

Government Responses to Industry Questions Received as of:

6 MAY 2015

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: This document serves as a running tally of questions received from industry regarding subject solicitation, and the Government responses. **Questions must be received no later than the deadline indicated in the solicitation.** Answers will be provided with questions, on a non-attribution basis to all interested parties via Federal Business Opportunities and the Natick Contracting Division website. This document will be routinely updated as questions are received and addressed up to the final date of acceptance of offeror questions. Questions will be listed in the order received and processed, with newer questions and responses added to the end of previous ones. This is a living document, and will be updated as of the posting date in the header to include all questions addressed as of the posting date. After the due date of proposals, the solicitation will be amended to incorporate any changes resulting from industry questions, and this document will be added to the list of solicitation attachments.

Questions received after the closing date for questions may not receive responses and will not be grounds for extending the proposal submission date. The Contracting Officer reserves the right to address questions received after the deadline for Q&A but prior to solicitation closing if deemed in the best interest of the Government.

Responses highlighted in yellow indicate a change from the previously posted response.

Q1: Is the government providing the technical info for the radios (Inter connecting diagrams/Pin outs (ICD) operating functions/capabilities of the radio and radio connector type for the radio)? Will they be using a standard 10 pin impulse or does the radio require a special or different type of connector in order to use the full capability of the radio?

A1: The standard Teledyne 10 pin Impulse connector will be used. Pinouts and ICD will be provided by the radio vendor at Contract Award but will be identical to the Thales MBITR-2 radio in all aspects. The focus of this effort is to develop a PTT to support a dual channel radio. This in turn will inform and likely drive some minor changes to headset pinouts for those headsets that route a single channel of audio to both left and right ears.

Q2:

1. Section A.1, p. 2, "Important Program Information" states, "This solicitation is being pursued as a competitive Total Small Business Set-Aside that will result in a single award..."

1.1. Section L.5, p. 31, "Requests For Information" states, "This solicitation is not a competitive bid and there will not be a formal public bid opening."

Is the contradicting information in sections A.1 and L.5 simply an error, or will the Government entertain the possibility of awarding a sole source contract to an Alaskan Native Corporation (ANC) SBA certified 8(a) company?

A2: To clarify, a "Competitive Bid" refers to a competition under Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 14 – Sealed Bidding. This competitive solicitation is requesting proposals/offers, and is not an Invitation For Bid (IBF), therefore is not a Competitive Bid and there will be no formal public opening of bids. Rather, proposals/offers in response to this solicitation will be evaluated in accordance with the evaluation procedures stated in Section M and, as such, is a competitive total small-business set aside Request for Proposals (RFP).

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Q3: What are the headset manufacturers and model numbers PTT Device 1 must interface to?

A3: A3: COTS Devices from vendors 3M PELTOR, MSA SORDIN, and INVISIO. Specific part numbers and GFE headsets will be provided to the awardee for design and testing.

Q4: For PTT device 1 please confirm AN/PRC-148 MBITR2 SRW maritime radio and AN/PRC-148 JTRS enhanced MBITR maritime radio use the Teledyne 10 pin Impulse connector. If not what are the manufacturers and part numbers for AN/PRC-148 MBITR2 SRW maritime radio and AN/PRC-148 JTRS enhanced MBITR maritime radio audio mating connector?

A4A4: Additional radio will be the AN/PRC-148 I-MBITR RADIO, from the same manufacturer and common pinout design as the MBITR2 SRW RADIO. All radios will utilize the same Teledyne 10-pin Impulse connector.

Q5: What are the headset manufacturers and model numbers of existing maritime dual channel single lead headsets PTT Device 2 must interface with?

A5: MSA SORDIN single download dual channel & SLIMGUARD Dual channel headset.

Q6: Will PTT Device 1 and 2 utilize removable adaptor cables or should they be terminated directly to a radio?

A6: Terminated directly into the radio.

Q7: What is the wiring for the NEXUS connector specified in PTT device 1?

A7: Specific pinout will be provided to awardee. Pins: Mic, L audio, R audio, Common Ground

Q8: What mating connector (part number and manufacturer) and pin out is required for existing maritime dual channel single lead heads used in PTT device?

A8: Pinouts will be provided to Awardee but are expected to be identical to those of the Thales MBITR-2 dual channel radio. Connector is the Teledyne 10 pin Impulse .

Q9: With a FFP proposal the details of what we will be integrating with are necessary to determine the level of effort. Please provide information on the Radio:

Q9-1 Maturity: Does the Government expect changes to the Radio design during the PTT development?

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Q9-2 ICD: Please provide Manufacturer and P/N for the radio connectors with which we will be interfacing.

Q9-3 ICD: Please provide Pinout and Signal description for Radio Connector signals.

Q9-4 ICD: Please provide Voltage and Current capabilities of the Radio Aux power source.

A9:

A9-1: No, the radio has passed Critical Design Review and future changes will be handled through the Engineering Change Process.

A9-2: Teledyne 10 pin Impulse connector

A9-3: Pinouts will be provided to Awardee but will be identical to those of the Thales MBITR-2 dual channel radio.

A9-4: Voltage and Current capabilities will be provided to Awardee but will be identical to those of the Thales MBITR-2 dual channel radio.

Q10: Please provide information on the downstream headsets:

Q10-1 Please provide Part Number and signal name and pinouts for any headsets we will need to integrate with.

Q10-2 ICD: Please provide any pass through voltage/current/filtering requirements of the headsets specified in the RFQ.

A10-1: See answer to question 3.

A10-2: Voltage/Current/Filtering capabilities will be provided to Awardee but will be identical to those of the Thales MBITR-2 dual channel radio.

Q11: Will the Government provide 2 of each radio and each headset needed for integration at contract award?

A11: Government will provide 2 of each headset to awardee as GFE. GFE radios are not required and will not be provided. The Teledyne 10 Pin Impulse connector is easily adapted to standard commercial radios. Preferred method will be for awardee to work directly with radio manufacturer (Thales) for technical requirements.

Q12: Will the Government support the GFE hardware or is the contractor expected to work with the Manufacture for questions/configuration/setup and repairs if needed?

A12: See answer to question 11.

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Q13: For the “Y” cable set specified in C.2.3 what are the expectations for speaker? Both channels in both ears, one channel in each ear? Do all specified Headsets provide for a separate signal for each ear?

A13: One channel in each ear.

Q14: For the “Y” cable set specified in C.2.3 does the radio allow for both a combined speaker signal or is there a SPKR1 and SPKR2.

A14: Speaker 1 and Speaker 2 only.

Q15: What are the signals included with the NEXUS style over molded connectors called out in C.2.1?

A15: The signals in the NEXUS are the standard signals included in the MBITR radio utilizing a Teledyne 10 Pin Impulse connector.
