



Exchange of Actionable Information at the Tactical Edge

Table of Content

The following information presents the basic organization of this document as well as the location of significant information:

- I. General Information
 - 1. Agency Name
 - 2. Research Opportunity Title
 - 3. Program Name
 - 4. Research Opportunity Number
 - 5. Response Date
 - 6. Research Opportunity Description
 - 7. Point(s) of Contact
 - 8. Instrument Type(s)
 - 9. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number
 - 10. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Titles
- II. Award Information
 - 1. Amount and Period of Performance
 - 2. Production and Testing of Prototypes
- III. Eligibility Information
- IV. Application and Submission Information
 - 1. Application and Submission Process
 - 2. Content and Format of White Papers/Full Proposals
 - a. White Papers
 - b. Full Proposals
 - i. Instructions for Contracts
 - 3. Significant Dates and Times
 - 4. Submission of Late Proposals
 - 5. Address for Submission of White Papers and Full Proposals for Contracts
- V. Evaluation Information
 - 1. Evaluation Criteria
 - 2. Commitment to Small Business
 - 3. Options
 - 4. Evaluation Panel
- VI. Award Administration Information
 - 1. Administrative Requirements
- VII. Other Information
 - 1. Government Property/Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) and Facilities
 - 2. Security Classification

3. Use of Animals and Human Subjects in Research
4. Recombinant DNA
5. Use of Arms, Ammunition and Explosives
6. Department of Defense High Performance Computing Program
7. Organizational Conflicts of Interest
8. Project Meetings and Reviews
9. Executive Compensation and First-Tier Subcontract Reporting (APPLIES ONLY TO CONTRACTS)
10. Military Recruiting On Campus (APPLIES ONLY TO GRANTS & COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS)
11. Combating Trafficking in Persons (APPLIES ONLY TO CONTRACTS)
12. Updates of Information regarding Responsibility Matters (APPLIES ONLY TO CONTRACTS)
13. Employment Eligibility Verification (APPLIES ONLY TO CONTRACTS)
14. Central Contractor Registration (CCR) (APPLIES ONLY TO CONTRACTS)
15. Other Guidance, Instructions, and Information

INTRODUCTION:

This publication constitutes a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) as contemplated in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.102(d)(2) and 35.016. A formal Request for Proposals (RFP), other solicitation, 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 - Exchange of Actionable Information at the Tactical Edge

3. Program Name - Exchange of Actionable Information at the Tactical Edge

4. Research Opportunity Number - 13-017

5. Response Date -

White Papers: 08/08/2013 3:00PM Eastern Daylight Time

Full Proposals: 10/09/2013 3:00PM Eastern Daylight Time

6. Research Opportunity Description -

The Office of Naval Research is interested in receiving white papers and full proposals for both Applied Research and Advanced Technology Development that will forge major advancements

towards a user oriented "World View" with varying degrees of fidelity for situational awareness and understanding for both Tactical and Operational views. To achieve this vision, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) products need to be synchronized with Command and Control (C2) for seamless mission prosecution. Exchange of Actionable Information at the Tactical Edge (EAITE) program objective is to efficiently package and disseminate timely, usable operational and intelligence data to warfighters in expeditionary units.

The EAITE program thrusts and product areas are:

1. Data conditioning (software and firmware)
2. Actionable information tactical applications (software)
3. Network adaptive communication services (software)

Requirements have been written to support Science and Technology (S&T). These have been put forth in the following documents:

1. Vision & Strategy 2025 - Fuse C2 and ISR at squad level MAGTF C2 ICD
2. PEO C4I Annual Acquisition Requirements for S&T 10 May 2012
3. Urgent Statement of Need for the WFPAC
4. Sensor Data Fusion Deliberate UNS
5. PISR CDD
6. MCISR-E ICD

Naval forces require an enabling capability for rapid acquisition of high value information, immediate processing and dissemination in order to generate speed and accuracy in decision making. The need is stronger than ever to automate the generation of tailored information products by sensors or by tactical analysis nodes and for the efficient and timely dissemination of these products for the expeditionary units through ad-hoc Disconnected, Intermittent, Limited (DIL) networks.

There is insufficient ability to provide usable information products for expeditionary units. In particular, 1) Information products are manually processed and not timely; and 2) Sensor and source raw data is timely but overwhelms users and network capacity. Information Exchange Requirements (IERS) (e.g. salute reports, common tactical picture), can serve as an enabler for heuristic processing to support future Naval forces.

Technological advancements have resulted in many more sensors, radios, and computers being fielded to support Naval expeditionary operations. However, information-management and dissemination capabilities have not kept pace.

The enormous volume of data produced by ISR assets necessitates the automation of data processing for transport (e.g., adaptive data compression, format conversion, data orchestration for mediation). In addition, the warfighter needs data-handling automation (e.g., searching high-value target databases with information from image-recognition algorithms run over the ISR feeds, algorithms that support data fusion across warfighting functions). Expansive areas of mission interest (e.g. Pacific Rim) means that the data provided must have space-time and geo-

cultural context in order to provide essential information to tactical users. Commanders need an Information Technology (IT) architecture that supports information sharing to efficiently use all resources across their domains including platforms, personnel, sensors, and networks to prosecute multiple missions.

The notional operational view for sea-to-shore sensor and communication interoperability is shown in Figure 1 below.



Figure 1 – Notional Operational View

A relevant operational view for sea-to-shore sensor and communication interoperability leverages assets including afloat Expeditionary Strike Groups, Amphibious Ready Groups and shore based Combat Operations Centers at varying levels of command.

In moving from sea to shore, Navy and USMC forces need to operate efficiently. The Carrier Strike Group (CSG) performs an Intel Preparation of the Battlespace (IPB) in the area where the Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) is going to land to determine Indications and Warnings (I&W) of threats. The CSG provides a consolidated multi-INT report to the commanding officer on the current maritime domain environment. This report takes advantage of adaptive network technologies which prioritize it to guarantee delivery in a timely manner. When the environment is determined to be safe the ESG will enter the area. Once the ESG is underway and performing military actions in the area, the CSG can perform Strike or Battle Damage Assessment (BDA) missions. These missions generate summary multi-INT reports, which are transmitted to the commanding officer, based on the Information Requirements (IRs) received and the current network conditions. Rapid access to ISR data across disparate C2 systems needs to take place to generate these reports. The EAITE EC addresses needed ISR automation and intelligent use of network assets.

The operational concept for the EAITE program is shown in Figure 2. The program requires technology advancements in three product areas that are illustrated.

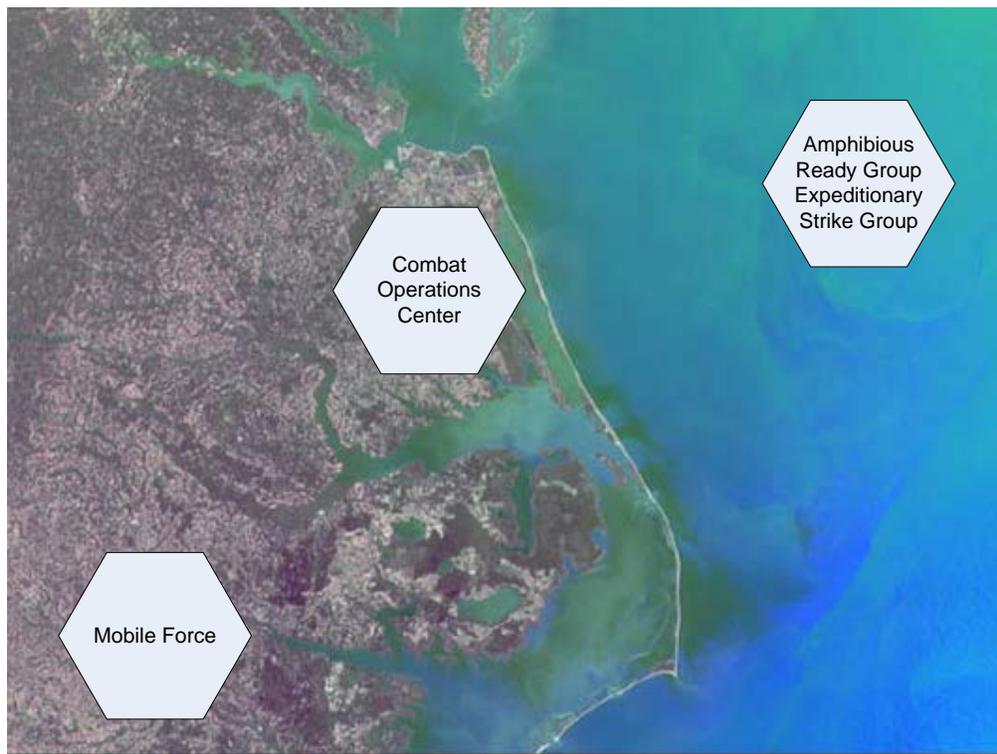


Figure 2 - EAITE Concept Graphic

Figure 2 provides operational context for capability desired by this EC. This program requires technology advancements in three product areas that are relevant to integrated Naval missions. For example, assume that a mobile force has to be inserted well inland in order to surgically reduce/eliminate an anti-access/area denial threat. The speed of command decisions is dependent on the tactical commander's ability to assess the mission area across all warfighting functions. Mission success is dependent on the timely receipt of indications and warnings. There are some IRs that a sensor may be able to automatically satisfy (e.g. whether or not a bridge is still standing) but others that require the fusion of data from many sources (e.g. common tactical picture). This EC will assume that each IR can be represented by a content model and represented by a workflow. The objective of the EC is to automate workflows that enable IRs to be addressed in real or near real-time while minimizing delays caused by manual processing or handling of information. Since any solutions must run on-top of existing communications architectures, the EC is also concerned with how best to manage available bandwidth and paths to ensure that high value information gets disseminated in a timely manner.

It requires smart sensors or reachback nodes to send tailored products to users to meet their current and projected needs. Of interest is technology that can show efficiency gains moving functionality of ISR, and C2 from stand alone products to tactical enterprise solutions. EAITE program supports movement to a tactical enterprise architecture with shared services/ data for exchange of tactical information. It encompasses DIL communications management and

concepts for bridging global and local data storage including operating for periods with no reachback to higher echelons. Innovative methods of product creation, aggregation and delivery are needed and should be explored.

The Navy and USMC are moving from a net-centric to a data-centric strategy to enable development of more interoperable and cost-effective solutions. The vision of a Navy's data-centric cloud architecture of 2020 are: 1) Robust ability to tag, ingest, and prioritize the flow of sensed data; 2) Critical data made discoverable, accessible, shareable, and ready for analysis; 3) Granular access controls managed by user; 4) Days or weeks to deliver tools for analyzing and acting on critical data; 5) Unified interoperability with DoD, IC, other mission partners; and 6) Simple, sustainable, defensible, and clearly understood base of IT assets.

ONR is currently interested in pursuing applied research that will address challenges the Navy and Marines face in current and future operations. The climate in tactical operations is generally characterized as highly dynamic, limited-bandwidth resources that are, intermittently available, and subject to frequent disruption. Put simply, there are limited resources (sensors, computational assets and communications paths) that must be used in the most efficient manner possible to enable successful tactical operations. C2/ ISR systems must be fault tolerant and capable of failure recovery.

The three (3) Thrust Areas are as follows:

Product 1. Data Conditioning

The objective of this thrust is to condition data as packages of information at or near the sensor and the C2/ ISR nodes. This should support actionable information to fulfill Information Exchange Requirements (IERs) that are usable by the recipient at the time of receipt and reduce the amount of data fed to the network. Sensors that may be able to discover and expose the content required to satisfy an IER include imagers (EO/IR/hyperspectral, narrow field and wide area), radars (air or ground; GMTI or SAR), unattended ground, air and ocean sensors (acoustic, cameras, magnetic, seismic), and signals (SIGINT). Sources include open source internet search engines/scrapers. Examples of IERs that an individual sensor (or the node that first receives the raw data from a sensor) may produce include but is not limited to salute reports (report on enemy presence), critical information requirements (activities the commander needs reported on), indications and warnings (reports on threats), target or target area intelligence (reports relevant to mission execution including weather and activity).

The S&T challenges of enabling automation at or near sensors of finished products containing the content required to satisfy an IER include the following:

- Machine understanding of IERs
- Development of algorithms aligned to content requirements
- Machine understanding of its capabilities to satisfy IERs (e.g. given a mission track, a UAS should be able to report when/if it will be able to confirm the status of a bridge and update that estimate if the area weather forecast changes)
- Power efficient processing
- Product tailoring to user needs

- Establish and maintain data/information pedigree as required for a system that disseminates information in real time to warfighters
- Adapt product format or fidelity to balance user needed latency against the ability of the network to deliver the information.

Potential solutions are as follows:

- Implement information extraction algorithms in sensors or at nodes that receive real time data from sensors (e.g. FMV, WAAS, GMTI, SIGINT, MASINT, METOC) and sources
- Develop machine understandable expressions of IERs
- Enable sensors to automatically format products
- Enable sensor/nodes to automatically close fulfilled IERs
- Enable sensor/nodes to understand their ability to satisfy an IER
- Enable sensors/nodes to automatically prioritize effort based on IER importance
- Couple product generation to network capacity.

The payoff to the warfighter is obtaining conditioned C2 and ISR data that is aggregated and made useable/actionable to the commander/small-unit leader at the tactical edge. It will provide the information content of IERs in an automated manner to aid decision making and decrease the time to action. Performance measurement will require system feedback. For example, 1) consider the changes of sensor or network performance when environment changes; 2) consider information needs as a function of current and projected user location and activities.

An example of a payoff to the warfighter of having machines work towards a goal of finished product production is having METOC data aggregated. Currently, Navy and USMC tactical Indications and Warning (I&W) of severe weather threats to units and multiple forces are available by detection on shipboard weather radar and Doppler surface radar but the data schemes are not normalized. Data normalization is needed to efficiently aggregate products and maximize interoperability across these Services. Current weather state and advanced 36-hour weather forecasts can greatly aid ground and aviation mission planning.

In addressing this product, offerors may consider any Naval sensor that could reasonably be expected to or have the ability to contribute information needed by a tactical unit. For sensor systems chosen in offerings, the offerors should provide an assessment of the programmatic readiness of the applicable program of record to accept new capabilities.

Product 2. Actionable Information Tactical Applications (AITA)

This thrust will develop AITA capability to automatically create information products requiring the fusion of content/information products that are produced by individual sensors. Examples of systems that currently perform this function include Maritime Tactical Command and Control (MTC2), Combat Operations Center (COC), Distributed Common Ground Station Navy (DCGS-N), Distributed Common Ground Station Marine Corps (DCGS-MC), and Meteorological Mobile Facility (Replacement) Next Generation (METMF(R) NEXGEN). The products will support specific user needs based on time, location, and tasking. Examples of IERs relevant to this product include but are not limited to: daily intelligence summary, target folders, intelligence

estimates, requests for information relevant to mission plans or orders, pattern analysis reports, situation reports, course of action recommendations, and METOC mission impact assessments.

The S&T challenges are as follows:

- Development of a workflow manager that can orchestrate services to generate products
- Development of the semantics required to allow a machine to understand “content”
- Creation of user defined tags to customize IERs for specific mission sets
- Automated report generation with pedigree, responsive to bandwidth
- Fuse information to meet needs of specific knowledge domains (Intel specialists, analysts)
- Support forensic analysis to reconstruct events and gain adversary insight

Potential solutions are as follows:

- Mature machine understanding of information product needs
- Capability for use of ad-hoc metadata tags to enable user defined tagging
- Enable information products with attached pedigree to be automatically formed from discovered information (semantic search, NLP)
- Enable machines to properly generate unstructured reports
- Mature semantic data enrichment to allow discovery
- Adapt product format or fidelity to balance user needed latency against the ability of the network to deliver the information.

The payoff to the warfighter is obtaining applications for the tactical user to exploit integrated and conditioned information to aid decision making and increase operational tempo. "The right information is needed at the right time" by users with relevance to their location, time, and tasking. In addition, applications and information are needed in a form that is useful to the users' working environment. For example, command centers may have PCs, vehicles may have laptops or tablets, and dismounted users may have smartphones.

Rules of Engagements (ROEs) evolve over time and analytics should be agile. Systems should be capable of recognition of change both on the battlefield and through information exchanges. It is of interest to archive information for later forensic analysis to gain insight into why events took place and what may have precipitated them (causality). This involves a deeper retrospective understanding of a platform beyond simple identification and tracking. For instance, in Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) insight can be gained by knowledge of a ship's cargo and crew.

Product 3. Network Adaptive Communication Services (NACS)

The objective of NACS is focused in four Technology Investment areas: (1) Dynamic Discovery - robust and efficient distributed discovery of information services, resources, and content as the network state and environment changes; (2) Mediation of Information Exchange - Adapt data to respond to IRs accounting for network capacity and other network constraints, parcel, reformat, and prioritize data; (3) Network Aware Services for DIL Environments - Networks that are aware of their posture at a given time, can use that information to aggregate and prioritize the transport of data based on commander's intent and/or mission priorities. In addition, network components should make information about network state available to application-layer

components (especially, but not exclusively, those in Products 1 and 2); (4) Persistent Messaging and Data Dissemination - message and data transport mechanisms that can provide robust, efficient, and effective operation in wireless, tactical edge network environments. Note the messaging service may serve to provide control plane functions for other system components as well as user or application messaging services. Group communication should be supported as well as point-to-point communication. The ability to prioritize message delivery based on message importance and/or mission role should also be supported.

The S&T challenges are as follows:

- Ability to distribute functionality based on mission and information needs without centralized, single-point-of-failure control or dependence upon reachback communications capability
- Algorithms to effectively control information dissemination given competing mission needs, changing network state, and resource availability
- Timely collection and efficient sharing of relevant network awareness in dynamic communication environment (not just local connectivity information)
- Effectively adapting to different and heterogeneous underlying network communication connectivity.

Potential solutions are as follows:

- Performance models, metrics, and optimization methods for policy-engine decisions
- Robust and efficient data transport protocols and message bus systems
- Orchestration/Traffic Management Policy Enforcement Point
- Methods to interact with radio, router and other network communication devices to provide dynamic bandwidth adjustment
- Capabilities to work in multicast and other group communications environments.

The product payoff is obtaining an adaptive network that allows consistent data transmission of critical information to warfighters at the tactical edge despite disrupted or intermittent connectivity. Additionally, the technology should be able to adapt to different forms of communication connectivity and heterogeneous (mixed communication links) environments. This includes opportunistically taking advantage of temporary high performance communications (e.g. when nodes are located closely to one another or have other momentary communication advantages) as well as gracefully adjusting to lower performance and DIL communications as needed. Functionalities of the network behavior will change based on mission objectives, priorities, and conditions as necessary to provide warfighters with critical information in active operations.

Integrated Capabilities:

Integrated Capabilities that do not exclusively fit into the three product areas are also strongly encouraged. Broadly these capabilities will take into account some Data Conditioning or Actionable Information need and couple that with NACS technologies. In particular, Integrated Capabilities should have Data Conditioning and AITA components that are network aware and NACS components that are aware of Information Requirements and capabilities that will use the network.

Potential Integrated Capabilities solutions are as follows:

- Data Conditioning and AITA capabilities that respond to network state and provide customized responses to Information Requirements. This could include “partial answers”, graceful degradation of information delivery in a given DIL situation.
- Prioritizing the delivery of Information to nodes based on pre-planned mission parameters or on immediate need and commander’s intent.
- Taking advantage of multi-path solutions for different Information Requirements based on prioritization and breadth of dissemination.
- Tasking of sensors and analysis nodes based on a balance of network state and precision necessary to satisfy information requirements.

Product Dependencies:

Work in the three Product Areas will be addressed separately but are not to be viewed in isolation. It is essential that C2 and ISR function in a supportive manner. It is essential that Navy and USMC capabilities are interoperable. It is necessary to consider product dependencies for all developed capabilities. Even those capabilities not considered part of the Integrated Capabilities should consider the other product areas and may be integrated for proof-of-concept demonstrations. The ability to pass information about network state to the capabilities developed in Products 1 and 2 is of importance. Conversely, the ability of network components to use information about commander intent, mission plans, and priority of information requirements is equally important. For instance, Product 1 and Product 2 performers may consider not only data payload but also the packaging and use of adaptive networks to facilitate delivery.

Technology Transition:

ONR desires that S&T products that result from this BAA be capable of, and ready for, integration into yearly technology demonstrations for Navy and/or USMC system. Where possible, products should use common standards, open architectures, and be extensible for technology advances. Innovative S&T that supports these goals will be seriously considered and if selected, ONR will provide assistance in technology transition.

Transition opportunities exist in the needs and gaps statements for Navy and USMC systems. The FY13 MAGTF C2 Technology Roadmap (2012) provides POM-15 Joint Capability Areas (JCA). The Marine Corp Capabilities List (MCCL) states capability needs relevant to EAITE program as shown in Table 1. The categories are Command and Control (C2) and Net-Centric (NC).

Table 1. USMC

Category	Reference	Capability Description
C2	MCCL 5.1	Collect Information to support C2
C2	MCCL 5.2	Achieve Situational Awareness for decision making
C2	MCCL 5.3	Conduct Planning - establish a framework to achieve
C2	MCCL 5.4	Establish Organizational Structures and synchronize

C2	MCCL 5.6	Disseminate Information [present, distribute ...]
NC	MCCL 6.1	Transport Information End-to-End in NC environment
NC	MCCL 6.2	Provide Enterprise Services - authorized user access
NC	MCCL 6.3	Optimize Networks - configure and reconfigure nets

PEO C4I S&T Gaps (Overview brief 12 March 2012) indicate capabilities needed by Programs of Record (PORs). Navy S&T gaps relevant to EAITE are shown in Table 2. The categories are associated with PEO C4I program offices. Of particular relevance, is the Battlespace Awareness and Information Operations program office (PMW120).

Table 2. Navy S&T Gaps

Category	P. Office	S&T Gap Description
ISR	PMW120	Annotation of FMV in near real time
ISR	PMW120	Storing, accessing and archiving large data sets
METOC	PMW120	Optimize spectrum utilization
IO/ ISR/ M.	PMW120	Workflow analysis in/between IO, ISR and METOC
C2	PMW150	Common Operating Picture (COP)
Core Services	PMW160	Dynamic C2ISR Capabilities for DIL environment
Networks	PMW160	Asymmetric Communication networking
Comms	PMW790	Link monitoring and management

Work funded under a BAA may include basic research, applied research and some advanced technology development (ATD). With regard to any restrictions on the conduct or outcome of work funded under this BAA, ONR will follow the guidance on and definition of "contracted fundamental research" as provided in the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) Memorandum of 24 May 2010. As defined therein the definition of "contracted fundamental research", in a DoD contractual context, includes [research performed under] grants and contracts that are (a) funded by Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation Budget Activity 1 (Basic Research), whether performed by universities or industry or (b) funded by Budget Activity 2 (Applied Research) and performed on campus at a university. The research shall not be considered fundamental in those rare and exceptional circumstances where the applied research effort presents a high likelihood of disclosing performance characteristics of military systems or manufacturing technologies that are unique and critical to defense, and where agreement on restrictions have been recorded in the contract or grant.

Pursuant to DoD policy, research performed under grants and contracts that are a) funded by Budget Category 6.2 (Applied Research) and NOT performed on-campus at a university or b) funded by Budget Category 6.3 (Advanced Research) does not meet the definition of "contracted fundamental research." In conformance with the USD(AT&L) guidance and National Security Decision Direction 189, ONR will place no restriction on the conduct or reporting of unclassified "contracted fundamental research," except as otherwise required by statute, regulation or Executive Order. For certain research projects, it may be possible that although the research being performed by the prime contractor is restricted research, a subcontractor may be conducting "contracted fundamental research." In those cases, it is the *prime contractor's*

responsibility in the proposal to identify and describe the subcontracted unclassified research and include a statement confirming that the work has been scoped, negotiated, and determined to be fundamental research according to the prime contractor and research performer.

Normally, fundamental research is awarded under grants with universities and under contracts with industry. ATD is normally awarded under contracts and may require restrictions during the conduct of the research and DoD pre-publication review of research results due to subject matter sensitivity.

FAR Part 35 restricts the use of the Broad Agency Announcements (BAAs), such as this, to the acquisition of basic and applied research and that portion of advanced technology development not related to the development of a specific system or hardware procurement. Contracts and grants and other assistance agreements made under BAAs are for scientific study and experimentation directed towards advancing the state of the art and increasing knowledge or understanding.

As regards to the present BAA, the Research and Development efforts to be funded will consist of applied research and advanced technology development. The funds available to support awards are Budget Activity 2 and 3.

THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS NOT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF TECHNICAL, ENGINEERING AND OTHER TYPES OF SUPPORT SERVICES.

7. Point(s) of Contact -

Questions of a technical nature should be submitted to:
Thrust Area 1 - Data Conditioning, and Thrust Area 2 - Actionable Information Tactical Applications:

Mr. Martin Kruger
Program Manager
ONR Code 30
Office of Naval Research
One Liberty Center
875 N. Randolph Street, Arlington, VA 22203-1995
Email: martin.kruger1@navy.mil

Thrust Area 3 - Network Adaptive Communication Services:

Mr. John Moniz
Program Manager
ONR Code 30
Office of Naval Research
One Liberty Center
875 N. Randolph Street, Arlington, VA 22203-1995
Email: john.moniz@navy.mil

Questions of a business nature should be submitted to:

Peter Donaghue
Contract Specialist
ONR Code 255
Office of Naval Research
One Liberty Center
875 N. Randolph Street, Arlington, VA 22203-1995
Email: desmond.donaghue@navy.mil

Any questions regarding this solicitation must be provided to the Technical Point of Contact and Business Point of Contact listed in this solicitation. All questions shall be submitted in writing by electronic mail.

Comments or questions submitted should be concise and to the point, eliminating any unnecessary verbiage. In addition, the relevant part and paragraph of the Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) should be referenced.

Questions submitted within 2 weeks prior to a deadline may not be answered, and the due date for submission of the white paper and/or full proposal will not be extended.

Amendments will be posted to one or more of the following webpages:

- Federal Business Opportunities (FEDBIZOPPS) Webpage - <https://www.fbo.gov/>
- ONR Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) Webpage - <http://www.onr.navy.mil/en/Contracts-Grants/Funding-Opportunities/Broad-Agency-Announcements.aspx>

Questions of a security nature should be submitted to:

Diana Pacheco
Industrial Security Specialist
Office of Naval Research
Security Department, Code 43
One Liberty Center
875 N. Randolph Street
Arlington, VA 22203-1995
Email Address: diana.pacheco@navy.mil

Note: All UNCLASSIFIED communications shall be submitted via e-mail to the Technical Point of Contract (POC) with a copy to the designated Business POC.

CLASSIFIED questions shall be handled through the ONR Security POC. Specifically, any entity wanting to ask a CLASSIFIED question shall send an email to the ONR Security POC with copy to both the Technical POC and the Business POC stating that the entity would like to ask a CLASSIFIED question. DO NOT EMAIL ANY CLASSIFIED QUESTIONS. The

Security POC will contact the entity and arrange for the CLASSIFIED question to be asked through a secure method of communication.

8. Instrument Type(s) - Contracts

Awards will be issued as Contracts. ONR reserves the right to award a different instrument type if deemed to be in the best interest of the Government.

Any contract awards resulting from this BAA will incorporate the most current FAR, DFARs, NMCARS and ONR clauses.

Examples of model contracts can be found on the ONR website at the following link:
<http://www.onr.navy.mil/Contracts-Grants/submit-proposal/contracts-proposal/contract-model-awards.aspx>.

9. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers -

12.300

10. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Titles -

Basic & Applied Scientific Research

II. AWARD INFORMATION

1. Amount and Period of Performance- Estimated Total Amount of Funding Available (\$K):

FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	FY2017	FY2018	Total
\$4000	\$6000	\$7000	\$6500	\$4000	\$27500

Total Amount of Funding Available: \$27,500,000

Anticipated Number of Awards: One or more awards per Topic.

Each white paper and proposal must address only ONE Thrust Area; however, offerors may respond via separate white papers and proposals to multiple Thrust Areas, if desired.

Anticipated Range of Individual Award Amounts: As required to complete each topic.

Anticipated Period of Performance: two to five years.

Option contracts with a one-year base followed by one-year option(s) are desired.

2. Production and Testing of Prototypes-

In the case of funded proposals for the production and testing of prototypes, ONR may during the contract period add a contract line item or contract option for the provision of advanced component development or for the delivery of additional prototype units. However, such a contract addition shall be subject to the limitations contained in Section 819 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010.

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

All responsible sources from academia and industry may submit proposals under this BAA. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Institutions (MIs) are encouraged to submit proposals and join others in submitting proposals. However, no portion of this BAA will be set aside for HBCU and MI participation.

Federally Funded Research & Development Centers (FFRDCs), including Department of Energy National Laboratories, are not eligible to receive awards under this BAA. However, teaming arrangements between FFRDCs and eligible principal bidders are allowed so long as they are permitted under the sponsoring agreement between the Government and the specific FFRDC.

Navy laboratories and warfare centers as well as other Department of Defense and civilian agency laboratories are also not eligible to receive awards under this BAA and should not directly submit either white papers or full proposals in response to this BAA. If any such organization is interested in one or more of the programs described herein, the organization should contact an appropriate ONR POC to discuss its area of interest. The various scientific divisions of ONR are identified at <http://www.onr.navy.mil/>. As with FFRDCs, these types of federal organizations may team with other responsible sources from academia and industry that are submitting proposals under this BAA.

University Affiliated Research Centers (UARC) are eligible to submit proposals under this BAA unless precluded from doing so by their Department of Defense UARC contracts.

Teams are also encouraged and may submit proposals in any and all areas. However, Offerors must be willing to cooperate and exchange software, data and other information in an integrated program with other contractors, as well as with system integrators, selected by ONR.

Some topics cover export controlled technologies. Research in these areas is limited to "U.S. persons" as defined in the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) - 22 CFR § 1201.1 et seq.

IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

1. Application and Submission Process - White Paper, Oral Presentation, Full Proposals

White Papers: White papers are required prior to submitting a Full Proposal. The due date for white papers is no later than 3 p.m. (EDT: Eastern Daylight Time) on **08/08/2013**. White papers must be submitted via E-MAIL to the corresponding technical POCs: Martin Kruger, at martin.kruger1@navy.mil, for Thrust Areas 1 and 2; John Moniz, at john.moniz@navy.mil, for Thrust Area 3. All white papers are required to be uploaded to the ISR Upload Site (<https://onroutside.onr.navy.mil/aspprocessor/isr30b/>). Each white paper should state the particular Thrust Area that it is primarily addressing. Initial Navy evaluations of the white papers will be issued via E-mail notification on or about **09/05/2013**.

Oral Presentations: An oral presentation may be subsequently requested from those Offerors whose proposed technologies have been identified through the above-referenced E-mailed white papers as being of "particular value" to the Navy but require additional clarifications to determine if the reviewers would like to encourage a full proposal. Oral proposals are not required. Any such encouragement does not assure a subsequent award. Additionally, details for the oral presentation will be provided with the above-referenced E-mail notification. Any Offeror may submit a full proposal even if its white paper was not identified as being of "particular value". Full Proposals will not be considered under this BAA unless a white paper was received before the white paper due date specified above.

Full Proposals: The due date for receipt of Full Proposals is 3 p.m. EDT on **10/09/2013**. It is anticipated that final selections will be made by **11/06/2013**. Proposals received after the published due date and time may be considered for funding under a separate BAA at a later time, if funding is available. As soon as the final proposal evaluation process is completed, the Offeror will be notified via email of its selection or non-selection for an award. Proposals exceeding the page limit may not be evaluated.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Titles given to the White Papers/Full Proposals should be descriptive of the work they cover and not be merely a copy of the title of this solicitation.

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

White Papers and Full Proposals submitted under the BAA are expected to be unclassified ; however, confidential/classified responses are permitted. If a classified proposal is submitted, the resultant contract will be unclassified.

Unclassified Proposal Instructions:

Unclassified White Papers and Full Proposals shall be submitted in accordance with Section IV. Application and Submission Information.

Classified Proposal Instructions:

Classified White Papers and Full Proposals shall be submitted directly to the attention of ONR's Document Control Unit at the following address and marked in the following manner:

OUTSIDE ENVELOPE (no classification marking):

“Office of Naval Research
Attn: Document Control Unit
ONR Code 43
875 North Randolph Street
Arlington, VA 22203-1995”

The inner wrapper of the classified proposal should be addressed to the attention of Kruger, Martin (martin.kruger1@navy.mil), ONR Code 30 and marked in the following manner:

INNER ENVELOPE (stamped with the overall classification of the material)

Program: Exchange of Actionable Information at the Tactical Edge
Office of Naval Research
Attn: Kruger, Martin
ONR Code: 30
875 North Randolph Street
Arlington, VA 22203-1995

An 'unclassified' Statement of Work (SOW) must accompany any classified proposal.

Proposal submissions will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR Subpart 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/Full Proposals should be descriptive of the work they cover and not be merely a copy of the title of this solicitation.

a. WHITE PAPERS

White Paper Format

- Paper Size - 8.5 x 11 inch paper
- Margins - 1 inch
- Spacing - single spaced
- Font - Times New Roman, 12 point
- Max. Number of Pages permitted: 10 pages (excluding cover page, resumes, bibliographies, and table of contents)
- Copies - One (1) electronic copy in Adobe PDF or Word 2007 delivered via email. Electronic (email) submissions should be sent to the attention of the TPOC at: (Email Address of the TPOC, e.g. jane.doe@navy.mil). The subject line of the email shall read "ONR BAA 13-017 White Paper Submission."

NOTE:

- 1. Do not send hardcopies of White Papers (including Facsimiles) as only electronic submissions will be accepted and reviewed;**
- 2. Do not send password protected files.**
- 3. .ZIP files are acceptable.**

In order to provide traceability and evidence of submission, Offerors may wish to use the "Delivery Receipt" option available from Microsoft Outlook and other email programs that will automatically generate a response when the subject email is delivered to the recipient's email system. Consult the User's Manual for your email software for further details on this feature.

White Paper Content

- **Cover Page:** The Cover Page shall be labeled "WHITE PAPER", and shall include the BAA number, proposed title, Offeror's administrative and technical points of contact, with telephone numbers, facsimile numbers, and Internet addresses, and shall be signed by an authorized officer.
- **White Paper Technical Content:** A description of the technology innovation and technical risk areas.
 - **Technical Concept:** A five (5) page technical section which clearly describes the objectives of the proposed effort, technical issues to be resolved to accomplish objectives, the technical approach proposed to resolve these issues, an assessment of the proposed new capability over the existing state of the art, and a comparison against competing technological developments. This section should include references.
- **Future Naval Relevance:** A description of potential Naval relevance and contributions of the effort to the agency's specific mission.
- **Operational Naval Concept:** A description of the project objectives, the concept of operation for the new capabilities to be delivered, and the expected operational performance improvements.
- **Operational Utility Assessment Plan:** A plan for demonstrating and evaluating the operational effectiveness of the Offeror's proposed products or processes in field experiments and/or tests in a simulated environment.
- **ROM:** A rough order of magnitude (ROM) which describe the estimated costs of the proposed effort, to include program duration, broken out by Government Fiscal Year (01 OCT - 30 SEP). ROM should include costs for labor, travel, deliverables, and other relevant costs.
- **Other requirements:** Include description of requirements and cost amount for Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) and identify any proprietary technologies.

b. FULL PROPOSALS

i. INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTRACTS

NOTE: Submission instructions for BAAs issued after FY 2010 have changed significantly from previous requirements. Potential Offerors are advised to carefully read and follow the instructions below. The new format and requirements have been developed to streamline and ease both the submission and the review of proposals.

Proposal Package: The following four documents with attachments comprise a complete proposal package:

- (1) Technical Proposal Template (pdf)
- (2) Technical Content (word) – **Limited to 25 pages**
- (3) Cost Proposal Spreadsheet (excel)
- (4) Adequacy Checklist for Pre Award Audit (SF 1408) (as applicable)

These documents can be found at: <http://www.onr.navy.mil/Contracts-Grants/submit-proposal/contracts-proposal/cost-proposal.aspx>

All have instructions imbedded into them that will assist in completing the documents. Also, both the Technical Proposal Template and the Cost Proposal Spreadsheet require completion of cost-related information. Please note that attachments can be incorporated into the Technical Proposal Template for submission.

For actions below the simplified acquisition threshold (less than or equal to \$150K), the Cost Proposal Spreadsheet, Technical Proposal Template and Technical Content documents are required. In addition, if a purchase order will be awarded, the effort will be fixed price. Purchase orders can also contain options, if authorized under the BAA, as long as the total amount of the base and all options does not exceed \$150k.

Intellectual Property: Offerors responding to this BAA must submit a separate list of all technical data or computer software that will be furnished to the Government with other than unlimited rights. The Government will assume unlimited rights if offerors fail to identify any intellectual property restrictions in their proposals. Include in this section all proprietary claims to results, prototypes, and/or deliverables. If no restrictions are intended, then the offeror should state "NONE."

The format requirements for any attachments are as follows:

- Paper Size- 8.5 x 11 inch paper
- Margins – 1 inch
- Spacing- single or double spaced
- Font- Times New Roman, 12 point

The Cost Proposal Spreadsheet can be found by following this link:

<http://www.onr.navy.mil/Contracts-Grants/submit-proposal/contracts-proposal/cost-proposal.aspx>. Click on the "proposal spreadsheet" link and save a copy of the spreadsheet.

Instructions for completion have been embedded into the spreadsheet. Any proposed options that are identified in the Technical Proposal Template or Technical Content documents, but are not fully priced out in the Cost Proposal Spreadsheet, will not be included in any resulting contract, cooperative agreement, or other transaction. If proposing options, they **must** be separately priced and separate spreadsheets should be provided for the base period and each option. In addition to providing summary by period of performance (base and any options), the Contractor is also responsible for providing a breakdown of cost for each task identified in the Statement of Work. The sum of all costs by task worksheets **MUST** equal the total cost summary.

For proposed subcontracts or inter-organizational transfers over \$150,000, Offerors must provide a separate fully completed Cost Proposal Spreadsheet in support of the proposed costs. This spreadsheet, along with supporting documentation, must be provided either in a sealed envelope with the prime's proposal or via e-mail directly to both the Program Officer and the Business Point of Contact at the same time the prime proposal is submitted. The e-mail should identify the proposal title, the prime Offeror and that the attached proposal is a subcontract, and should include a description of the effort to be performed by the subcontractor. Offerors should also familiarize themselves with the new subcontract reporting requirements set forth in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) clause 52.204-10, Reporting Executive Compensation and First-Tier Subcontract Awards. The pertinent requirements can be found in Section VII, Other Information, of this document.

Offerors should submit one (1) hard copy, one (1) electronic copy on DVD or CD-ROM, and one (1) electronic copy uploaded to the ISR drop box identified in section five on page 22. The electronic copy should be submitted in a secure, pdf-compatible format, except for the electronic file for the Cost Proposal Spreadsheet which should be submitted in a Microsoft Excel 2007 compatible format. All attachments should be submitted in a secure, pdf-compatible format.

The secure pdf-compatible format is intended to prevent unauthorized editing of the proposal prior to any award. A password should not be required for opening the proposal document, but the Government must have the ability to print and copy text, images, and other content. Offerors may also submit their Technical Proposal Template and Content in an electronic file that allows for revision (preferably in Microsoft Word) to facilitate the communication of potential revisions. Should an Offeror amend its proposal, the amended proposal should be submitted following the same hard and electronic copy guidance applicable to the original proposal.

The electronic submission of the Excel spreadsheet should be in a "useable condition" to aid the Government with its evaluation. The term "useable condition" indicates that the spreadsheet should visibly include and separately identify within each appropriate cell any and all inputs, formulas, calculations, etc. The Offeror should not provide "value only spreadsheets" similar to a hard copy.

3. Significant Dates and Times –

Event	Date	Time
White Paper Due Date	08/08/2013	3:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time
Notification of White Paper Evaluation*	09/05/2013	
Oral Presentations*	09/18/2013	
Notification of Oral Presentation Evaluation*	09/25/2013	
Full Proposal Due Date	10/09/2013	3:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time
Notification of Selection: Full Proposals*	11/06/2013	
Awards*	03/07/2014	

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

NOTE: Due to changes in security procedures since September 11, 2001, the time required for hard-copy written materials to be received at the Office of Naval Research has increased. Materials submitted through the U.S. Postal Service, for example, may take seven days or more to be received, even when sent by Express Mail. Thus any hard-copy proposal should be submitted long enough before the deadline established in the solicitation so that it will not be received late and thus be ineligible for award consideration.

4. Submission of Late Proposals -

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.

Acceptable evidence to establish the time or receipt at the Government installation includes the time/date stamp of that installation on the proposal wrapper, other documentary evidence of receipt maintained by the installation, or oral testimony or statements of Government personnel.

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 extended 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.

5. Address for the Submission of White Papers and Full Proposals for Contracts.

White Papers must be uploaded to the ISR Upload Site (<https://onroutside.onr.navy.mil/aspprocessor/isr30b/>). When uploading please identify in the Document Purpose the Thrust Area to which you are submitting: Thrust Area 1 and 2 (POC: Martin Kruger); or Thrust Area 3 (POC: John Moniz).

Full Proposals must be uploaded to the ISR Upload Site (<https://onroutside.onr.navy.mil/aspprocessor/isr30b/>). When uploading please identify in the Document Purpose the Thrust Area to which you are submitting: Thrust Area 1 and 2 (POC: Martin Kruger); or Thrust Area 3 (POC: John Moniz).

Please note that if you .Zip all your files and supporting documentation together you will only need to upload one file.

Hard Copies of the Full Proposal and the DVD or CD-ROM of the Full Proposal should be sent to the appropriate Thrust contact at the Office of Naval Research as indicated below. All supporting documentation should be submitted with the DVD or CD-ROM of the Full Proposal.

Thrust Areas One and Two Contact	Thrust Area Three Contact
Office of Naval Research Attn: Martin Kruger ONR Department Code: 30 875 North Randolph Street Arlington, VA 22203-1995	Office of Naval Research Attn: John Moniz ONR Department Code: 30 875 North Randolph Street Arlington, VA 22203-1995

V. EVALUATION INFORMATION

1. Evaluation Criteria -

Awards under this BAA will be made to proposers on the basis of the evaluation criteria listed below, and program balance to provide overall value to the Government. The Government reserves the right to request any additional, necessary documentation once it makes the award instrument determination. The Government reserves the right to remove proposers from award consideration should the parties fail to reach agreement on award terms, conditions, and cost/price within a reasonable time, or the proposer fails to timely provide requested additional information. Evaluations will be conducted using the following evaluation criteria:

1. Overall scientific and technical merits of the proposal;
2. The qualifications, capabilities and experience of the proposed Principal Investigator (PI), team leader and key personnel who are critical in achieving the proposal objectives;
3. The offeror's capabilities, related experience, facilities, techniques or unique combinations of these which are integral factors for achieving the proposal objectives;

4. Potential Naval relevance and contributions of the effort to the agency's specific mission and to programs of record
5. Realism of transition/commercialization.
6. The realism of the proposed costs and availability of funds.

Overall, the technical factors 1 through 5 above are significantly more important than the cost factor, with the technical factors all being of equal value. The degree of importance of cost 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 proposal's technical superiority to the Government.

The ultimate recommendation for award of proposals is made by ONR's scientific/technical community. Recommended proposals will be forwarded to the ONR contracts department. Any notification received from ONR that indicates that the Offeror's full proposal has been recommended, does not ultimately guarantee an award will be made. This notice indicates that the proposal has been selected in accordance with the evaluation criteria above and has been sent to the contracting department to conduct cost analysis, determine the offeror's responsibility, and take other relevant steps necessary prior to commencing negotiations with the offeror.

2. Commitment to Small Business - (For Contract Awards Only)

The Office of Naval Research is strongly committed to providing meaningful subcontracting opportunities for small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses (SDBs), woman-owned small businesses (WOSBs), historically underutilized business zone (HUBZone) small businesses, veteran-owned small business (VOSBs), service disabled veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOSBs), historically black colleges and universities, and minority institutions, and other concerns subject to socioeconomic considerations through its awards.

a.) Subcontracting Plan - For proposed awards to be made as contracts that exceed \$650,000, large businesses and non-profits (including educational institutions) shall provide a Subcontracting Plan that contains all elements required by FAR 52.219-9, as supplemented by DFARS 252.219-7003. Small businesses are exempt from this requirement.

The Subcontracting Plan should be submitted as an attachment to the "Technical Proposal Template" and will not be included in the page count. If a company has a Master Subcontracting Plan, as described in FAR 19.701 or a Comprehensive Subcontracting Plan, as described in DFARS 219.702, a copy of the plan shall also be submitted as an attachment to the "Technical Proposal Template."

Plans will be reviewed for adequacy, ensuring that the required information, goals, and assurances are included. Zero Percent (0%) for goals, or Zero Dollars (\$0), or Not Applicable (N/A), are unacceptable. If a subcontracting plan is not submitted with the proposal package or the negotiation of an acceptable subcontracting plan is required, there could be a delay in the issuance of an award. In addition, in accordance with FAR 52.219-9, failure to submit and negotiate a subcontracting plan may make an offeror ineligible for contract award.

Offerors shall propose a plan that ensures small businesses (inclusive of SDBs, WOSBs, HUBZone, VOSBs and SDVOSBs, etc.) will have the maximum practicable opportunity to participate in contract performance consistent with its efficient performance.

As a baseline, offerors shall to the best extent possible propose realistic goals to ensure small business participation in accordance with the current fiscal year subcontracting goals found on the Department of Defense Office of Small Business Program website at: <http://www.acq.osd.mil/osbp/> If proposed goals are below the statutory requirements, then the offeror should provide a viable written explanation as to why small businesses are unable to be utilized and what attempts have been taken to ensure that small business were given the opportunity to participate in the effort to the maximum extent practicable.

All offerors who become subsequent awardees will submit the Individual Subcontract Report (ISR) (formerly SF294), and the Summary Subcontract Report (SSR) (formerly the SF295) using the Electronic Subcontracting Reporting System (eSRS) at: <http://www.esrs.gov>, following the instructions in the eSRS. In addition subsequent awardees shall adhere to the following;

* The ISR shall be submitted semi-annually during contract performance for the periods ending March 31 and September 30. A report is also required for each contract within 30 days of contract completion. Reports are due 30 days after the close of each reporting period, unless otherwise directed by the contracting officer. Reports are required when due, regardless of whether there has been any subcontracting activity since the inception of the contract or the previous reporting period.

*The SSR shall be submitted as follows: The report shall be submitted semi-annually for the six months ending March 31 and the twelve months ending September 30. When selecting the appropriate department/agency under "agency to which this report is submitted", choose from the second drop-down menu, which includes Department of the Navy (1700) (Note: do not select from below the departments/agencies (component) listed beyond the second drop-down menu). Include the following email addresses: OSBP.info@navy.mil which will provide notification to the Navy SSR Program Coordinator regarding the submission of the SSR. * Ensure that its subcontractors with subcontracting plans agree to submit the ISR and/or the SSR using the eSRS;

*Provide its prime contract number, its DUNS number, and the e-mail address of the offeror's official responsible for acknowledging receipt of or rejecting the ISRs to all first-tier subcontractors with subcontracting plans so they can enter this information into the eSRS when submitting their ISRs; and

*Require that each subcontractor with a subcontracting plan provide the prime contract number, its own DUNS number, and the e-mail address of the subcontractor's official responsible for acknowledging receipt of or rejecting the ISRs, to its subcontractors with subcontracting plans.

b.) Small Business Participation Statement –

If subcontracting opportunities exist, all prime Offerors shall submit a Small Business Participation Statement regardless of size in accordance with DFARS 215.304 when receiving a

contract for more than the simplified acquisition threshold (i.e., \$150,000). All offerors shall provide a statement of the extent of the offeror's commitment in providing meaningful subcontracting opportunities for small businesses and other concerns subject to socioeconomic considerations through its awards and must agree that small businesses, VOSBs, SDVOSBs, HUBZones, SDBs, and WOSBs concerns will have to the maximum practicable opportunity to participate in contract performance consistent with its efficient performance.

This assertion will be reviewed to ensure that it supports this policy by providing meaningful subcontracting opportunities. The statement should be submitted as a part of the proposal package and will not be included in the page count.

3. Options -

The Government will evaluate options for award purposes by adding the total cost for all options to the total cost for the basic requirement. Evaluation of options will not obligate the Government to exercise the options during the period of performance.

4. Evaluation Panel –

Technical and cost proposals submitted under this BAA will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR 3.104-4 and 15.207. The cognizant Program Officer and other Government scientific experts will perform the evaluation of technical proposals. Restrictive notices notwithstanding, one or more support contractors may be utilized as subject-matter-expert technical consultants. However, proposal selection and award decisions are solely the responsibility of Government personnel. Each support contractor's employee having access to technical and cost proposals submitted in response to this BAA will be required to sign a non-disclosure statement prior to receipt of any proposal submissions.

VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

1. Administrative Requirements -

- North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code - The NAICS code for this announcement is "541712" with a small business size standard of "500 employees".
- System for Award Management (SAM): All Offerors submitting proposals or applications must:
 - a. be registered in the SAM prior to submission;
 - b. maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application under consideration by any agency; and
 - c. provide its DUNS number in each application or proposal it submits to the agency.

The System for Award Management (SAM) is a free web site that consolidates the capabilities you used to find in CCR/FedReg, ORCA, and EPLS. Future phases of SAM

will add the capabilities of other systems used in Federal procurement and awards processes.

SAM may be accessed at <https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/>

- Access to your Contract Award

Effective 01 October 2011, hard copies of award/modification documents are no longer be mailed to Offerors. All Office of Naval Research (ONR) award/modification documents will be available via the Department of Defense (DoD) Electronic Document Access System (EDA).

EDA

EDA is a web-based system that provides secure online access, storage, and retrieval of awards and modifications to DoD employees and vendors.

If you do not currently have access to EDA, complete a self-registration request as a "Vendor" via <http://eda.ogden.disa.mil> following the steps below:

Click "New User Registration" (from the left Menu)
Click "Begin VENDOR User Registration Process"
Click "EDA Registration Form" under Username/Password (enter the appropriate data)
Complete & Submit Registration form

Allow five (5) business days for your registration to be processed. EDA will notify you by email when your account is approved.

Registration questions may be directed to the EDA help desk toll free at 1-866-618-5988, Commercial at 801-605-7095, or via email at cscassig@csd.disa.mil (Subject: EDA Assistance)

VII. OTHER INFORMATION

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

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 any one specific program. The use of these facilities and resources will be negotiated as the program unfolds. Offerors submitting proposals for contracts, cooperative agreements and Other Transaction Agreements should indicate in the Technical Proposal Template, Section II, Blocks 8 and 9, which of these facilities are critical for the project's success. Offerors submitting proposals for grants should address the need for government-furnished facilities in their technical proposal.

2. Security Classification

In order to facilitate intra-program collaboration and technology transfer, the Government will attempt to enable technology developers to work at the unclassified level to the maximum extent possible. Normally, work done under a grant does not require access to classified material. If it is determined that access to classified information will be required during the performance of an award, a Department of Defense (DD) Form 254 will be attached to the contract; and FAR 52.204-2 - Security Requirements will be incorporated into the contract. The Offeror must clearly identify such need by completing Section II, Block 11, DD 254 – Security Classification Specification, of the Technical Proposal Template.

If it is determined that access to classified information will be required during the performance of an award, a Department of Defense (DD) Form 254 will be attached to the contract; and FAR 52.204-2 – Security Requirements will be incorporated into the contract.

ONR does not provide access to classified material under grants.

3. Use of Animals and Human Subjects in Research

RESERVED

4. Recombinant DNA

RESERVED

5. Use of Arms, Ammunition and Explosives

RESERVED

6. Department of Defense High Performance Computing Program

RESERVED

7. Organizational Conflicts of Interest

All Offerors and proposed subcontractors must affirm whether they are providing scientific, engineering, and technical assistance (SETA) or similar support to any ONR technical office(s) through an active contract or subcontract. All affirmations must state which office(s) the offeror supports and identify the prime contract numbers. Affirmations shall be furnished at the time of proposal submission. All facts relevant to the existence or potential existence of organizational conflicts of interest (FAR 9.5) must be disclosed. The disclosure shall include a description of the action the offeror has taken or proposes to take to avoid, neutralize, or mitigate such conflict. In accordance with FAR 9.503 and without prior approval, a contractor cannot simultaneously be a SETA and a research and development performer. Proposals that fail to fully disclose potential conflicts of interests or do not have acceptable plans to mitigate identified conflicts will be rejected without technical evaluation and withdrawn from further consideration for award.

Additional ONR OCI guidance can be found at <http://www.onr.navy.mil/About-ONR/compliance-protections/Organizational-Conflicts-Interest.aspx>. If a prospective offeror believes that any conflict of interest exists or may exist (whether organizational or otherwise), the offeror should promptly raise the issue with ONR by sending his/her contact information and a summary of the potential conflict by e-mail to the Business Point of Contact in Section I, item 7 above, before time and effort are expended in preparing a proposal and mitigation plan. If, in the sole opinion of the Government after full consideration of the circumstances, any conflict situation cannot be effectively avoided, the proposal may be rejected without technical evaluation and withdrawn from further consideration for award under this BAA.

8. Project Meetings and Reviews

Individual program reviews between the ONR sponsor and the performer may be held as necessary. Program status reviews may also be held to provide a forum for reviews of the latest results from experiments and any other incremental progress towards the major demonstrations. These meetings will be held at various sites throughout the country. For costing purposes, offerors should assume that 40% of these meetings will be at or near ONR, Arlington VA and 60% at other contractor or government facilities. Interim meetings are likely, but these will be accomplished via video telephone conferences, telephone conferences, or via web-based collaboration tools.

9. Executive Compensation and First-Tier Subcontract Reporting (APPLIES ONLY TO CONTRACTS)

The FAR clause 52.204-10, "Reporting Executive Compensation and First-Tier Subcontract Awards," will be used in all procurement contracts valued at \$25,000 or more. A similar award term will be used in all grants and cooperative agreements.

10. Military Recruiting On Campus (APPLIES ONLY TO GRANTS & COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS)

RESERVED

11. Combating Trafficking in Persons (APPLIES ONLY TO CONTRACTS)

Appropriate language from FAR Clause 52.222-50 will be incorporated in all awards.

12. Updates of Information regarding Responsibility Matters (APPLIES ONLY TO CONTRACTS)

FAR clause 52.209-9, Updates of Publicly Available Information Regarding Responsibility Matter, will be included in all contracts valued at \$500,000 where the contractor has current active Federal contracts and grants with total value greater than \$10,000,000.

13. Employment Eligibility Verification (APPLIES ONLY TO CONTRACTS)

As per FAR 22.1802, recipients of FAR-based procurement contracts must enroll as Federal Contractors in E-verify and use E-verify to verify employment eligibility of all employees assigned to the award. All resultant contracts from this solicitation will include FAR 52.222-54, "Employment Eligibility Verification." This clause will not be included in grants, cooperative agreements, or Other Transactions.

14. Central Contractor Registration (CCR) (APPLIES ONLY TO CONTRACTS)

FAR 52.204-7 Central Contractor Registration and FAR 52.204-13 Central Contractor Registration Maintenance are incorporated into this BAA, and FAR 52.204-13 will be incorporated in all awards.

15. Other Guidance, Instructions, and Information

None