Notice

Opportunity for Small Business Participation in COMET

The Missile and Space Intelligence Center (MSIC) invites small businesses interested in advancing the development and sustainment of new and existing hardware, systems, and software capabilities, as well as foundational military intelligence (FMI), to participate in our upcoming COMET initiative. This initiative is designed to support all-source analysis and production for the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), the Department of Defense (DoD), and various national-level intelligence efforts.

MSIC is eager to collaborate with small businesses to harness your innovative capabilities and aspirations, which are essential for providing cutting-edge intelligence to our customers. In return, we aim to help small businesses overcome the barriers associated with specialized government intelligence support contracting.

To facilitate this collaboration, MSIC intends to establish specific qualifying criteria for small businesses regarding the required Secret Compartmentalized Information Facility (SCIF). Below is an outline of the anticipated requirements:

Small Business SCIF Requirements:

1. Demonstrate ownership of an existing Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF) that adheres to the standards outlined in Intelligence Community Directive (ICD) 705.
2. The SCIF must be accredited by a relevant Government accrediting authority and be fully operational to support MSIC contract requirements.
3. The SCIF must contain a minimum of fifty (50) workstations, ready to be connected to the JWICS network and capable of supporting secure meetings up to the TS//SCI classification level.
4. These workstations may be distributed across multiple locations, with the Prime Contractor directly owning no fewer than five (5) of the workstations.
5. At least 50% of the 50 workstations must be located within 180 miles of Redstone Arsenal. The Prime contractor is not required to directly own any of these 25 workstations.
6. The SCIF must fulfill NSA approval requirements, including the ability to obtain co-use/joint-use approval if necessary.
7. The SCIF must have the capability to establish NSA Accounts and access the NSANet, TechSIGINT repositories, with potential for local data analysis and storage if required in the future.

Please note that these are draft requirements and may be subject to change before the final solicitation is released. However, we wanted to give the small business community a preliminary understanding of the direction we are heading, so you can prepare effectively.

MSIC also want the small business community to understand that even if they do not have this capability in place in time for an IDIQ award, MISC intends to maintain a pool of qualified and competitive small business partners. In order to successfully maintain this pool MSIC will exercise on-ramping provisions.

In the event the Government elects to conduct a contract on-ramping event, the Government will advertise at the SAM.gov site in advance of posting the formal solicitation. A solicitation for an on-ramping event will be open to all eligible potential contractors. After posting the solicitation and receiving proposals, the Government will evaluate new proposals with the intention of adding COMET contracts. These proposals shall be subject to similar evaluation procedures, documentation, and criteria (updated to reflect applicable regulatory changes) as were used for the original COMET solicitation and competition.

MSIC believes that maintaining a leading position in technology and intelligence requires the active participation of the small business community, and we look forward to your valuable support and contributions.