Areas of Interest (AOI): SAF/CN Portfolio Modernization Framework – Obtaining and Implementing a Rapid and Repeatable Innovation/Problem

Overview – United States Air Force SAF/CN established lines of effort for building the Air and Space Force we need for future conflict. Conceptually, the organization seeks the ability to present problem(s) or challenge(s) with enterprise and industry partnerships to build outcome driven solutions and generate action towards collaboration, recognizing that everything we do is increasingly interconnected. This approach will establish organic solution development to include (as required) traditional and **non- traditional defense contractors** in Industry for the purpose of early and continuous collaboration in **developing prototype solutions** or **models** that resolve these problems / challenges and/or if not fully resolved, reduce risk and provide the digital backbone which will enable the Air and Space Forces to improve both user experience and warfighter effectiveness today and achieve competitive advantage tomorrow.

SAF/CN Concept of Operations –The Secretary of the Air Force has outlined priorities for building the Air and Space Force we need for future conflict. SAF/CNS is working multiple modernization initiatives to materially improve the Mission Operations of Air and Space Force IT systems. The implementation of this framework will put the action to the lines of effort (LOE) to provide the digital backbone which will enable the Air and Space Forces to improve both user experience and warfighter effectiveness today and achieve competitive advantage tomorrow. Our digital foundation must be rock solid: it is used to conduct warfighting, collect, and pass data, leverage artificial intelligence, develop standards, and manage risk for all our mission and business IT systems. The SAF/CN established six (6) primary LOEs to directly address the needs of the emerging strategic and technological environment in which we operate. LOEs include:

LOE 1: Accelerate Cloud Adoption
LOE 2: Future of Cybersecurity
LOE 3: Workforce
LOE 4: IT Portfolio Management
LOE 5: Excellence in Core IT & Mission Enabling Services Page 9
LOE 6: Data & AI

Capitalizing on new Industry Proven Methods is a stated imperative. As such, each LOE requires consistent and iterative access to non-traditional defense contractors who are developing new cutting-edge technologies and innovative implementation models.

Requirement: SAF/CN seeks to establish an agreement to provide support for the concepts of operations for concept testing, validation and refinement. The outputs from this support would help refine policy and produce requirements documents and/or performance work statements and concepts of operations that would form the basis of requirements for organic development or procurement solicitations. SAF/CN's requirement is for the contractor to be able to perform its contracted work up to and including **TS/SCI classification level**.

In the short-term, SAF/CN will rely on processes provided by both non-traditional or traditional defense contractors to:

Develop and assist executing a model repeatable process for innovation development and implementation to include:

- Working with government to generate innovative solution concepts that address prioritized challenges
- Identify, assess and align capabilities (industry, academia, government) that can deliver the best solutions
- Aid in developing, testing, and validating ideas
- Developing and delivering prototypes, risk and value assessments to support government decisions to continue, scale, or even terminate

Tasks: Develop and deliver innovation implementation 'roadmaps' and assessments of the innovative solutions for the following key guiding principles:

- Accountability and Metric
- Transparent Governance
- Value-Driven Investments
- Operational Excellence

Administration: Please return all proposals to the Air Force District of Washington Headquarters Air Force Enterprise Support Division no later than 30 September 2024 at 11:59 PM (EST).

Submission Requirements:
A written solution must be sent via e-mail submission by 11:59PM (EST), 30 September, 2024, with subject line stating AOI 021: SAF/CN Portfolio Modernization Framework – Obtaining and Implementing a Rapid and Repeatable Innovation/Problem Solving Capability- Proposals can be sent via email to the lead Contract Specialist, Grace Battle at grace.battle@us.af.mil and the 87CONS/CSO Team at 87CONS.CSO@us.af.mil.

AOI Open Period: This AOI shall close at 11:59 P.M. (EST), 30 September, 2024.

**Companies are advised that any Prototype Other Transaction Agreement (OTA) awarded in response to this Area of Interest may result in the award of a follow-on production contract or transaction without the use of competitive procedures. The follow-on production contact or transaction will be available for use by one or more organizations in the Department of Defense and, as a result, the magnitude of the follow-on production contract or agreement could be significantly larger than that of the prototype OTA. As such, any Prototype Other Transaction Agreement will include the following statement relative to the potential for follow-on production: "In accordance with 10 U.S.C. 2371b(f), and upon a determination that the prototype project for this transaction has been successfully completed, this competitively awarded prototype OTA may result in the award of a follow-on production contract or transaction without the use of competitive procedures.