

2. Amendment/Modification No. 002	3. Effective Date Sep 22, 2004	4. Requisition/Purchase Req. No. AJF30000-4-00916	5. Project No. (if applicable)
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6. Issued By DOC/NOAA/NWS Acquisition Management Div. OFA63 1325 East West Hwy, Suite 15254 Silver Spring, MD 20910	Code AJF30012	7. Administered By (If other than Item 6) DOC/NOAA/NWS Acquisition Management Div. OFA63 1325 East West Hwy, Suite 15254 Silver Spring, MD 20910	Code
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8. Name and Address of Contractor (No., Street, County, and Zip Code)	(X)	9A. Amendment of Solicitation No. DG133W-04-RP-0055
	X	9B. Date (See Item 11) Aug 16, 2004
		10A. Modification of Contract/Order No.
		10B. Date (See Item 13)

Code	Facility Code
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11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS

The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers is extended is not extended. Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods:
 (a) By completing items 8 and 15, and returning 0 copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.

12. Accounting and Appropriation Data (if required)
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**13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACT/ORDERS.
IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.**

(x)	A. This change order is issued pursuant to: (Specify authority) The changes set forth in item 14 are made in the Contract Order No. in item 10A.
	B. The above numbered Contract/Order is modified to reflect the administrative changes (such as changes in paying office, appropriation date, etc.) Set fourth item 14, pursuant to the authority of FAR 43.103 (b)
	C. This supplemental agreement is entered into pursuant to authority of:
	D. Other (Specify type of modification and authority)

E. IMPORTANT: Contractor is not, is required to sign this document and return copies to the issuing office.

14. Description of Amendment/Modification (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible.)

The purpose of this Amendment is to provide answers to the final set of Clarifications submitted by offerors. An RFP that incorporates changes (identified by change bars) resulting from these answers is posted on the AMD Solicitation WEB.

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.

15A. Name and Title of Signer (Type or Print)	16A. Name and title of Contracting Officer (Type or Print)
15B. Contractor/Offeror	16B. United States of America
15C. Date Signed	16C. Date Signed
(Signature of person authorized to sign)	(Signature of Contracting Officer)

SCHEDULE

Item No.	Supplies/Services	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Amount

22 September 2004

**RE: Solicitation Number DG133W-04-RP-0055
AWIPS Recompete
Amendment #2: Answers to Requests for Clarification Received Through
17 September 2004**

1. Page 81, Section L.8 second paragraph defines the page count of each tab. Does the page count include tab cover page and table of contents/figures pages?

Answer: No, the page count does not include the Cover page nor the Table of Contents/Figures pages.

2. Page 84, Section L.9.1 defines the page count of each tab. Does the page count include volume cover page and table of contents/figures pages?

Answer: No, the page count does not include the Cover pages nor the Table of Contents/Figures pages.

3. Reference L.8 and L.9: The RFP clearly states the requested paper size (8 1/2 X 11 inch) for presenting the offeror's proposal text. Is it permissible to use 11 X 17 inch paper to present complex system diagrams? We assume that each 11 X 17 inch page will count as 2 pages toward the applicable page count. Is this a correct assumption?"

Answer: Yes, you can submit information on 11 x 17 inch paper, but it will be counted as two pages towards the page limitation specifications.

4. Reference: B.2 Estimated Cost: Does the estimated cost table provided already deduct the desired 30% cost savings target, or does the table assume no savings factor?

Answer: No. The table is a funding profile based on FY04 actual costs. It assumes no cost savings.

5. Reference: B.1 Contract Type; B.2 Estimated Cost: As the Government prefers a FFP for the entire AWIPS contract, please provide a detailed definition of the functions and activities currently funded by the three categories in Table B.2, (i.e., Operations and Maintenance; Product Improvement; Software Maintenance)

Answer: Please refer to Section C of the current AWIPS contract posted on the AWIPS Online Library. Further information will be provided during due diligence sessions.

6. Request the Government provide a current listing of AWIPS Defect Reports (DRs) and a DR Profile for use in characterizing the primary technical challenges and problem areas in the AWIPS application code.

This information will be used to support ongoing technical analysis of the AWIPS source code provided to date and the more current versions (OB3 and OB4) that have been requested to support that evaluation and will allow offerors to formulate specific questions for use during the due diligence period. Since the incumbent already has access to this information, providing the same information to all offerors would allow greater insight into the current AWIPS application suite. Since that insight will improve the quality and credibility of all proposals, satisfaction of this request is considered to be in the best interest of the Government, and in the spirit of a fair and open competition.

Answer: The composite Discrepancy Reports for OB4 (current software operational build) dated September 16, 2004 are now available under Item #32 on the AWIPS Online Library.

7. Request the Government provide the current AWIPS conceptual, logical and physical data models and a sample data set (a representative "snapshot" of current data from an active AWIPS suite) to support ongoing technical analysis of the AWIPS application suite.

This information will allow offerors to formulate specific questions for use during the due diligence period and allows for detailed assessment of data management and maintenance issues and challenges. This information will provide all offerors greater insight into the current AWIPS application suite in support of O&M and (optional) product improvement alternatives and will improve the quality and credibility of resulting proposals. Accordingly, satisfaction of this request is considered to be in the best interest of the Government.

Answer: The best representation of this data is on the NOAAPort homepage.

The URL for this is <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/noaaport/html/noaaport.shtml>. This link will also be posted to the AWIPS Online Library under Item #33.

8. Request the Government provide descriptions of completed and planned changes, and any available documentation, for AWIPS versions OB4, OB5 and OB6 to support ongoing technical analysis of the AWIPS application suite and assessment of O&M responsibilities and challenges.

This information will allow offerors to formulate specific questions for use during the due diligence period and will improve the quality and credibility of resulting proposals. Accordingly, satisfaction of this request is considered to be in the best interest of the Government.

Answer: The AWIPS Change Control Board (CCB) documentation for requests for change and their status are now posted under Item #34 on the AWIPS Online Library. In addition, the development tasks for Operational Builds 5 and 6 are now posted under Item #35 on the AWIPS Online Library as well.

9. Request the Government provide the best available description of anticipated or contracted changes to the AWIPS system and supporting infrastructure anticipated to be in place upon contract award.

The Government identified their intent to complete several contracts for AWIPS hardware refresh (including AWIPS workstation, server, and network appliance refresh) and corresponding changes in terrestrial network capacities and overall AWIPS systems maintenance features, constraints and costs during the Industry Day presentations. Insight into these planned or contracted changes in the AWIPS operating environment will allow offerors to formulate specific questions for use during the due diligence period and will improve the quality and credibility of resulting proposals. Accordingly, satisfaction of this request is considered to be in the best interest of the Government.

If alternatives are still being assessed, please provide available descriptions of the alternatives.

Answer: The briefing gave snapshots of how the system would look at AWIPS Recompete contract award, at completion of existing AWIPS contract and one year after AWIPS Recompete contract award (see Tim Hopkins' presentation on AWIPS Hardware Architecture; Phil Cragg's presentation on AWIPS Telecommunications Architecture; and Franz Zichy's presentation on Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (AWIPS) Infrastructure Interdependencies). This information will be elaborated upon during due diligence sessions.

10. Sec. H.13 Procurement Integrity - The Attachment J-5 "Employee/Contractor Non-Disclosure Agreement" Form does not appear to be in the solicitation documents. Please provide.

Answer: Section H.13 of the RFP is being amended to "All Contractor personnel and subcontractors who will be personally and substantially involved in the performance under this Contract which requires the Contractor to act on behalf of, or provide advice with respect to any phase of an agency procurement, as defined in FAR 3.104-4, shall sign and submit a Employee/Contractor Non-Disclosure Agreement."

11. Sec. H. 20 Contractor Conduct - Should the word "Prohibited" be added to the title to clarify the intent of this provision?

Answer: The phrase "The Contractor shall not:" was inadvertently left out at the beginning of Section H.20. The RFP will be amended to include this phrase.

12. Sec. M.2.1 Order of Importance - "...Factor 3 (Price/Cost) is less important than Factors 1 and 2,...": The word "and" could imply the combination of Factors 1 and 2. Is this the Government's intent or is it intended to mean Factor 3 (Price/Cost) is less important than Factor 1 and Factor 3 is also less important than Factor 2? Please clarify.

Answer: Factor 3 is less important than Factor 1 and Factor 3 is less important than Factor 2.

13. Do the Title Page and Table of Contents count towards the "Size Limitation" or number of total pages?

Answer: No, the page count does not include the Cover page nor the Table of Contents/Figures pages.

14. Does an introduction section of a few pages count towards the number of total pages?

Answer: Yes, an introduction of a few pages does count towards the number of total pages.

15. It is our understanding that there are other AWIPS support contracts existing independently from the present Northrop Grumman contract and that Northrop Grumman is a subcontractor on those procurements. Will these contracts and contractors remain in place after award of this contract in July, 2005, and, if so, will the winning contractor team be required to affect ACAs or will the NWS implement a process to transfer these contracts to the winning team?

Answer: There are a number of AWIPS support contracts. It is likely that some of these support contracts and contractors may remain in place after the award of this contract in July 2005. No decision has been made on particular individual support contracts at this time.

16. Is the O&M support of the Wide Area Network considered part of this procurement effort?

Answer: The recurring telecommunications costs for WAN will not be a part of this procurement. However, there are certain O&M responsibilities, such as the operations and maintenance of the AWIPS routers, and network monitoring responsibilities, that will be included in the scope of the prime contract.