



## DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

REGIONAL CONTRACTING DEPARTMENT  
 NAVSUP FLEET LOGISTICS CENTER PUGET SOUND  
 467 W STREET  
 BREMERTON, WASHINGTON 98314-5120

CONTROL NUMBER 2016-025

N00406-16-R-6050

### JUSTIFICATION AND APPROVAL FOR SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT

Under Simplified Procedures for Certain Commercial Items (FAR 13.5)

1. **Contracting Activity**

NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Puget Sound (FLCPS).

2. **Description of Action Being Approved**

Approval is requested for award of a firm, fixed-price supply type contract to sole source, IHS Global Inc., for procurement of web-based subscription access to online commercial and military technical documents and standards. IHS Global is the only known source capable of providing the access needed to the entire library at the level of quality required because the subscription access is unique and highly specialized.

3. **Description of Supplies/Services**

This procurement is for web-based subscription access which provides online access to commercial and United States Federal/Military technical documents and standards. The required subscription access to online technical information as provided by IHS Global is currently in use by SRF-JRMC Yokosuka. Approximately 600-700 personnel use this online subscription daily. Without this access, SRF-JRMC'S ability to provide maintenance and repair [REDACTED] (b) (7)(F) would be severely degraded. The contractor shall provide simultaneous user access for federal and military standardization documents. The brand name products are from IHS Global Inc. (IHS). It is the Government's intention to award the contract for a base year with four option years beginning 23 March 2016. Option years, if exercised, would be for a period beginning on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March and ending the following year on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March. If all four (4) option years are exercised the contract will continue until 22 March of 2021. The estimated dollar value of the base and four options years is [REDACTED] (b) (5). Ship Repair Facility-Joint Regional Maintenance Center (SRF-JRMC), Yokosuka, Japan has submitted FY16 O&MN funds in support of year one of this requirement.

4. **Statutory Authority Permitting Sole Source**

41 U.S.C. 1901 – A sole source acquisition under the authority of the simplified acquisition procedures for certain commercial items, as implemented by FAR 13.501(a).

5. **Rationale Justifying Use of Cited Statutory Authority**

IHS is the only company that has compiled all the required technical documents and standards into an easily accessible, continuously available online format that does not require the user to load proprietary

software. IHS has exclusive rights to Aerospace Industries Association of America, Inc. / National Aerospace Standards. IHS is the exclusive provider of Haystack Gold (b) (4) and CATALOGXPRESS. The other standards development organization's documents can be purchased in hard copy with a few companies providing both electronic and hard copy formats. Additionally, IHS provides a warranty which establishes the fact that it (IHS) has sufficient title to copyrighted works allowing for electronic distribution and provides the user rights to use, reproduce, disclose, display, perform and prepare derivative works of the respective documents. In summary, IHS is the only company which holds the rights to all of the required data and provides it in one location.

Administrative costs prohibit this procurement from being broken out into individual acquisitions of each of the various libraries. Estimated administrative costs predict an additional (b) (5) in admin costs alone with each new contract. Furthermore, IHS Global provides a convenient one-stop access portal for all technical data necessary to carry out the mission. It would be cumbersome and exponentially time consuming for personnel to be required to establish some twenty plus log-ins and/or passwords in order to access each of these individual libraries. Additionally, the unique format offered by IHS allows the user to access specific information within databases with a keystroke, such as technical characteristics or physical properties. Ordinary access through individual websites to these various societies and Government entities only provides raw data in no specific order and would require extensive and unnecessary analysis before the needed information is attained. IHS has compiled the precise configuration needed by the Navy for ease of use and time-saving convenience, and is the only known contractor to date to provide this exact format.

During the acquisition phase of this procurement for fiscal year 2015, another firm, Terabase Corporation, expressed interest in part of this requirement and asked if the requirement could be split into two separate contracts. It was determined that Terabase could provide approximately 19% of the requirement. Terabase informed the negotiator that the remaining 81% of the requirement was proprietary to IHS Global. The negotiator contacted the end-user regarding the option of awarding to two vendors. The end-users response noted that IHS Global provides one platform by which to access all documents, societies, and organizations as well as links embedded within the data whereby users can move seamlessly from document to document. This efficiency would be lost if the requirement was split apart and awarded to two vendors. It was decided to retain the requirement in its entirety and award to the sole source as this is in the best interest of the Government.

#### 6. Description of Efforts Made to Solicit Offers from as Many Offerors as Practicable

Historically, this requirement has been synopsisized and the respective RFQ posted to NECO for competition. In 2008 only one bid was received which was from IHS. In 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014 this requirement has been repeatedly synopsisized on NECO and only IHS Global responded with an offer. In 2015 the sole source was challenged during the presolicitation phase of the procurement but it was subsequently determined that two contracts would not be in the best interest of the Government. Moreover, it was confirmed that the IHS product is a unique platform making them the only source which could fulfil the Government's requirement. It should be noted that the requirement shall be synopsisized during the fiscal year 2016 procurement as well.

#### 7. Determination of Fair and Reasonable Cost

The contracting officer shall determine the anticipated cost to the Government of the supplies/services covered by this J&A will be fair and reasonable.

8. **Actions to Remove Barriers to Future Competition**

For the reasons set forth in Paragraph 5, FLCPS has no plans at this time to compete future contracts for the types of supplies/services covered by this document. If another potential source emerges, FLCPS will assess whether competition for future requirements is feasible.

9. **Contracting Point of Contract**

The contracting points of contact for this contract are Cari Burnham, NAVSUP FLC Puget Sound Contracting Officer, 360-476-4277, [cari.burnham@navy.mil](mailto:cari.burnham@navy.mil) and Austin Carter, NAVSUP FLC Puget Sound Contracting Officer, 360-476-0844, [austin.carter@navy.mil](mailto:austin.carter@navy.mil).

CERTIFICATIONS AND APPROVAL

TECHNICAL/REQUIREMENTS CERTIFICATION

I certify that the facts and representations under my cognizance which are included in this Justification and its supporting acquisition planning documents, except as noted herein, are complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Technical Cognizance:

(b) (6)

CDR ASSUNTA LOPEZ 243-7177 04 MAR 2016  
Name (Printed) Phone No. Date

Requirements Cognizance:

(b) (6)

CDR ASSUNTA LOPEZ 243-7177 04 MAR 2016  
Name (Printed) Phone No. Date

LEGAL SUFFICIENCY REVIEW

(b) (6)

is legally sufficient.

Chris Lybeck 360-476-2939 3/8/16  
Name (Printed) Phone No. Date

CONTRACTING OFFICER CERTIFICATION

I certify that this Justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. To the extent that the J&A/LSJ value is between \$150K and \$650K, the Contracting Officer's signature below also represents approval of the J&A/LSJ.

Signature Name (Printed) Phone No. Date

(b) (6)

COMPETITION ADVOCATE REVIEW

is between \$650K and \$12.5M, the Competition Advocate's signature below represents approval of the J&A/LSJ.

Patricia Blackwood 360-476-2801 3/9/2016  
Name (Printed) Phone No. Date

Signature