



December 4, 2008

To Prospective Offerors:

SUBJECT: Summary of Significant Changes between the Draft and Final Request for Proposal (RFP) for NASA's Ares Electric Thrust Vector Control (TVC) Prototype Risk Reduction System, RFP Number NNM08261607R

Provided below is a list of the significant changes incorporated into the final version of RFP NNM08261607R. The changes are a result of comments received from Industry and continuing internal reviews performed by the NASA. Only the most significant changes are listed below although several areas of the RFP have been updated. Offerors are cautioned to carefully review the Final RFP in its entirety. Grammatical and typographical errors have been corrected throughout the Final RFP as needed.

1. Section E is changed to include NASA FAR Supplement (NFS) clause 1852.246-71, "Government Contract Quality Assurance Functions" (OCT 1998).
2. Section H is changed to delete NFS clause 1852.209-71, "Limitations of Future Contracting" (DEC 1988).
3. Section L, clause L.3 "Background of Acquisition" was changed to delete the following statement: "Anticipated actuator mechanical power flow requirements for the solid rocket booster exceed sixty (60) horsepower".
4. Section L, clause L.3 "Background of Acquisition" was changed to delete the statement that the contractor would assess the technical feasibility of continuing on to flight system development".
5. Section L, clause L.3 "Background of Acquisition" was changed to include a statement regarding the Government's intentions for future use of data obtained as a result of this prospective contract.
6. Section L, clause L.8 "Proposal Page Limitations" was changed to add sub-factor PP-3, "Lost Time Case (LTC) Rate".
7. Section L, clause L.12 "Communications Regarding This Solicitation" is changed to reflect the due date for questions or comments regarding the final RFP.
8. Section L, clause L.17 (a) "Instructions to Proposal Preparation" is changed to clarify that the baseline heritage hydrazine powered system is a distributed hydraulic hydrazine powered system.
9. Section L, clause L.17 (b) "Instructions to Proposal Preparation" is changed to delete duplicative information found in clause L.12 "Communications Regarding This Solicitation".
10. Section L, clause L.17 (c) "Instructions to Proposal Preparation" is changed to delete the requirement for the offeror to provide a matrix which cross-references all instructions and evaluation criteria respective to its proposal.

11. Section L, clause L.17 (c)(2) "Due Date", is changed to "Proposal Submission" and identifies how proposals are to be submitted and how late proposal submissions will be handled.
12. Section L, clause L.17 (c)(4) Volume I, Sub-factor 1, Subparagraph TA-1 is changed to delete the requirement to provide a description of the proposed design solutions affect on reducing overall life-cycle cost of TVC system development and operation.
13. Section L, clause L.17 (c)(4) Volume I, Sub-factor 1, Subparagraph TA-1 is changed to add the requirement to provide an approach for maximizing unlimited rights data and rationale for any proposed limited rights data.
14. Section L, clause L.17 (c)(4) Volume I, Sub-factor 1, Subparagraph TA-3 is changed to clarify that the offeror shall provide information that demonstrates its competency of the art, technology, manufacturing capability, and testing capability by production of electromechanical actuation system hardware.
15. Section L, clause L.17 (c)(4) Volume I, Sub-factor 2, Subparagraph MA-1 is changed from "Project Management Plan" to "Project Management Approach".
16. Section L, clause L.17 (c)(4) Volume I, Sub-factor 2, Subparagraph MA-2 "Management Organization" has been combined with MA-1 "Project Management Approach".
17. Section L, clause L.17 (c)(4) Volume I, Sub-factor 2, Subparagraph MA-3 "Program/Project Schedules" is changed to MA-2 "Project Schedules".
18. Section L, clause L.17 (c)(4) Volume I, Sub-factor 2, Subparagraph MA-4 "Key Personnel" is changed to MA-3 "Key Personnel" and includes the requirement for the provision of letters of commitment for each proposed key personnel.
19. Section L, clause L.17 (c)(4) Volume I, Sub-factor 2, Subparagraph MA-5 "Risk Analysis and Mitigation" is changed to MA-4 "Risk Analysis and Mitigation".
20. Section L, clause L.17 (c)(5) Volume II, PP-3 is changed to include the requirement for the lost time cases rates for the last three calendar years for each contract or project comparable to this requirement.
21. Section L, Attachment L-3 "Lost Time Case Rate" is added.
22. Section M, clause M.4(c) Volume I, Sub-factor 1, Subparagraph TA-1 is changed to add the evaluation of the offeror's approach to maximizing unlimited rights data and rationale for any proposed limited rights data.
23. Section M, clause M.4(c) Volume I, Sub-factor 1, Subparagraph TA-3 is changed to clarify that the Government will evaluate the offeror's demonstrated competency of the art, technology, manufacturing capability, and testing capability by production of electromechanical actuation system hardware.
24. Section M, clause M.4(c) Volume I, Sub-factor 2, Subparagraph MA-1 is changed from "Project Management Plan" to "Project Management Approach".
25. Section M, clause M.4(c) Volume I, Sub-factor 2, Subparagraph MA-2 "Management Organization" has been combined with MA-1 "Project Management Approach".
26. Section M, clause M.4(c) Volume I, Sub-factor 2, Subparagraph MA-3 "Program/Project Schedules" is changed to MA-2 "Project Schedules".
27. Section M, clause M.4(c) Volume I, Sub-factor 2, Subparagraph MA-4 "Key Personnel" is changed to MA-3 "Key Personnel" and includes an evaluation of letters of commitment.
28. Section M, clause M.4(c) Volume I, Sub-factor 2, Subparagraph MA-5 "Risk Analysis and Mitigation" is changed to MA-4 "Risk Analysis and Mitigation".

29. Section M, clause M.4(c) Volume II, is changed to include the evaluation of the lost time cases rates for the last three calendar years for each contract or project comparable to this requirement in size, scope, and complexity.
30. Section M, clause M.4(c) Volume II, adjectival rating system is changed to the definitions provided at NFS 1815.305(a)(2)(A).
31. Section M, clause M.4(c) Volume III, is changed to include the evaluation of cost confidence.
32. Section M, clause M.4(c) "Relative Importance of Evaluation Factors" is changed to clarify that all evaluation factors are equal in importance.
33. Attachment J-1, Paragraph 1.1 is changed to include the delivery of any special test equipment used in the development of the prototype electric TVC system.
34. Attachment J-1, Paragraph 1.2 is changed to stress that the primary focus of this prototype system development is to assess and mitigate the development risk of the TVC sub-system only.
35. Attachment J-1, Paragraph 2.4 "Product Assurance" is changed to add Calibration System requirements.
36. Attachment J-1 is changed to add paragraph 2.9 "Delivery of the Prototype TVC System".
37. Attachment J-2, DRD No. 1273MA-001, Initial Submission is changed from "Preliminary with Proposal" to "30 calendar days after Authority to Proceed (ATP)".
38. Attachment J-2, DRD No. 1273MA-004, Initial Submission is changed from "Preliminary with Proposal" to "First calendar month following the end of the first full month after Authority to Proceed (ATP)".
39. Attachment J-3, "Electric TVC Trade Study results", page 6 of 16, is changed to delete the following statement: "Reusability while being base-lined for this system is not a hard requirement".
40. Attachment J-3, "Electric TVC Trade Study results", page 8 of 16, is changed to delete the following statement: "There are some components, such as, rod ends and rod end bearings that cannot meet this requirement".
41. Attachment J-3, "Electric TVC Trade Study results", page 8 of 16, is changed to add the requirement for TVC System Position Command Interface.

The due date for questions from Industry is 1:00 p.m. central time on December 15, 2008. All Final RFP questions and subsequent answers will be published in an amendment to this solicitation. Questions and comments received from the draft RFP were used to refine the Final RFP and will not be published.

Any questions on the Final RFP must be submitted in writing to, Sarah Annerton, who can be reached by e-mail at sarah.d.annerton@nasa.gov. Thank you for your interest in this requirement.



G. Earl Pendley
Contracting Officer.