

SMALL BUSINESS SOURCES SOUGHT NOTICE

Notice Number: HHS-NIH-NCI-SBSS-TSB-97040-65 – **Revised 6/5/09**

Title: Operation and Maintenance of the Biological Data Processing System

This is a Small Business Sources Sought notice. This is **NOT** a solicitation for proposals, proposal abstracts, or quotations. The purpose of this notice is to obtain information regarding: (1) the availability and capability of qualified small business sources; (2) whether they are small businesses; HUBZone small businesses; service-disabled, veteran-owned small businesses; 8(a) small businesses; veteran-owned small businesses; woman-owned small businesses; or small disadvantaged businesses; and (3) their size classification relative to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code for the proposed acquisition. Your responses to the information requested will assist the Government in determining the appropriate acquisition method, including whether a set-aside is possible. An organization that is not considered a small business under the applicable NAICS code should not submit a response to this notice.

This National Cancer Institute (NCI), National Institutes of Health (NIH) project is for the renewal of contract N02-CM-52208 with Addis Incorporated that was awarded on a competitive basis for a five year period. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests regarding the current contract with Addis Incorporated should be directed to Suzy Milliard atmilliards@mail.nih.gov. This Small Business Sources Sought Notice (SBSS) is for information and planning purposes only and shall not be construed as a solicitation or as an obligation on the part of the National Cancer Institute (NCI).

A determination by the Government not to compete this requirement as a set-aside based upon responses to this Notice is solely within the discretion of the Government.

Interested parties are expected to review this Notice and the draft **Statement of Work** to familiarize themselves with the requirements of this project; failure to do so will be at your firm's own risk.

Background:

The Development Therapeutics Program (DTP), Division of Cancer Treatment Diagnosis (DCTD) has overall responsibility for the discovery and development of chemical and biological agents with potential use in the treatment of cancer. The discovery function of the program consists of acquisition, in vitro and in vivo evaluation and selection of candidate compounds for clinical assessment. The development functions involve Pharmacology and Toxicology studies, formulation development and provide materials for clinical evaluation and treatment.

The Information Technology Branch (ITB), as an integral part of the discovery team, provides comprehensive computer services to further DTP in meeting these objectives.

ITB manages the large amount of chemical and biological data required for this effort by means of two major computer systems:

- The NCI Drug Information System (DIS) provides comprehensive support for chemical information and sample handling.
- The Biological Data Processing System (BDPS) provides support for biological testing and associated data.

Purpose and Objectives:

The purpose of this Small Business Sources Sought Notice is to identify qualified small business concerns including HUBZone small businesses; service-disabled, veteran-owned small businesses; 8(a) small businesses, veteran-owned small businesses; woman-owned small businesses; or small disadvantaged businesses that are interested in and capable of performing the work described herein. The NCI does not intend to award a contract on the basis of responses received nor otherwise pay for the preparation of any information submitted.

As a result of this SBSS Notice, the NCI may issue a Request for Proposal (RFP). THERE IS NO SOLICITATION AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME. However, should such a requirement materialize, no basis for claims against NCI shall arise as a result of a response to this Small Business Sources Sought Notice or the NCI's use of such information as either part of our evaluation process or in developing specifications for any subsequent requirement.

The purpose of this project is to provide software engineering, database design, mathematics and statistical support including design and/or redesign of application programs as well as initial coding, revising, testing, documentation, operations and maintenance of BDPS custom software. The Contractor will work at their own location, but frequently be required to attend meetings with Project Officer at Government offices in Frederick and Rockville, Maryland.

Project Requirements:

1. Software Development – The contractor shall perform work on all phases of the software life cycle, including requirements analysis, system design, software development, testing, and implementation. The effort will require that solutions be implemented in a wide range of software environments using many different programming tools.
2. Software Testing – The contractor shall develop and implement a process to validate that all new custom software or custom software upgrades perform as designed and do not adversely impact other custom applications. The contractor shall develop and implement processes and procedures to maintain the integrity and quality of new data.
3. Documentation – The contractor shall develop, update and maintain all system documentation including technical system documentation.
4. Software Maintenance – The contractor shall maintain all current and future application for continuous successful operations.
5. Transition/Phase-In – The contractor shall assist in the transition of this project to a successor contractor.

6. Miscellaneous – The contractor shall participate as needed, in joint government personnel and government contractor's software development efforts, which includes software development, database integration, and implementation of shared information management resources.

Anticipated Period of Performance:

The period of performance for this requirement is five (5) years, consisting of a one-year base period plus four (4) one-year options. The anticipated start date is February 1, 2010.

Other Important Considerations:Mandatory Criteria

All parties interested in this project must meet the following mandatory criteria for eligibility:

This project supports software/databases which are complex and tightly integrated with scientific laboratories located in Frederick, Maryland. Due to the complexity and the laboratory locale, face-to-face discussions are vital in ensuring that the contractor fully understands the frequent changing data and processing requirements laid out by the laboratories. Therefore, the contractor's facility shall be within a twenty-four (24) hour commuting time by automobile from Frederick, Maryland.

In addition, the offeror may not be a pharmaceutical, chemical, or biotechnology firm. For purposes of this RFP, a pharmaceutical, chemical or biotechnology companies are defined as an organization which sells drugs and/or chemicals to the general public for profit or is engaged in research leading to such products.

Draft Statement of Work:

A copy of the draft Statement of Work (SOW), which is subject to revisions, may be accessed on the NCI Office of Acquisitions Website at URL: <http://rcb.nci.nih.gov/> . Once there, click on Current Requests for Proposals.

NAICS Code and Size Standard:

In the event an RFP is issued, North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 541511 with a size standard of 25.0 million dollars is being considered.

Capability Statement/Information Sought:

Tailored Capability Statements shall demonstrate a clear understanding of all tasks specified in the draft Statement of Work (SOW). Tailored Capability Statements for this requirement shall address the following areas:

1. Demonstrate the ability to meet the mandatory criteria as noted above.

2. The organization's awareness of project needs and approach to performance of Tasks in meeting the objectives of the attached draft SOW. Specifically, address the following:
 - Experience with large-scale biological data systems.
 - Experience with range of tools comprising this project.
 - Demonstration of a practical and realistic approach to the sample tasks.
 - Description of how the team will be organized both technically and administratively.
 - Description of plan for transitioning ongoing tasks identified in the draft SOW.
 - Demonstration of an understanding of the software and databases that are currently implemented and supported under this contract.
 - Demonstration of a comprehensive software life cycle methodology for developing and managing software.
 - Demonstration in SVG, XLST, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, EJB, Struts, Hibernate, BEA Weblogic Server, Tomcat, Oracle RDBMS and technologies and capability to migrate legacy applications from these technologies to the J2EE and/or CambridgeSoft architecture using programming languages and the above tools.
3. Demonstrate the ability to provide knowledgeable staff to meet the objectives of the attached draft SOW. Specifically, addressing that proposed staff have the experience in the technical environment and range of tools comprising this project.
4. Document composition and qualifications of the proposed staff. Specifically, the following three positions:
 - (a) The **Project Manager** shall be expected to perform as a senior level developer as well as manage the overall efforts of the development Team. The Project Manager shall have extensive experience with the full cycle of large applications projects and the following experience:
 - Within the last ten (10) years, the Project Manager shall demonstrate eight (8) years of experience with application systems design and development, three (3) of which are at the management level;
 - Within the last seven years, the Project Manager shall have five (5) years working in an ORACLE environment on a VAX/VMS platform;
 - Experience managing a software development of large biological database systems within the last four (4) years;
 - Experience managing a software development team in a J2EE environment using web-based BEA WebLogic application server front end tools and ORACLE as a database server within the last four (4) years;
 - Experience developing a J2EE environment.
 - (b) The **Programmer Analysts** shall have six (6) years experience with application system design and development within the last eight (8) years. Within the last six (6) years, the analysts shall demonstrate four (4) years experience in designing and developing systems in an ORACLE/Java/J2EE environment. At least one (1) program analyst shall process experience

implementing solutions using the Cambridge Soft Enterprise Software Suite.

The experience shall document requirement analysis, template configuration and processing, as well as support for subsequent data mining techniques.

(c). The **Programmer** shall have experience with the full life cycle of large applications projects. Within the last six (6) years, the Programmer shall have six (6) years experience with ORACLE and two (2) years experience with J2EE/Java environment.

5. Demonstrate the availability, suitability and accessibility of facilities for the project, including office space and telecommunications facilities. Demonstrate availability for each programmer, of a personal computer with Jbuilder connectivity to a WebLogic Application Server which will enable the individual to work efficiently.

Information Submission Instructions:

1. Page Limitations:

Interested qualified small business organizations should submit a tailored capability statement for this requirement not to exceed twenty (20) single sided pages including all attachments, resumes, charts, etc. (single spaced, 12 point font minimum) that clearly details the firm's ability to perform the aspects of the notice described above and in the draft SOW. Tailored capability statements should also include an indication of current certified small business status; this indication should be clearly marked on the first page of your capability statement (preferable placed under the eligible small business concern's name and address) as well as the eligible small business concern's name, point of contact, address and DUNS number.

2. Number of Copies:

All capability Statement sent in response to this SMALL BUSINESS SOURCES SOUGHT notice must be submitted electronically (via e-mail) to C. Timothy Crilley, Contracting Officer, at tcrilley@mail.nih.gov in MS Word, WordPerfect or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF). The e-mail subject line must specify HHS-NIH-NCI-SBSS-TSB-97040-65. Facsimile responses will not be accepted.

3. Common Cut-off Date:

Electronically submitted tailored capability statements are due no later than 3:00PM (Eastern Prevailing Time) on June 19, 2009. ***CAPABILITY STATEMENTS RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE AND TIME WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.***

DISCLAIMER AND IMPORTANT NOTES: This notice does not obligate the Government to award a contract or otherwise pay for the information provided in this response. The Government reserves the right to use information provided by respondents for any purpose deemed necessary and legally appropriate. Any organization responding to this notice should ensure that its response is complete and sufficiently detailed to allow the Government to determine the organization's

qualifications to perform the work. Respondents are advised that the Government is under no obligation to acknowledge receipt of the information received or provide feedback to respondents with respect to any information submitted. After a review of the responses received, a pre-solicitation synopsis and solicitation may be published in Federal Business Opportunities. However, responses to this notice will not be considered adequate responses to a solicitation.

CONFIDENTIALITY: No proprietary, classified, confidential, or sensitive information should be included in your response. The Government reserves the right to use any non-proprietary technical information in any resultant solicitation(s).