

Sources Sought Notice: M67854-10-I-6013
Marine Corps Systems Command

Market Research for Marine Corps Assault Amphibious Vehicle Systems (AAVS) Sustainment and Survivability Upgrades: Request for Information Marine Corps Assault Amphibious Vehicle Systems (AAVS) Program.

This is a Request for Information (RFI) via a Sources Sought Synopsis related to the Marine Corps AAVS. There currently is no Request For Proposal (RFP) under development, and no RFP is available.

Marine Corps System Command is seeking information from potential responsible sources capable of performing AAVS sustainment and survivability upgrades in support of the AAVS fleet.

The purpose of this RFI is to conduct market research/a market survey that will identify potential sources, capabilities, and interest in the program, and assist in developing an acquisition strategy to meet Government requirements. The scope of work that is the focus of the RFI is for AAVS Survivability Upgrade of the AAV program, which may include survivability enhancements to the current AAV system.

Program Background: The Assault Amphibious Vehicle (AAV) Model 7A1 (AAV7A1) Family of Vehicles (FOV) serves as the Marine Corps' primary amphibious lift and armored personnel carrier. It consists of three variants - a personnel carrier (AAVP7A1), a command and control variant (AAVC7A1), and a recovery variant (AAVR7A1) - that were originally developed in the 1960s and began fielding in 1972. All three variants are fully tracked, armored platforms capable of conducting amphibious landings in accordance with Joint Doctrine for Amphibious Operations JP 3-02. The AAV7A1 FOV is currently the primary means of delivering the surface assault element of forcible entry operations during amphibious operations. There are currently 930 AAVP7A1s, 76 AAVC7A1s, and 51 AAVR7A1s, for a total of 1,057 vehicles. The overall objectives of Sustainment and Survivability Upgrade are to maintain the operational effectiveness of the AAV7A1 FOV fleet until replaced by the Expeditionary Fighting Vehicle (EFV). Based on current EFV fielding projections, AAV7A1 FOV will remain in the fleet until at least 2025.

Potential Scope of Work may include the following:

The Marine Corps has a potential requirement for a contractor to provide AAVS Sustainment and Survivability Upgrade for the AAV7A1 FOV. The Contractor would be responsible for providing AAVS sustainment and upgrade solutions under the management of the Program Manager, Assault Amphibious Vehicle System (PM AAVS) at the Marine Corps Systems Command (MARCORSYSCOM), Quantico, Virginia, and various other locations as necessary. Other locations may include CONUS or OCONUS, and at the contractor's own facilities.

The contractor would be tasked with potentially providing some or all of the following services/supplies:

1. Program Management Support: Includes participation in Government directed development of price and availability of upgrade components; internal project management and associated accounting using the Earned Value Management System,

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scheduling, document preparation and on-site representation at Government or contractor facilities, as directed.

2. Technical Support: To include participation and subject matter assistance in Government led design/production engineering, engineering analyses, quality management, configuration management, value engineering, reliability and maintainability, systems safety, system integration, and test and evaluation.
3. Field Service Support: To include Government led sustainment, maintenance and modification of the master configuration vehicles provided as Government Furnished Equipment and on-site technical representation as directed by the Government.
4. Acquisition Logistics: To include all disciplines required to assist the Government with comprehensive logistics assessments for systems/subsystems/components, inclusive of supportability goals, cost/performance trades, and life-cycle cost.
5. Concept Exploration: To include Government led prototyping, developing, production of developmental components, subsystems and assemblies for the AAV7A1 FOV.
6. Implementation of Engineering Change Proposals: Based upon Government directed concept exploration, or other Government direction, provide for the development, production, procurement, kitting, fielding, and implementation of engineering change proposals to the AAV7A1 FOV.
7. Options: As an option to this effort, the Government may task the contractor to assist in the conduct of research, development, and acquisition of survivability enhancements to all or a portion of the AAVS fleet. Examples of potential enhancements include:
 - a. External Fuel Tank: To remove the internal fuel tank and relocate externally to limit the likelihood of loss of life and catastrophic vehicle damage due to penetration and resulting fires caused by overmatching threats and munitions, and to meet the range requirements of the current Required Operational Capability (ROC) for the AAV7A1 FOV (ROC No. MOB 1.13B).
 - b. Underbelly/ Sponson Armor Kit: (with mounting provisions and storage) To provide protection to the crew and occupants against Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) and conventional (anti-personnel and anti-tank mine) underbelly and roadside attacks.
 - c. Spall liner: To mitigate the behind armor affect caused by the penetration from munitions and to increase crew survivability.
 - d. Blast Attenuating Seats: To mitigate shock transmitted through the vehicle to the occupants from an underbelly attack.

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Marine Corps Systems Command will host an Industry Day on or about 26 October 2010. The purpose of Industry Day will be to provide additional information on the AAV7A1 FOV and the requirements for AAVS sustainment and survivability upgrades. Contractors interested in attending the Industry Day should notify Marine Corps Systems Command POC Ms. Suzanne Blagg at Suzanne.Blagg@usmc.mil AND Ms. Monica Hurui at Monica.Choudhury@usmc.mil not later than COB 28 September 2010. On or about 5 October 2010, Marine Corps Systems Command will provide detailed Industry Day coordinating instructions including the agenda and specific location.

Parties interested in providing information in response to this RFI are invited to provide the following information to assist the Government in this market survey:

- Introductory Statement (not more than 5 pages) that includes at least the following
 - Organizational Name, Address and Point of Contact information
 - DUNS and CAGE Code
 - Business size and type (i.e., large, foreign, small disadvantaged, veteran owned, minority owned, etc.)
- Statement of capabilities addressing the Government's potential requirement, including organizational structure, and production/engineering facility capabilities.
- Information on previous/current experience and projects that may be comparable, similar to, or closely approximated with the scope of work.
- Any other information that the respondent may determine to be of value to the Government in evaluating the current market and industrial base's capabilities in supporting the potential requirement.

Responses shall be limited to a total of not more than 55 pages that are not larger than 8 ½ " x 11" for each sheet. Responses in CD format are acceptable, but must be readable in at least Microsoft Office 2003 and/or Adobe Reader Professional 8.

Responses from all aspects of industry (either potential prime contractor or subcontractor) are welcome. Final responses to this RFI are requested to be received via mail by 1400 EDT on 10 November 2010. Mailing address for final response is Commander, Marine Corps Systems Command Attn: Ms. Suzanne Blagg – 2200 Lester St., Quantico VA 22134.

NOTE: This Request for Information is for planning purposes only and is issued in accordance with FAR Clause 52-215-3. No solicitation document exists at this time. Issuance of this notice does not constitute any obligation on the part of the Government to procure these items or to issue a solicitation. Additionally, the Government is under no obligation to pay for information submitted in response to this RFI, and responses to this notice cannot be accepted as offers. ***Any information that the vendor considers proprietary should be clearly marked.***