

Sole Source Intent Notification – F/A-18 E/F and EA-18G upgrade and modification to existing Aircrew Training System Software

Classification Code:

6910 -- Training aids & devices

NAICS Code:

333 -- Machinery Manufacturing/333319 -- Other Commercial and Service Industry Machinery Manufacturing

THIS IS NOT A REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE PROPOSALS. The Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division (NAWCTSD) Orlando intends to negotiate, on a sole source basis, a contract with L-3 Communications Corporation, Link Simulation & Training Division (L-3), Arlington, TX for the upgrade and modification of existing F/A-18E/F and EA-18G aircrew training system software to support the aircraft System Configuration Set (SCS)/Engineering Change Proposal (ECP) development needs for the aircraft programs using aircrew training systems.

This requirement includes incorporation of modifications of existing L-3 software to provide H14 and H16 SCS functionality, the associated aircraft ECPs and major subsystems identified in the F/A-18E/F and EA-18G aircraft development roadmap. The software will only be incorporated on TOFT 125 located at Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD) and on Advanced Development Stations (ADS) located at NAWCWD China Lake, CA; Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD), Patuxent River, MD; Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division (NAWCTSD), Orlando, FL; L3 Link, Arlington, TX; and Boeing, St. Louis, MO. The contract will also provide for directed procurement by Foreign Military Sales (FMS) customers for the acquisition of modifications of existing L-3 software for FMS versions of H14 and H16 SCS software. Logistic support, comprised of support equipment, technical manual updates and on-site training will also be included. Any new modifications and upgrades must be integrated and interoperable with the currently fielded F/A-18E/F and EA-18G systems and require the use of technical information that is not readily available to other contractors during design and development as the Government has neither the intellectual property rights nor data necessary to provide to another contractor. Because the contract requires in-depth knowledge of the current trainer design, award to any other contractor would result in substantial duplication of costs to the Government that would not be recovered through competition and would create unacceptable delays in fulfilling F/A-18 and EA-18G aircraft requirements. A competitive acquisition would allow for a new TOFT software baseline to be introduced that may not be integrated and interoperable with the existing TOFTs due to the restricted rights and limited data rights that resulted from a competitive award under the Training System Contract (TSC) I multiple award contract at NAWCTSD. This would require the Government to have two infrastructures in place for TOFT life cycle support or would require a significant rework of the current TOFT design and development that would cost the Government additional non-recurring engineering (NRE) effort for first article development, testing, and retrofit of existing TOFTs. As the current designer, developer, integrator, manufacturer and supplier of a substantial share of the F/A-18E/F and EA-18G TOFT hardware and software components, only L-3

possesses the requisite knowledge, engineering expertise, and data rights of the design required to design, build, modify, upgrade and deliver modifications to the existing L-3 F/A-18E/F and EA-18G aircrew training system software to maximize both TOFT 125 and the five ADS' capabilities as developmental assets for the aircraft H14 and H16 SCS programs.

This acquisition is being pursued on a sole source basis under statutory authority of 10 U.S.C. (c)(1) as implemented by the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.302-1 (Only on responsible source and no other supplies or services will satisfy agency requirements). This synopsis is not a request for competitive proposals. It is a notice that outlines the Government's intent to contract on a sole source basis with L-3. However, interested sources may identify their interest and capability to respond to the requirements. Interested sources must submit detailed technical capabilities, ability to obtain F/A-18E/F and EA-18G aircrew training system data, and any other information, that demonstrates their ability to meet the needs of the Government. Small businesses can inquire with Mr. Dennis Evans (Dennis.evans@L-3com.com) or at (817) 619-4729 for possible subcontracting opportunities. Detailed capabilities must be submitted by email to Ricardo Elias (Ricardo.L.Elias@navy.mil) in an electronic format that is compatible with Word 2007, no later than 26 May 2015. All information shall be furnished at no cost or obligation to the Government. Responses shall be limited to no more than TEN (10) pages. A determination by the Government not to compete this proposed contract action based upon responses to this notice is solely within the discretion of the Government. Information received will be considered solely for the purpose of determining whether to conduct a competitive procurement. No solicitation document is available. If no affirmative written response is received, the contract will be awarded without further notice prior to award.