

**Amendment Number 0001
Questions and Answers**

Broad Agency Number 09-016

Communication and Networking Discovery & Invention

Question #1: The BAA does not ask for any cost information in the white paper. Please would you confirm that no cost information is desired with the white paper, and including such cost information is irrelevant at this stage?

Answer #1: Cost information is needed, although not at the level of detail as the full proposal. White paper submissions shall include a cost summary showing requested funding per year. The cost summary shall be segregated by both task and year (over the period of performance; i.e., 1, 2 or 3 years).

Question #2: Is the primary interest at a wavelength of 1.5 microns? Or is there equal interest in optical communications through obscurants/aerosols at other wavelengths?

Answer #2: Wavelength of interest is 1.5 um.

Question #3: I just wanted to confirm that there is No ROM Cost or cost proposal that should be submitted with white papers responding to BAA 09-016.

Answer#3: See the response to Question #1 above.

Question #4: I have a question on the procedure for submission of white papers called for in your BAA 09-016. Section IV, states that white papers are due NLT 4:00 pm EDT on 31 March 2009, via USPS or commercial carrier (FedEx, DHL, or UPS). It also states, "Delivery of materials by USPS, even when sent as Express Mail, may take up to a week or more due to current security procedures in place to ensure the safety of U.S. mail to DoD activities." My question is, does the delay of a week or more also apply to materials submitted via the commercial carriers (FedEx, DHL, or UPS)? If we submit a white paper by, for example, overnight FedEx delivery for delivery on the morning of 31 March, and FedEx delivers to ONR on-time, would you expect this to be delayed and miss your deadline? If the

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answer to these questions is yes, a follow-up question is, would you accept alternate delivery arrangements (e.g., hand-carrying or delivery via personal courier) that would not be subject to this delay?

Answer #4: Items delivered by commercial carriers (FedEx or UPS) are scanned at the time the carrier brings any packages to the building. Once the package is scanned, the carrier is allowed to make delivery. If the carrier fails to deliver the package by the date and time of receipt of white papers and/or full proposal packages, the package will be considered as a late submission. The delay does not apply to FedEx or UPS. The delay usually occurs with the USPS.

Question #5: We have a question about the white paper submission process. There is a warning in the BAA that materials delivered by USPS may take at least a week due to security procedures. Does this delay also apply to materials delivered by FedEx/DHL/UPS? For example, can we assume that sending overnight with FedEx is sufficient?

Answer #5: See the response to Questions #4 above.
