Sources Sought Notice  
N00014-20- SS-0001  

Compensated Lift and Advanced Mooring System

This Sources Sought Notice is issued in accordance with FAR 6.302-1(d)(2); DFARS 206.302-1(d); and PGI 206.302-1. This is not a Request for Proposals. Responses in any form are not offers and the Government is under no obligation to award a contract as a result of this Notice. The Government does not intend to award a contract on the basis of this Notice or otherwise pay any person’s costs incurred responding to this Notice.

The Office of Naval Research intends to execute a Cost-Plus-Fixed-Fee type Research and Development (R&D) contract on a non-competitive basis to Oceaneering International Inc. (OII) to construct and demonstrate at sea, a developmental prototype At-Sea Material Transfer system developed under the Compensated Lift and Advanced Mooring System (CLAMS) special project.

1.0 Background

The CLAMS prototype system developed under a previous initiative is a system of systems. The technical feasibility of CLAMS was planned for demonstration through the testing of the individual subsystems using hardware-in-the-loop (HIL) simulations prior to a follow-on effort to integrate these sub-systems for shipboard demonstration under a government-led integration and testing effort. The performer will integrate the prototype macro crane, micro crane, advanced motion controller (AMC) and the advance mooring system (AMS) into a fully integrated CLAMS. This integration will be performed on a contractor provided barge suitable for testing at sea. The performer will conduct land based testing and tuning to demonstrate to the government that CLAMS is ready for at-sea testing and will then support government led at-sea tests. The performer will also support disposition of CLAMS at the conclusion of testing.

This effort seeks to integrate the individual CLAMS subsystems into the larger At-Sea Precision Lift (ASPL) system of systems prototype for testing and demonstration. As part of the overarching ASPL system, the CLAMS sub-systems will be operated in a series of demonstrations in 2022 to validate its technical feasibility in a relevant operating environment. Work is expected to be completed by 30 Sept 2022.

2.0 Incumbent Contractor and Task Order Number

The incumbent contractor for this award is Oceaneering International Inc. under ONR contracts N00014-05-D-0521 and N00014-11-D-0327.

4.0 NAICS Code and Small Business Size Standard

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) is the standard used by Federal statistical agencies in classifying business establishments. The NAICS Code applicable to this potential award will be 541715 – Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences.

5.0 Statement of Work Tasks
5.1 The contractor shall procure a demonstration platform that will accommodate the CLAMS equipment, common support equipment, and payload transfer system.

5.2 The contractor shall design and implement necessary modifications to the demonstration platform to integrate and secure the CLAMS equipment and subsystems.

5.3 The contractor shall design and fabricate necessary measures to integrate the Advanced Mooring System (AMS).

5.4 The contractor shall integrate the AMS controls into the CLAMS control module.

5.5 The contractor shall design and fabricate the necessary measures to integrate the Macro Crane into the demonstration platform.

5.6 The contractor shall integrate the Micro Crane with the Macro Crane and Advanced Motion Controller (AMC) elements on the demonstration platform.

5.7 The contractor shall provide operations and maintenance support and spares necessary to support system grooming and testing.

5.8 The contractor should identify opportunities to update the characteristics of the models used in the Vortex HIL Simulator in order to improve the simulator’s fidelity. The contractor shall deliver the updated Vortex HIL Simulator software and source code to the Government upon completion of the demonstration.

5.9 The contractor shall supply a facility to support integration activities of the existing CLAMS elements and subsystems onto a demonstration platform.

5.10 The contractor will perform their own integration testing and conduct a Test Readiness Review (TRR) to certify to Government readiness for the At-Sea Demonstration.

5.11 The contractor shall support the Government planning and execution of the At-Sea Demonstration. This support shall include participation in planning the order and scope of testing as well as developing the test procedures for the CLAMS equipment portions of any test.

6.0 Contract Type

ONR anticipates awarding a Cost-Plus Fixed-Fee type contract in the total amount of $12.8M including the base period and any options.

7.0 Rationale Justifying Use of Cited Statutory Authority

Oceaneering Engineering Inc. developed the crane and advanced mooring system technologies under previous Future Naval Capability (FNC) Science and Technology (S&T) programs under competitively
awarded contracts, N00014-05-D-0521 and N00014-11-D-0327 respectively. As individual subsystem prototypes, they do not achieve the capability the Navy ultimately seeks under the CLAMS project, namely a system for the precise transfer of materials underway. That capability can be fully developed only through physical integration of all of the subsystems to test their interoperability.

As the subsystem developer for CLAMS, OII is the only responsible source in a position to effectively and efficiently perform that integration. ONR has invested an estimated $33.3M into the CLAMS subsystems to date. Issuing a competitive solicitation for the integration of these subsystems is estimated to more than double the estimated cost associated with awarding the work to OII. This is due to the significant amount of re-work, knowledge transfer, technology development, and respective time needed for another performer to become current with this effort. Therefore, award to another source for these highly specialized services is likely to result in substantial duplication of cost to the Government that is not expected to be recovered through competition.

8.0 Submission Instructions for Capability Statements

Interested parties shall furnish the following information:

1. Name of the Organization
2. Address of the Organization
3. CAGE Code and DUNS Number for the Organization
4. If a Small Business, indicate Small Business Type(s) (e.g., Small Business, Woman-Owned Small Business, Economically Disadvantaged Woman-Owned Small Business, Small Disadvantaged Business, 8(a) Certified, HUBZone Certified, Veteran Owned Small Business, and/or Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business)
5. Telephone/Fax Number, Address, and Email address for the primary point of contact for Capabilities Statement
6. A description of your organization’s capability to meet the requirements stated above
7. A summary of your organization’s history relative to similar requirements
8. A list of current contracts held of similar requirements to Section 6.0 Statement of Work, include:
   - Contract Number
   - Agency
   - Total dollar value
   - Period of performance
   - Contract type (FFP, CPFF, CPAF, T&M etc…)


As much as possible, it is preferred that capability statements be nonproprietary. However, capability statements with company-sensitive data and concepts will be accepted, and the Government will respect restricted data markings. Responders are expected to appropriately mark their submissions that contain proprietary information. Receipt of classified materials is not anticipated.

Capability statements shall not exceed five (5) pages in length (excluding a cover page) and must be submitted by email no later than 2:00 pm local time, Washington D.C. on Friday 18 September 2020
to Lynn Christian at lynn.christian@navy.mil. Any responses received after the requested due date may be considered.