fighter as well as the technologies employed for MCM. The thrust of the effort is to integrate the MIW Mission Package crew and systems in innovative ways, to minimize or eliminate system employment inefficiencies, and to optimize the tactical performance of the limited crew.

Specific topics of interest are included below. Submissions within general interest areas, but not specifically listed below, will also receive consideration.

- Module automation technologies- Many tasks associated with the mission systems require human intervention thereby increasing crew load.
 - Automated mission system maintenance
 - Self-diagnosing, self-healing software
 - Enhanced mission system reliability

- Automated mission deck operations (e.g., High speed Launch and Recovery)
 - Automated pre-mission preparation
- Limited operator-in-the-loop operations – Present mission systems require operators-in-the-loop for unmanned systems. Reduction or elimination in the required number of operators can help reduce the load on the current crew.
 - Virtual Watchstander
 - Automated tactical decision aids and information displays
 - Automated/Adaptive mission planning
 - Automated mission monitoring
 - Automated Post Mission Analysis
 - Offboard processing under limited payload/power/bandwidth conditions
- Module architecture for autonomous operations - The Flight 0 MIW Mission Package for LCS is “come as you are.” To better tailor the mission package for the crew and autonomous operations, a module architecture must be developed that enhances the capability and is able to adapt to the increasing use of more unmanned systems.
 - Interfacing standards for autonomous operations
 - Architecture for rapid technology insertion

This program is divided into two phases. Phase 1 is focused on sub-system capability development. In this phase, technology concepts/capabilities will be developed on a sub-system level. This phase will conclude with a sub-system demonstration. Phase 2 is full system/capability development. This phase will integrate the Phase 1 sub-systems/capabilities into a mine warfare system to be demonstrated during a Fleet experiment or Sea Trial event. Phase 1 is envisioned to be 18 months, and Phase 2 is envisioned to be 30 months. This announcement is for Phase 1 of the program; Phase 2 contracts will be solicited via a separate BAA in FY08.

White papers are initially sought to preclude unwarranted effort on the part of the offeror in preparing full technical and cost proposals without an initial assessment of the operational, technical and logistical feasibility of the concept. Offerors submitting the most promising white papers will be encouraged to submit a full technical and cost proposal on all or part of their white paper submission. However, any such encouragement does not assure a subsequent award. Any offeror may submit a full proposal even if its white paper was not identified as promising or if no white paper is submitted.

ONR highly encourages teaming of academia, industry, University Affiliated Research Centers (UARCs), and government laboratories with a view toward speeding the transition of new science and technology into fielded systems.

7. Point(s) of Contact

Questions of a technical nature shall be directed to the cognizant Technical Point of Contact, as specified below:

Science and Technology Point of Contact:

Dr. Sam Taylor

MCM System for Littoral Combat Ship Advanced Flight Mission Package Product Line
Manager

Telephone Number: (850) 234-4066

Facsimile Number: (850) 234-4141

Email: james.s.taylor@navy.mil

Questions of a business nature shall be directed to the cognizant Contract Specialist, as specified below:

Ellen Simonoff

Contracting Officer:

ONR Code 252:

875 N Randolph Street, Suite 1425, Arlington, VA 22203-1995:

Telephone Number: 703-696-0157

Facsimile Number: 703-696-0066

Email Address: simonoe@onr.navy.mil

8. Instrument Type(s)

Awards resulting from this solicitation will be in the form of contracts.

9. Other Information

ONR is planning a pre-proposal conference/industry day on 17 Apr 07 in the Washington, DC area. Additional program information, including details concerning the pre-proposal conference will be posted at http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/baa/07_023/

This announcement is restricted to work relating to basic and applied research and that portion of advanced technology development not related to a specific system or hardware procurement. Contracts, grants and other awards made under this BAA are for scientific study and experimentation directed towards advancing the state-of-the art or increasing knowledge or understanding.

THIS ANNOUNCEMENT DOES NOT COVER TECHNICAL, ENGINEERING AND OTHER TYPES OF SUPPORT SERVICES.

II. AWARD INFORMATION

The Office of Naval Research (ONR) plans to award contracts to the offerors whose proposals represent the best value to the Government in accordance with the evaluation criteria. Multiple awards are anticipated.

The period of performance for Phase 1 of the awards shall be a maximum of 18 months. The total amount available for awards is approximately \$12,000,000. It is anticipated that there will be between 6 and 12 awards, and the average award will be in the range of \$500,000 to \$3,000,000. The anticipated start date for awards is 1st Qtr FY08, subject to the availability of funds. Phase 2 will immediately follow Phase 1 with an anticipated total available amount of \$15,000,000 and will be solicited via a separate announcement. Phase 1 award does not guarantee a Phase 2 participation, and non-participation in Phase 1 does not preclude participation in Phase 2.

If offerors are enhancing work performed under other ONR or DoD projects, they must clearly identify the point of departure and what existing work will be brought forward and what new work will be performed under this BAA.

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

All responsible sources submitting a responsive proposal will be considered by the Government. Government activities (Federal, State, and Local) and Federally Funded Research Centers (FFRDCs) are not eligible for award as a prime bidder under this solicitation.

IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

1. Application and Submission Process

White Papers Evaluation/Notification

White papers will be due on 17 May 2007. Evaluations of the white papers will be issued via e-mail notification on or about 15 June 2007. Offerors submitting the most promising white papers will be encouraged to submit full technical and cost proposals via the above-referenced e-mail. However, any such encouragement does not assure a subsequent award.

Submission of Full Proposal

Full proposals will be due on 17 July 2007. Any offeror may submit a full proposal even if its white paper was not identified as being “promising.” However, the Navy's initial evaluation of the white papers should give potential offerors some indication of whether a full proposal would likely result in an award. If the white paper is identified as not being “promising,” it is most likely that no award will be made.

Full Proposals: It is anticipated that final selections will be made within 30 days after full proposal submission. After final proposal evaluation is completed, each offeror will be notified via e-mail of its selection or nonselection for an award.

Oral Presentation: Approximately two weeks following submission of the full proposal, each offeror will have the opportunity to present their proposed concept to the evaluation team in a briefing format. The following restrictions will be enforced on these presentations:

- Place: DC Area (more details **TBD**)
- Time limit (excluding questions): Maximum of 1 hour
- Only concepts contained in the full proposal will be allowed.
- Evaluation team will be allowed to ask questions regarding the proposed concepts.

Further guidance will be given once full proposals are received.

Address for the Submission of White Papers, if applicable, and Full Proposals

All proposals shall be uploaded to the secure ONR website at:

http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/baa/07_023/

NOTE: PROPOSALS SENT BY MAIL, COURIER, FAX , E-MAIL, OR HAND-DELIVERED WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

2. Content and Format of White Papers/Full Proposals -

The White Papers and Proposals submitted under this BAA shall be unclassified. The Proposal submissions will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR 15.207, applicable law, and DoD/DoN regulations. Offerors are expected to appropriately mark each page of their submission that contains proprietary information.

Important Note: Titles given to the white papers/proposals should be descriptive of the work they cover and not be merely a copy of the title of this solicitation.

(A) White Paper Format

- Paper Size – 8.5 x 11 inch paper
- Margins – 1” inch
- Spacing – Double-spaced
- Font – Times New Roman, 12 point
- Number of Pages – No more than 7 pages, single-sided pages excluding cover page and resumes). White Papers exceeding the page limit may not be evaluated.

White Paper Content

White papers are limited to 7 pages and should include the following items:

Cover page: clearly labeled “White Paper”, including BAA title, number and date, title of white paper, administrative and technical points of contact along with telephone, fax

numbers, and e-mail addresses. The cover page will not count toward the seven page limit.

Technical Description: to consist of clear discussion of the scientific concept and associated technologies being proposed, development objectives of the proposed effort, a clear statement of the major scientific issues to be resolved to accomplish objectives, approaches to resolving these science issues, and a clear description of and schedule for demonstration of the significant aspects of the concept.

Managerial Description: to include partnering arrangements, if any, list of key personnel, specific prior experience of the offeror in the scientific areas addressed, facilities, and a plan of action with milestones.

Cost Description: to be a two page cost estimate on a yearly basis partitioned by major tasks.

One-page curriculum vitae for the principal investigator and key personnel should be submitted with one page limit per person. The vitae will not count toward the seven page limit

(B) Full Proposal Format – Volume 1 (Technical Proposal) and Volume 2 (Cost Proposal)

- Paper Size – 8.5 x 11 inch paper
- Margins – 1” inch
- Spacing – Double-spaced
- Font – Times New Roman, 12 point
- Number of Pages – Volume 1 is limited to no more than 35 pages. Volume 2 has no page limit. Limitations within sections of the proposal are indicated in the individual descriptions shown below. The cover page, table of contents, past performance, and resumes are excluded from the page limitations. Full Proposals exceeding the page limit may not be evaluated.

Full Proposal Content

Volume 1: Technical Proposal

Volume 1 of the Full Proposal shall include the following sections, each starting on a new page.

- Cover Page: This should include the words “Technical Proposal” and the following:
 - 1) BAA number;

- 2) Title of Proposal;
- 3) Identity of prime Offeror and complete list of subcontractors, if applicable;
- 4) Technical contact/PI (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
- 5) Administrative/business contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address) and;
- 6) Duration of effort (differentiate basic effort and options, not to exceed a maximum of 18 months)

- Table of Contents: (Not included in page limitations)
- Statement of Work: A Statement of Work (SOW) clearly detailing the scope and objectives of the effort and the technical approach. It is anticipated that the proposed SOW will be incorporated as an attachment to the resultant award instrument. To this end, such proposals must include a severable self-standing SOW “without any proprietary restrictions” which can be attached to the resultant award instrument. Include a detailed listing of the technical tasks/subtasks organized by year and a section which lists all proposed deliverables. When options are contemplated, the SOW must clearly identify separate optional tasks.
- Project Schedule and Milestones: A summary of the schedule of events and milestones.
- Deliverables: A detailed description of the results and products to be delivered, along with suggested due dates.
- Assertion of Data Rights: Include here a summary of any proprietary rights to pre-existing results, prototypes, or systems supporting and/or necessary for the use of the research, results, and/or prototype. The rules governing these assertions are prescribed in Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) clauses 252.227-7013, -7014 and -7017. These clauses may be accessed at the following web address:

<http://farsite.hill.af.mil/VDFDARA.HTM>

The Government may challenge assertions that are provided in improper format or that do not properly acknowledge earlier federal funding of related research by the Offeror. Any data rights asserted in other parts of the proposal that would impact the rights in this section must be cross-referenced. If there are proprietary rights, the Offeror must explain how these affect its ability to deliver research data, subsystems and toolkits for integration. Additionally, Offerors must explain how the program goals are achievable in

light of these proprietary limitations. If there are no claims of proprietary rights in pre-existing data, this section shall consist of a statement to that effect.

- **Management Approach**: A discussion of the overall approach to the management of this effort, including brief discussions of the total organization, use of personnel; project/function/subcontractor relationships; government research interfaces; and planning, scheduling and control practice. Identify which personnel and subcontractors (if any) will be involved. Include a description of the facilities that are required for the proposed effort with a description of any Government Furnished Equipment/Hardware /Software /Information required, by version and/or configuration.
- **Technical Approach** - The offeror shall provide a detailed plan that coherently describes the technical approach proposed for contract performance which demonstrates a technical understanding of the proposed Statement of Work (SOW). The technical approach should address each of the numbered task areas delineated in the SOW providing specific or unique techniques to be employed and anything else the offeror considers relevant in performing the SOW. The technical approach should indicate how the work will be performed, including the capabilities and resources which will be applied, what problem areas exist, the proposed solutions and a full explanation of the proposed disciplines, procedures and techniques to be followed. Emphasis should be placed upon the extent that the offeror's technical approach ensures timely delivery, and successful completion of the tasks outlined by the SOW submission.
- **Personnel** - The offeror shall provide resumes of proposed key personnel to be utilized by the contractor/subcontractor in the performance of this contract. The offeror shall ensure that the proposed personnel are fully capable of performing in an efficient, reliable and professional manner.
- **Past Performance** - Past performance will consist of a description of the offeror's Government contracts (both prime and major subcontracts (those involving 25% or more of the effort)) received during the past three (3) years), which are similar to the effort being proposed. The offeror may describe any quality awards or certificates that indicate the offeror possesses a high quality process for providing desired research and development outcomes.

Volume 2: Cost Proposal

The Cost Proposal shall consist of a cover page and two parts, Part 1 will provide a detailed cost breakdown of all costs by cost category by offeror's fiscal year and Part 2 will provide a cost breakdown by task/sub-task corresponding to the task numbers in the proposed Statement of Work.

Cover Page: The words “Cost Proposal” should appear on the cover page in addition to the following information:

- 1) BAA number;
- 2) Title of Proposal;
- 3) Identity of prime Offeror and complete list of subcontractors, if applicable;
- 4) Technical contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address);
- 5) Administrative/business contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address);
- 6) Duration of effort (separately identify basic effort and any proposed options);
- 7) Summary statement of proposed costs;
- 8) Cognizant DCAA and DCMA point of contact, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address (if readily available)

Part 1: Detailed breakdown of all costs, as applicable, by cost category by offeror’s fiscal year (when options are contemplated, options must be separately identified and priced by fiscal year):

- Direct Labor: Individual labor category or person, with associated labor hours and unburdened direct labor rates;
- Indirect Costs: Fringe Benefits, Overhead, G&A, COM, etc. (Must show base amount and rate);
- Travel: Number of trips, destination, duration, etc.;
- Subcontract: A cost proposal as detailed as the Offeror’s cost proposal will be required to be submitted by the subcontractor. The subcontractor’s cost proposal should be uploaded to the ONR secure website (See section IV, subsection 5 for address and indicate on cover page that this is a subcontract proposal and identify the prime contractor) or will be requested from the subcontractor at a later date;
- Consultant: Provide consultant agreement or other document which verifies the proposed loaded daily/hourly rate;
- Materials should be specifically itemized with costs or estimated costs. An explanation of any estimating factors, including their derivation and application,

shall be provided. Include a brief description of the Offeror's procurement method to be used (Competition, engineering estimate, market survey, etc.);

- Other Directs Costs, particularly any proposed items of equipment or facilities. Equipment and facilities generally must be furnished by the contractor/recipient. (Justifications must be provided when Government funding for such items is sought). Include a brief description of the Offeror's procurement method to be used (Competition, engineering estimate, market survey, etc.);
- Fee/Profit including fee percentage.

Part 2: Cost breakdown by task/sub-task using the same task numbers in the Statement of Work.

3. Significant Dates and Times

Anticipated Schedule of Events *

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u> <u>(MM/DD/YEAR)</u>	<u>TIME (EASTERN TIME)</u>
Pre-Proposal Conference/Industry Day**	17 April 2007	
White Papers Due Date (Page Limit: 7 pages)	17 May 2007	1600
Notification of Initial Navy Evaluations of White Papers	15 June 2007	
Full Proposal Due Date	17 July 2007	1600
Oral Presentations**	TBD	
Notification of Selection for Award	24 August 2007	
Contract Awards	1st Qtr FY08	
Kickoff Meeting	3 weeks after award	

***These dates are estimates as of the date of this announcement.**

****Information regarding the Pre-proposal conference and Oral Presentations will be provided at a later time via an amendment to this Broad Agency Announcement.**

4. Submission of Late Proposals

In accordance with FAR Subpart 15.208 any proposal, modification, or revision, that is received at the designated Government office after the exact time specified for receipt of proposals is "late" and will not be considered unless it is received before award is made, the contracting officer determines that accepting the late proposal would not unduly delay the acquisition and:

- (a) If it was transmitted through an electronic commerce method authorized by the announcement, it was received at the initial point of entry to the Government infrastructure not later than 5:00 p.m. one working day prior to the date specified for receipt of proposals; or
- (b) There is acceptable evidence to establish that it was received at the Government installation designated for receipt of proposals and was under the Government's control prior to the time set for receipt of proposals; or
- (c) It was the only proposal received.

However, a late modification of an otherwise timely and successful proposal, that makes its terms more favorable to the Government will be considered at any time it is received and may be accepted.

If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal Government processes so that proposals cannot be received at the Government office designated for receipt of proposals by the exact time specified in the announcement, and urgent Government requirements preclude amendment of the announcement closing date, the time specified for receipt of proposals will be deemed to be extend to the same time of day specified in the announcement on the first work day on which normal Government processes resume.

The contracting officer must promptly notify any offeror if its proposal, modifications, or revision was received late and must inform the offeror whether its proposal will be considered.

V. EVALUATION INFORMATION

1. Evaluation Criteria

The following evaluation criteria apply to both the White Papers and the Full Proposals.

These submissions will be selected through a technical/scientific/cost decision process with technical and scientific considerations being more important than cost. Even though cost is of less importance than all the technical factors combined, it will not be ignored. The degree of its importance will increase with the degree of equality of the proposals in relation to the other factors on which selection is to be based, or when the cost is so significantly high as to diminish the value of the technical superiority to the Government. Criteria A-E are listed in descending order of priority.

- a) Overall scientific and technical merits of the proposal.
- b) Naval relevance, transition potential and anticipated contributions of the proposed scientific research.

- c) Offeror's capabilities, related experience, and past performance, including the qualifications, capabilities and experience of the proposed team (including principal personnel).
- d) The realism of the proposed cost.
- e) For proposed awards to be made as contracts to large businesses, the socio-economic merits of each proposal will be evaluated based on the extent of the Offeror's commitment in providing meaningful subcontracting opportunities for small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses, woman-owned small businesses, HUBZone small businesses, veteran-owned small businesses, service disabled veteran-owned small businesses, historically black colleges and universities, and minority institutions.

The availability of government use rights; since technology transition is a key goal of this program, the government preference is for non-proprietary solutions. Nevertheless, the government will give consideration to all solutions offered.

Industry-Academia Partnering – ONR highly encourages partnering among industry and academia with a view toward speeding the incorporation of new science and technology into fielded systems. Proposals that utilize industry-academic partnering which enhances the development of novel S&T advances will be given favorable consideration.

Industry-Government Partnering – ONR highly encourages partnering among industry and Government with a view toward speeding the incorporation of new science and technology into fielded systems. Proposals that utilize industry-Government partnering which enhances the development of novel S&T advances will be given favorable consideration.

2. Evaluation Panel

Potential Offerors should understand that government technical experts drawn from the Office of Naval Research and other naval and defense activities/agencies will participate in the evaluation of the White Papers and Full Proposals. All government personnel participating in evaluation will be bound by appropriate non-disclosure agreements to protect proprietary and source-selection information.

The Government may use selected support personnel to assist in providing both technical expertise and administrative support regarding any white papers and full proposals ensuing from this announcement. These support contractors will be bound by appropriate non-disclosure agreements to protect proprietary and source-selection information.

VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

1. Administrative Requirements

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code – The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code for this announcement is 541710 with a small business size standard of 500 employees.

CCR: Successful offerors not already registered in the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) will be required to register in CCR prior to award of any grant. Information on CCR registration is available at <http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/ccr.html>.

Certifications: Proposals should be accompanied by a completed certification package which can be accessed on the ONR Home Page at Contracts and Grants. For contracts the certification package is entitled, “DFARS and Contract Specific Representations and Certifications”. Offerors seeking contracts must also have completed the On Line Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA) found at <https://orca.bpn.gov>.

Subcontracting Plans – Successful contract proposals that exceed \$500,000, submitted by all but small business concerns, will be required to submit a Small Business Subcontracting Plan in accordance with FAR 52.219-9, prior to award.

2. Reporting

The following are samples of data deliverables that could be typically required under a typical research effort:

- Detailed Technical Data
- Technical and Financial Progress Reports
- Demonstration Results
- Presentation Material(s)
- Other Documentation or Reports as Required
- Final Report

However, please note that specific data deliverables (that may include software and hardware deliverables) may be proposed by each offeror and finalized during negotiations. Research performed under contracts may also include the delivery of software, prototypes, and other hardware deliverables.

VII. OTHER INFORMATION

1. Government Property/Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) and Facilities

Each offeror shall provide a very specific description of any equipment/hardware that it needs to acquire to perform the work. This description should indicate whether or not each particular piece of equipment/hardware will be included as part of a deliverable item

under the resulting award. Also, this description should identify the component, nomenclature, and configuration of the equipment/hardware that it proposes to purchase for this effort. It is the Government's desire to have the contractors purchase the equipment/hardware for deliverable items under their contract. The purchase on a direct reimbursement basis of special test equipment or other equipment that is not included in a deliverable item will be evaluated for allowability on a case-by-case basis. Maximum use of Government integration, test, and experiment facilities is encouraged in each of the Offeror's proposals.

Government research facilities and operational military units are available and should be considered as potential government furnished equipment/facilities. These facilities and resources are of high value and some are in constant demand by multiple programs. It is unlikely that all facilities would be used for the Mine Countermeasures (MCM) Systems for Littoral Combat Ship Advanced Flight Mission Package. The use of these facilities and resources will be negotiated as the program unfolds. Offerors should explain as part of their proposals which of these facilities they recommend are critical for the project's success.

2. Security Classification

All white papers shall be unclassified. Full proposals shall be unclassified. In order to facilitate intra-program collaboration and technology transfer, the Government will attempt to enable awardees to work at the unclassified level to the maximum extent possible. If access to classified material will be required at any point during performance, the Offeror must clearly identify such need prominently in their proposal.

If awardees use unclassified data in their deliveries and demonstrations regarding a potential classified project, they should use methods and conventions consistent with those used in classified environments. Such conventions will permit the various subsystems and the final system to be more adaptable in accommodating classified data in the transition system.

3. Use of Animals and Human Subjects in Research

If animals are to be utilized in the research effort proposed, the Offeror must complete a DOD Animal Use Protocol with supporting documentation (copies of AAALAC accreditation and/or NIH OLAW Animal Welfare Assurance approval letter, IACUC approval, research literature database searches, and the two most recent USDA inspection reports) prior to award. Similarly, for any proposal for research involving human subjects the Offeror must submit prior to award: documentation of approval from an Institutional Review Board (IRB); IRB-approved informed consent form; IRB-approved research protocol; an executive summary of planned research (one-half to one page in length); proof of completed human research training (e.g., training certificate, institutional verification of training, etc.); an application for a DoD Navy Addendum to the Offeror's DHHS-issued Federalwide Assurance (FWA) or the Offeror's DoD Navy

Addendum number. The forms for assurance applications can be found at http://www.onr.navy.mil/sci_tech/34/343/ . If the research is determined by the IRB to be greater than minimal risk, the Offeror also must provide the name and contact information for the independent medical monitor. [Note: for research involving human subjects that is greater than minimal risk, administrative procedures to protect human subjects from medical expenses (not otherwise provided or reimbursed) that are the direct result of participation in a research project must be addressed. Documentation describing those procedures may be requested. For additional information on this topic please email 343_contact@onr.navy.mil.] For assistance with submission of animal and human subject research related documentation, contact the ONR Animal/Human Use Administrator at (703) 696-4046.

4. Recombinant DNA

Proposal which call for experiments using recombinant DNA must include documentation of compliance with Department of Human and Health Services (DHHS) recombinant DNA regulations, approval of the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC), and copies of the DHHS Approval of the IBC letter.

5. Department of Defense High Performance Computing Program

The DoD High Performance Computing Program (HPCMP) furnishes the DoD S & T and DT & E communities with use-access to very powerful high performance computing systems. Awardees of ONR contracts, grants, and assistance instruments may be eligible to use HPCMP assets in support of their funded activities if ONR Program Officer approval is obtained and if security/screening requirements are favorably completed. Additional information and an application may be found at <http://www.hpcmo.hpc.mil/>.

6. Organizational Conflict of Interest

The parties acknowledge that, during performance of the contract resulting from this BAA, the Contractor may require access to certain proprietary and confidential information (whether in its original or derived form) submitted to or produced by the Government. Such information includes, but is not limited to, business practices, proposals, designs, mission or operation concepts, sketches, management policies, cost and operating expense, technical data and trade secrets, proposed Navy budgetary information, and acquisition planning or acquisition actions, obtained either directly or indirectly as a result of the effort performed on behalf of ONR. The Contractor shall take appropriate steps not only to safeguard such information, but also to prevent disclosure of such information to any party other than the Government. The Contractor agrees to indoctrinate company personnel who will have access to or custody of the information concerning the nature of the confidential terms under which the Government received such information and shall stress that the information shall not be disclosed to any other party or to Contractor personnel who do not need to know the contents thereof for the performance of the contract. Contractor personnel shall also be informed that they

shall not engage in any other action, venture, or employment wherein this information will be used for any purpose by any other party.

7. Submission of Questions

Any questions regarding this solicitation must be provided to the Science and Technology Point of Contact and/or Business Point of Contact listed in this solicitation. Questions must be submitted by 24 April 2007, 2:00 p.m. EST. Questions submitted after this date and time may not be answered.