

Response Boat - Medium (RB-M) System Replacement Project Request for Proposal - DTCG23-02-R-ARB048

Cover Letter

From: Linda Bonham (G-ACS)

4400

To: Prospective Offerors

10 August 2002

Subj: SOLICITATION PROCESS INFORMATION

1. The Coast Guard 41-foot Utility Boats are reaching the end of their service life and will be replaced by a Response Boat - Medium (RB-M). The RB-M will be a multi-purpose boat that can perform Search and Rescue (SAR), Marine Environmental Protection (MEP), Enforcement of Laws and Treaties (ELT), Recreational Boating Safety (RBS), Port Safety and Security (PSS), Defense Operations/Contingency Preparedness (DO) and other missions.

2. The RB-M project is being conducted with an accelerated two-phased acquisition strategy. This solicitation is for Phase I. The Coast Guard intends to award three contracts in Phase I, but may award fewer or more than three contracts. **Only those contractors awarded a Phase I contract will be eligible to compete in Phase II.** Six months later, Contractors will be expected to deliver the fully operational RB-M for test and evaluation. Upon acceptance of the Phase I RB-Ms, the Government will conduct extensive in-water evaluations. A Phase II RFP will be issued under an approved Justification for Other Than Full and Open Competition. **The Phase II RFP will require, as a condition of award, affirmation that the contractor will provide data rights for possible future Government production of the RB-M.** Also during Phase II evaluations, the Coast Guard intends to put significant emphasis on reliability, maintainability, and logistics supportability, particularly as they affect major component life-cycle costs and, therefore, total ownership cost. Total ownership cost includes the cost of acquisition, operations, maintenance, and supply/support, which also includes major component life-cycle costs. The Phase II contract award is expected in December of 2003.

3. Submittal of a proposal serves as acknowledgment that this letter was read and understood.

LINDA BONHAM
Contracting Officer