

Amendment 0001  
Solicitation Number N00014-15-R-SN016  
“Stand-off and Remote Improvised Explosive Device Detection and Neutralization”  
Date Published: August 19, 2015

The purpose of Amendment 0001 is to respond to questions submitted in response to the Special Notice.

**Question 1:** Is this BAA open to foreign research entities?

**Answer 1:** Yes, it is open to all.

**Question 2:** Can a contractor propose either detection or neutralization without offering both?

**Answer 2:** Yes, a contractor can propose any one of the topics included in the detection or neutralization area specified in the announcement.

**Question 3:** What is the anticipated Technology Readiness Level (TRL) at the end of the program?

**Answer 3:** There is no TRL requirement at the completion of the program, but there is one at the beginning. The proposed work must be ‘basic research.’ The innovative research aspect of the proposed concept must be emphasized and clearly stated. If does not meet the basic research definition, the proposal will not be considered.

**Question 4:** In regard to the Optimized Combination of Fused Orthogonal Measurements research area: A contractor is prepared to propose research for multi-modal and multi sensor detection of person borne IEDs concealed under clothing out to a stand-off distance of 100 meters. This proposed concept would NOT, however, be applicable to the detection of IEDs or mines buried in the ground. The concern is that the proposed research may therefore be too limited in scope to interest ONR for this particular opportunity. We would greatly appreciate any commentary that you can provide as to whether research limited to person borne IEDs is appropriate for this announcement.

**Answer 4:** The PBIED (person borne IED) will be considered as hidden and obscured object detection. Therefore, it is still relevant; however, preference will be given to a single detection concept that can address multiple challenges.

**Question 5:** Would the use of nuclear-based methods for explosive detection be considered responsive to the solicitation?

**Answer 5:** Yes. All the detection concepts will be considered.

**Question 6:** Can you quantify the distance that is referenced to as “standoff”?

**Answer 6:** The standoff distance of each system will be different based on characteristics of each proposed detection concept. If a detection sensor is capable of being designed and mounted in a small low power platform (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) or Unmanned Ground Vehicle (UGV)), shorter

range is acceptable. If it is a stand-off sensor (The sensor is located near an operator), distance up to 100 meters would be preferred but not required. Please keep in mind that the distance is not the only criteria. Also, while ONR is describing a desired capability, only the basic research portion of the work is applicable to this announcement. In other words, ONR is not looking for a system, but a research topic/concept that can potentially provide this capability.