# SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION UNDER FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULE

## SECTION 1: IDENTIFICATION OF THE AGENCY AND THE CONTRACTING ACTIVITY

| | |
|---|---|
| **Department of State Contracting Activity** | ▪ Acquisition Management |
| **Requiring Activity** | S/ES/ET- ExecTech |

## SECTION 2: NATURE AND/OR DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION BEING APPROVED

Approval is requested to limit the number of sources for soliciting and awarding a task order under General Service Administration's Federal Supply Schedule (FSS). This requirement is for information technology (IT) support services. This requirement is a logical follow-on to GSA orders placed against a FSS IDIQ contract through a competitively-awarded FAR 8 Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA). This requirement is a logical follow-on to this existing requirement.

The previous orders 19AQMM25F7007 and 19AQMM25F7008, with the same statement of work, were placed against FSS contract 47QTCA18D00HP as orders under competitively awarded BPA 19AQMM19A0208.

The contract holder is IMPROVIX TECHNOLOGIES INC, UEI 078669684. A follow-on order is now being placed under GSA at the existing labor categories and rates for the purposes of efficiency and economy.

## SECTION 3: DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES OR SERVICES REQUIRED TO MEET THE AGENCY'S NEEDS

The U.S. Department of State (DOS), Executive Secretariat, S/ES ExecTech office provides continuous information technology support. ExecTech provides information technology support and services geared to the needs of offices under the administrative umbrella of S/ES.

Under this requirement, the contractor will provide information technology development and support services to ExecTech. The services will provide application

development and infrastructure support in a DevOps model, systems security, project management support, and desktop and customer-facing support for our User Experience functions. In accordance with the Statement of Work, the contractor will perform services associated with: DevOps Applications and Systems Development, Engineering, and Support; Application and Systems Security; Project Management Support; and Customer Services for Desktop Support.

The estimated value of this Task Order is $18,432,404.48 and will be for no more than one year.

**SECTION 4: AUTHORITY AND SUPPORTING RATIONALE**

This acquisition is conducted under the authority of Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 8.401 as set forth in General Services Administration Regulation (GSAR) 538.71 (FAR Overhaul). The applicable justification for other than full and open competition is GSAR 538.7104-3, which is further described below.

☒ GSAR 538.7104-3 (b)(iii) *The order should be issued on a sole source basis in the interest of economy and efficiency because it is a logical follow-on to an FSS order already issued on a competitive basis.*

This requirement is vital to the organization and is a logical follow-on to the current requirement under GSA. The current requirement provides highly qualified analysts, developers, engineers, project managers, and help desk support technicians who perform high-level technical support and guidance and development support. The institutional memory and specialized expertise and experience of our Improvix contractors are necessary for the daily success of our office. S/ES-ExecTech supports over 50 proprietary systems and databases. Together these employees have many years of dedication to S/ES-ExecTech and the Executive Secretariate. They have an intricate knowledge of the office and principles that are irreplaceable at a moment's notice.

Additionally, this requirement directly supports ExecTech's dedication to modernizing and enhancing the capabilities of the Department's Senior Principal Officers decision-making tools. This includes, but is not limited to, the full lifecycle support of the Cascades application and associated systems supporting the tool. This requirement supports the day-to-day needs of the system as well as continual system improvements. The contractors analyze, recommend, and implement the expansion of new and existing solutions that support the Secretary and the supporting offices. The qualified IT Specialists, Business Analysts, UI/UX expertise, Frontend and Backend Software Developers, System Engineers, and Mobility Application Developers are instrumental in assisting with system enhancements and continued modernization.

The economy and efficiency of continuing services at existing rates will directly and positively impact the ongoing needs and mission of the U.S. Department of State. This avoidance of loss of knowledge and the quick implementation of the order will provide vital stable support services. Any disruption of these services provided would be severely detrimental to the Department of State.

**SECTION 5: DETERMINATION BY THE ORDERING ACTIVITY CONTRACTING OFFICER THAT THE CONTRACT ACTION REPRESENTS THE BEST VALUE CONSISTENT WITH FAR 8.305**

The Contracting Officer has determined that the anticipated price(s) will be fair and reasonable based on comparison to historical prices and due to their being deemed fair and reasonable at the FSS level. By signing the justification, the Contracting Officer makes a determination that the cost to the Government is expected to be fair and reasonable.

**SECTION 6. DESCRIPTION OF THE MARKET RESEARCH CONDUCTED AMONG SCHEDULE HOLDERS AND THE RESULTS OR A STATEMENT OF THE REASON MARKET RESEARCH WAS NOT CONDUCTED**

The U.S. Department of State conducted market research in its competition for this requirement associated with competitively-awarded BPA 19AQMM19A0208. Any future orders will be placed on a competitive basis. Planning for the next competition has begun and will be implemented using competitive procedures. For example, Source Sought Notice 19AQMM26N0091 and 19AQMM26N0206 were posted on SAM.gov and received ample responses. The Department is currently reviewing and determining the best competitive path forward for the competition for this requirement.

**SECTION 7. STATEMENT OF THE ACTIONS, IF ANY, 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 IS MADE**

As stated above, future iterations of this requirement will be competed. Once the evaluation of the sources sought notices response have been completed as stated in Section 6 above and a determination has been made as to which small business program would be most advantageous to compete the follow-on requirement, Global Acquisitions expects to issue a solicitation to compete the follow-on requirement in accordance with the approved Acquisition Strategy.