Limited Sources Justification and Approval (J&A)

Contracting Activity: AFTC/PZZG

Purchase Request / Local ID Number: F1S0AD5357A001 & F1S0AD5356A001

Program / Project (and PE, if applicable)**:** Broadcom/VMWare Licenses

Program Type (PEO or Other Contracting)**:** Other Contracting

Authority: Multiple Award Schedule Program (**FAR 8.405-6**)

Estimated Contract Cost (including options)**:** [redacted]

Is this a Bridge Action? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Description of Limitation:
This is a Brand Name justification for the acquisition of Broadcom/VMWare Licenses with renewal for 5 years.

COORDINATION (DAFFARS 5306.304(a))

Date	Project Lead / Program Mgr / Requiring Activity	Signature
17 Jun 2026	Shannon Sparks 412 TMG, 661-275-0479	SPARKS.SHANNON.M.[redacted] Digitally signed by SPARKS.SHANNON.M[redacted] Date: 2026.06.17 15:12:02 -07'00'
Date	**Local Legal Reviewer**	Signature
17 Jun 2026	Maria Kolokithias, Attorney AFTC/JA, 267-250-4356	KOLOKITHIAS.MARIA[redacted] Digitally signed by KOLOKITHIAS.MARIA.[redacted] Date: 2026.06.17 17:54:59 -04'00'

APPROVAL (DAFFARS 5306.304(a))

Date	Contracting Officer	Signature
17 Jun 2026	Jenna Jacobson AFTC/PZZG, 661-277-9558	JACOBSON.JENNA.ANN.[redacted] Digitally signed by JACOBSON.JENNA.ANN[redacted] Date: 2026.06.17 15:13:56 -07'00'

Limited Sources Justification and Approval (J&A)

I. Contracting Activity.

The Contracting organization that is responsible for the proposed contract action is the Air Force Test Center (AFTC) Directorate of Contracting, Specialized Contracting Division, AFTC/PZZG, 5 South Wolfe Avenue, Edwards AFB, CA The Contracting Officer for this acquisition is Jenna Jacobson. This is a "Justification to Use Brand Name Restriction". 93524-1185

II. Nature and/or description of the action being processed.

The CTF has a requirement to purchase VMWare Broadcom Licenses and renewal for 5 years.

III. Description of supplies/services required to meet agency needs.

Broadcom/VMWare Licenses
VMware Cloud Foundation Base Year
Part #: VCF-CLD-FND
Qty: 2,136
VMware Avi Load Balancer
Part: ANS-VMW-ALB
Qty: 16
PoP: 1/26/26 - 1/25/27

VMware Cloud Foundation Option Year 1
Part #: VCF-CLD-FND
Qty: 2,136
VMware Avi Load Balancer
Part: ANS-VMW-ALB
Qty: 16
PoP: 1/26/27 - 1/25/28

VMware Cloud Foundation Option Year 2
Part #: VCF-CLD-FND
Qty: 2,136
VMware Avi Load Balancer
Part: ANS-VMW-ALB
Qty: 16
PoP: 1/26/28 - 1/25/29

VMware Cloud Foundation Option Year 3
Part #: VCF-CLD-FND
Qty: 2,136
VMware Avi Load Balancer
Part: ANS-VMW-ALB
Qty: 16
PoP: 1/26/2029 - 1/25/2030

VMware Cloud Foundation Option Year 4
Part #: VCF-CLD-FND
Qty: 2,136
VMware Avi Load Balancer
Part: ANS-VMW-ALB
Qty: 16
PoP: 1/26/2030 - 1/25/2031

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IV. Identification of the justification/rationale for limiting sources and demonstration of the contractor's unique qualifications to provide the required supply/service.

FAR 8.405-6 requires an ordering activity to justify its actions when restricting consideration of schedule contractors to fewer than required in FAR 8.405-1.

FAR 8.405-6(b)(1), "The item is peculiar to one manufacturer. A brand name item, whether available on one or more schedule contracts, is an item peculiar to one manufacturer."

The system at the 420 FLTS CTF facility that requires the Broadcom VMWare Cloud Foundation (VCF9) license renewal was purchased in FY24 and has been operational for approximately 1 year. The system design was provided by Red River, a Dell Technologies partner, and included the initial VMWare licensing that was required for the Dell server hardware solution specified; the VxRail technolgy developed by Dell is designed to only work with the VMWare virtualization and management suite. The removal of the VxRail embedded operating system from the hardware, to attempt operation/management by a different virtual information platform would invalidate all warranties/support provided by Dell Technologies. Without a support warranty in place, the system would be operating in an "at risk" state where a hardware failure could potentially result in a complete project work stoppage.

Another software, Nutanix, was considered as a potential option for fulfilling this requirement, however after further consideration it was determined to be unsuitable for meeting the critical mission schedule, mile-stones, and program end date. The installation of this virtualization and and management suite would require a complete re-work of the system causing an estimated six months loss in program schedule combined with the estimated cost of $0.5M for critical spares required for continued system operation without the existing vendor warranty. The removal of the VxRail embedded operating system from the hardware, to attempt operation/management by a different virtual information platform, such as Nutanix, will invalidate all warranties/support provided by Dell Technologies and this was verified with the vendor.

The system described above is the primary computer system utilized across the 420 FLTS CTF supporting Engineering, Aircraft Maintenance & Logistics, Operations, and Business functions. The test program that is being supported by this system cannot afford a complete rework and redeploy the entire virtual infrastructure on the system and the schedule slip that it would cause. Again, support and warranty of the system from the manufacturer which was included in the purchase cost of the system would be the main driving factor preventing the use of any competing virtualization software technology, regardless of the technical issues and schedule impacts. Without the current vendor support contract that is already in place which completely covers all hardware components, the 420 FLTS would have to purchase sufficient critical spares for every component type, from large hardware items such as base servers and storage servers, to small items such as hard drives, video cards, and RAM chips. With a ten percent sparing of both types of Dell VxRail servers and the increased costs of all electronic components, this would roughly cost $500k for the critical spares to operate without a replacement warranty. This rough estimate is based upon purchasing one (1) spare management server for the six (6) existing and two (2) of the user workload type for the existing eighteen (18). Prices have more than doubled and rounding that cost became the half a million stated, an additional cost that the program cannot cover.

V. Determination by the ordering activity Contracting Officer that the order represents the best value consistent with FAR 8.404(d).

The Contracting Officer has determined that the anticipated cost to the Government for this acquisition will be fair and reasonable, and the proposal will be evaluated using price analysis for commercial items in accordance with FAR Part 15.404-1(b). The proposed price will be compared to any other companies or agencies that may have previously purchased the same or similar items. These items have been determined to be commercial items; therefore, IAW FAR 15.403-4, certified cost and pricing data is not required. Additionally, the initial BPA prices were considered fair and reasonable prior to the award of the contract.

VI. Description of the market research conducted and the results, or explain why market research was not conducted.

As mentioned previously, the system at the 420 FLTS CTF facility that requires the Broadcom VMWare Cloud Foundation (VCF9) license renewal was purchased in FY24 and has been operational for approximately 1 year. The system design was provided by Red River, a Dell Technologies partner, and included the initial VMWare licensing that was required for the Dell

server hardware solution specified; the VxRail technology developed by Dell is designed to only work with the VMWare virtualization and management suite. Although other softwares were considered, the removal of the VxRail embedded operating system from the hardware, to attempt operation/management by a different virtual information platform, such as Nutanix, would invalidate all warranties/support provided by Dell Technologies. Without a support warranty in place, the system would be operating in an "at risk" state where a hardware failure could potentially result in a complete project work stoppage. As a result, the Government determined that VMWare was the only viable option for this solution.

Market Research was conducted and the requirement is available through ESI. Although VmWare is available via ESI it is only opened to the Department of Navy (DON) so we cannot utilize that mandatory source. This can be confirmed on the ESI website https://www.esi.mil/AllAgreements. The website specifically states, "Under the DON ESL IT Efficiencies initiative, the Department of the Navy has awarded a contract for VMware by Broadcom products and services to support Information Technology (IT) operations across the DON enterprise. This agreement is a BPA comprised of a base year with two one-year option periods and is only open to support the DON. GSA, DISA or other applicable ordering agencies/organizations, ordering on behalf of the DON, are authorized to place orders under this agreement."

The mission partner received one quote from Carasoft, however, contracting found that this requirement is availble through the mandatory source, GSA 2GIT. The Contracting Officer had known sources for this requirement due to a previous RFI that had been posted in mid 2025. Contracting posted a new RFI to identify possibilities for doing a SBSA, however, no responses were received. Contracting then posted a full and open solicitation to GSA 2GIT (mandatory) and NASA SEWP respectively, but no responses were received from either posting. As Contracting continued to do market research, the Government discovered that there was a new DAF BPA for VMWare IAW the Department of the Air Force (DAF) Software as a Service (SaaS) Procurement and Usage Requirements Memorandum, section b. The BPA number is HC108425A0002. Contracting received 0 responses due to Air Force entered into a Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) with Broadcom back in November. This agreement mandates that purchases must go through Carahsoft. As a result, Carahsoft will not be providing pricing to any other vendors.

VII. Other facts supporting the justification.

N/A

VIII. Actions the agency may take to remove or overcome any barriers that led to the restricted consideration before any subsequent acquisition for the supplies or services.

In the future, the Government will assess whether it is in the best interest of the Government to potentially transition to another system which would then allow other virtualization management platforms to be considered. The current system was designed and purchased with the hardware warranty period, to provide a computing capability for a specific timeline that aligns with program milestones. At this time, transitioning to another system would require substantial duplication of cost and resources, which is not in the best interest of the Government.

IX. Certification by the Contracting Officer.

As evidenced by my signature above, I have determined this document to be both accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

X. Certification by the technical/requirements personnel.

As evidenced by my signature above, I certify that any supporting data contained herein, which is my responsibility, is both accurate and complete.