

INTRODUCTION:

This publication constitutes a Request for Information (RFI) and no formal Request for Proposals (RFP), solicitation, and/or additional information regarding this request will be issued. The Office of Naval Research (ONR) will not issue paper copies of this request.

The responses to this RFI will be considered in the planning and definition of future technology development programs for which later solicitations may play a part.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Agency Name

Office of Naval Research
800 North Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22217-5660

2. Research Opportunity Title:

Enhanced Heavy Airlift Capability

3. Research Opportunity Number:

4. Response Date:

White Papers: Monday, 05 May 2003

5. Research Opportunity Description:

The Expeditionary Logistics (ExLog) component of the Power Projection Future Naval Capabilities Program at the Office of Naval Research (ONR) solicits information regarding technical opportunities whose development might meaningfully enable enhanced naval heavy airlift capabilities.

The Navy and Marine Corps need an enhanced heavy airlift capability to support the logistic requirements implicit in advanced expeditionary warfare concepts such as Operational Maneuver From The Sea (OMFTS) and Ship To Objective Maneuver (STOM) as well as ship based Vertical Replenishment (VERTREP) logistic operations. The existent technology baseline is reflected in the MH/CH-53E together with work that may be undertaken as part of its Service Life Extension Program (SLEP). The focus of the present Request For Information (RFI) is support for the "next generation" of Vertical Takeoff Or Landing (VTOL) or Very Short Takeoff Or Landing (VSTOL) heavy lift technology that could support Navy and Marine Corps requirements. The focus of takeoff and landing operations will be ships, other than aircraft carriers, and unprepared, constrained, tactical, landing zones. The technical baseline is the current MH/CH-53E together with the projected capabilities of the MH/CH-53E that will result from its Service Life Extension Program (SLEP). The principal metric for this ExLog program will be "lift" and not throughput, speed, or range. The focus of this request is primarily at the Science and technology (S&T) level as defined by Technology Readiness Levels 1 through 6 and includes, but is not limited to, enabling technologies such as aerodynamics, flight structures, materials, propulsion, and control. Full prototypes are beyond the scope of this request.

6. Point(s) of Contact:

Ms. Kimbra Whittier
Office of Naval Research
Industrial & Corporate Programs
Code: ONR 36A
BCT 3, Room 628
800 North Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22217-5660
Telephone: (703) 696-0557
E-Mail: whittik@onr.navy.mil

Questions of a business nature shall be directed to the Contracting Officer, as specified below :

Mrs. Vera M. Carroll
Office of Naval Research
Placement Three Branch
Code: ONR 0253
BCT 1, Room 720
800 North Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22217-5660
Telephone: (703) 696-2610
E-Mail: carrolv@onr.navy.mil

II. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION

1. Application and Submission Process:

The due date for white papers is no later than 4 p.m. (Local Eastern Time) on Monday, 05 May 2003.

The Government will not reimburse any costs associated with the development and submission of materials in response to this request; however, in the event that a program is developed as the result of this request, offerors will receive consideration for possible support. This is not a commitment to fund any effort submitted in response to this request.

2. Content and Format of White Papers:

White paper responses should not exceed 5 pages in length and should use the following format:

- (1) Cover Page – The cover page shall be labeled “CONCEPT WHITE PAPER”, and shall include the RFI number, proposed title, Submitter’s administrative and technical points of contact, with telephone numbers, facsimile numbers, and Internet addresses, and shall be signed by an authorized officer.
- (2) Technical Concept - A description of the Navy and/or Marine Corps warfighting payoff, objective, and technical risk areas. This section should also address targeted end users community (i.e., aviation, ship operation, ground maneuver forces, ammunition handlers, construction forces, etc.), technical approach, technology or product (include picture, if possible).

(3) Rough Cost Estimate – Very rough cost estimates and schedules may be included at the discretion of the submitter; however, cost proposals are inappropriate and the inclusion of proprietary business data is unnecessary, inappropriate, and discouraged. The intent is to utilize the information provided to support ONR program decisions and NOT to support procurement actions.

The white papers submitted in response to this RFI are expected to be unclassified. However, confidential/classified proposals are permitted. The white papers submissions will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR 15.207, applicable law, and DoD/DoN regulations. Submitters are expected to appropriately mark each page of their submission that contains proprietary information. Responses will not be disclosed outside the Department of the Navy. If the responses are of sufficient quantity and quality, ONR will consider pursuing an actual Broad Agency Announcement (BAA), which may lead to multiple contract awards in the fiscal year (FY) 2004/2005 timeframe.

White Paper Format:

- Paper Size – 8.5 x 11 inch paper
- Margins – 1” inch
- Spacing – single or double-spaced
- Font – Times New Roman, 12 point
- Number of Pages – No more than five (5) single-sided pages (excluding cover page). White Papers exceeding the page limit may not be evaluated.
- When submitting hard copies – one (1) original and 2 copies on a 3.5” Diskette or CD-ROM, (in Microsoft® Word or Excel 97 compatible or .PDF format).

3. Address for the Submission of White Papers:

Responses will be accepted via commercial mail or via e-mail. Send conventional mail to the following address:

Office of Naval Research
Ballston Center Tower One
Attn: Ms. Kimbra Whittier, ONR 36A
BCT3, Room 628
800 North Quincy Street
Arlington, VA 22217-5660
Telephone Number: (703) 696-0557

Electronic file transmissions are encouraged. Send e-mail responses to the following e-mail address:

whittik@onr.navy.mil

NOTE: RESPONSES SENT BY FAX WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.