Call for Solutions (C4S) for

Battalion Reconnaissance Uncrewed Aircraft Systems (UAS)

C4S Number	W58RGZ-26-S-C001-006
Commercial Solutions Opening (CSO) Number	W58RGZ-26-S-C001
Call for Solution Title	Battalion Reconnaissance UAS
Requiring Activity	Capability Program Executive for Aviation
Issued By	U.S. Army Contracting Command – Redstone Arsenal (ACC-RSA)
Whitepaper Submission Due Date/Time	Initial Cut-off: 28 AUG 2026
Point of Contacts for Submission:	**Procurement Contracting Officer:** Michelle Hurt Usarmy.redstone.acc.mbx.acc-rsa-uas-marketplace@army.mil **Contract Specialist** Samuel Mason Usarmy.redstone.acc.mbx.acc-rsa-uas-marketplace@army.mil

Please advise the Procurement Contracting Officer and Contract Specialist as soon as possible via the email above if your organization intends to submit a response to this Call for Solutions.

1. BACKGROUND

The U.S. Army Contracting Command – Redstone Arsenal (ACC-RSA) is issuing this Call for Solutions (abbreviated “C4S” hereafter) against Commercial Solutions Opening (CSO) W58RGZ-26-S-C001-006 under the authority of 10 U.S.C. § 3458. This C4S will competitively acquire innovative commercial, Vertical Take-Off and Landing (VTOL) Uncrewed Aircraft Systems (UAS) for the Battalion Reconnaissance UAS effort described below. The Government reserves the right to alter or cancel this call at any time.

The purpose of this effort is to provide Battalion Commanders and their organizations with an organic Reconnaissance, Surveillance and Target Acquisition (RSTA) capability. This effort aligns with the Army's modernization priorities to operate in Multi-Domain Operations (MDO) and the Department of War's (DoW) strategic objective of achieving Drone Dominance. Through this C4S, the Army ensures that industry remains informed of its changing needs, fostering ongoing investment and innovation in UAS technologies to address future opportunities.

This C4S will assess National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) compliant and viable Battalion Reconnaissance UAS candidates through a capability demonstration and Manufacturing Readiness Assessment (MRA) in support of the Army Maneuver Elements.

The Government reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to select multiple solutions, a single solution, or make no award at all as a result of this evaluation. Should the Government elect to select multiple solutions, Offerors are advised that an award does not constitute a commitment to procure any specific quantity of systems. There is no guaranteed minimum order quantity for any selected vendor. The actual number of systems procured from any awardee will be driven by evolving Army mission needs, fielding schedules, and the availability of funds.

Each Offeror shall explain how their system meets the minimum set of requirements from Attachment 2, System Characteristics.

All procurements will be initiated by Project Manager (PM) UAS and/or Army end-users based on their specific mission requirements and the availability of funds.

2. PROBLEM STATEMENT

The character and pace of modern warfare are being redefined by the rapid proliferation and innovation of UAS. Our near-peer competitors are deploying these capabilities with a speed and scale that directly threatens our technological advantage at the tactical edge. Recent DoW guidance directs a shift to a wartime footing, demanding the acceleration of acquisition timelines and scale the industrial base to meet this evolving threat.

The Battalion Reconnaissance UAS system is a critical solution to close maneuver battalions' operational reconnaissance and security gaps, which severely limits a commander’s situational awareness, decision space, freedom of maneuver, and tempo during Cross Domain Maneuver Operations.

To address this urgent need, the Army must rapidly identify, assess, and procure innovative, readily available UAS that are ready to field now. This C4S seeks to fill critical UAS capability gaps at the Battalion Level. The objective is to move away from traditional, lengthy development

cycles and onboard mature, effective, and immediately procurable solutions into the UAS Marketplace. This approach will empower the warfighter with the cutting-edge capability required to dominate the modern battlefield and restore decisive advantage.

3. TECHNICAL ATTRIBUTES

This C4S is for a production-ready Battalion Reconnaissance UAS. The desired platform must be a rapidly deployable VTOL system capable of autonomous reconnaissance, surveillance, target acquisition, and identification. A critical secondary function is the ability to provide communications relay in dynamic radio spectrum environments.

The system configuration shall be a VTOL UAS, not to exceed a Max Gross Takeoff Weight (MGTOW) of 55lbs and include two modular mission capable VTOL air vehicles with an Electro-Optical /Infrared (EO/IR) camera and laser pointer, two ground control stations and ancillary equipment capable of operations in day, night and adverse weather conditions. Ancillary equipment is defined as batteries, cables, initial spare parts, operator/maintenance manuals, and packaging. Dynamic mission changes require a system with a Modular Open Systems Approach (MOSA) and a common payload interface to rapidly remove and install air vehicle mission payloads.

The desired Battalion Reconnaissance UAS capabilities and characteristics are listed below and in the attached required System Characteristics (Attachment 2). These capabilities and characteristics are required in the Offerors' responses and will be verified during the capability demonstration. It is critical that whitepaper submissions accurately reflect performance and associated assumptions.

- Performance: Greater than 40 km range and greater than 5-hour endurance per AV.
- Launch/Recovery: Vertical Take-Off and Landing (VTOL).
- Data Link: Hardened, secure data link and Assured Positioning, Navigation, & Timing (APNT) agile in contested EMI.
- Architecture: Modular Open Systems Approach (MOSA) strategy.
- Payloads: Modular Mission Payload Capability, including at a minimum EO/IR. Payloads can be for RSTA, communications relay, target designation, and others.
- Interoperability: Integrated Tactical Network Interoperable, including with Tactical Assault Kit and Net Warrior Control systems.
- AI-Enabled: AI-enabled characteristics for target detection and recognition.

A detailed description of the required and desired technical attributes for the UAS solutions is provided in the Statement of Objectives (SOO), included as Attachment 1 to this C4S.

4. System Request

The PM UAS will assess Offeror responses to identify current, readily available, Battalion Reconnaissance UAS solutions and may invite select Offerors to demonstrate capabilities through flight operations. Submissions shall be based on current manufacturing, production and system technical performance capabilities. Offeror demonstrations will include the full range of system capabilities. Responses shall include the following information:

- Provide compliance report or certification from a 3rd party independent assessor and status of 2020 NDAA Sec 848, 2023 NDAA Sec 817, and cyber assessments. Offers that are not NDAA compliant can still compete but must detail the path to compliance.
- Provide a completed compliance matrix (Attachment 3) detailing the Offeror's adherence to the Drone Dominance Program Supply Chain Framework. The Offeror must clearly indicate its compliance status (e.g., "Compliant," "Not Compliant," "Plan to Comply by [Date]") for each component area against the Phase 2 (Minimum and Preferred), Phase 3, and Phase 4 requirements. For any area not yet compliant, the Offeror must provide a detailed narrative explaining their plan and timeline to achieve compliance.
- System price, segregated by air vehicle, ground control station, software licensing, mission specific payloads, ancillary equipment, training, technical manual, repair procedures, and 12 months of system support. Provide unit costs calculation assumptions (e.g., description of system, estimated production quantity).
- Detailed description of the modular payload sensor performance. Sensor performance details must include day/night/weather capability, video resolution, field of view, data bandwidth requirements and data storage characteristics. Sensor performance criteria will be based on identification of a man-sized target under day and nighttime conditions.
- Detailed description of all payload's performance characteristics. Interface description of system generated payload output format (e.g. full motion, cursor on target, precision targeting information).
- Detailed description of air vehicle performance characteristics such as air vehicle dimensions, weight, range, endurance, operating altitude, battery specification, launch method, wind/gust limits, hot/cold temperature range, Ingress Protection (IP) ratings (dust/liquids), precipitation limits while operating (e.g., in/hr), and maximum horizontal speed. Performance should be captured for max weight, combination of center of gravity range limitations, or any proposed specific configuration to meet requirements.
- Detailed description of the system and ground control solution including size/weight, battery specification, sensor and air vehicle control functions, hot/cold temperature range, IP ratings (dust/liquids), wired/wireless networking options, range of operation, display size/resolution/brightness, ability to operate in direct sunlight and night conditions, ability to operate the system in cold weather.
- Describe the integration approach for mission planning and Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) control software compatibility. The system is interoperable with the Integrated Tactical Network via the Tactical Assault Kit (TAK).
- Provide technical specifications for both C2 and network data link radios. Specification shall include data link waveform, frequencies, transmission range, and resiliency (hardening and encryption) details.
- Provide technical navigation specifications capabilities to include but not limited to; Global Positioning System (commercial or military), terrain-based, visual based, and/or inertial navigation solutions.
- Provide any Target Detection and Recognition or Target Recognition capabilities.

- Provide current Manufacturing Readiness Levels (MRL) of the system including current production rate, lead time required for delivery, maximum production capacity, and ramp up time to meet maximum capacity.
- Describe existing supply chain ability to support potential system level production rates and associated ramp-ups. For components/suppliers that represent the highest risk, provide risk mitigation, opportunities and issues.
- Provide system security considerations and accreditation for transmitting classified data.
- Describe support strategy for repair capabilities, right to repair, right to modify, data rights and strategy to reduce field level troubleshooting and return to service time.
- Describe proposed training strategy.
- Describe how the solution meets all Battalion Reconnaissance UAS C4S Minimum System Characteristics (Attachment 2).

5. EVALUATION

Assessment of viable Battalion Reconnaissance UAS systems will be conducted through a three-factor evaluation.

5.1 Evaluation Approach and Relative Importance

The relative importance of the **non-price factors** is as follows:

Factor 1, Technical Solution is equal in importance to Factor 2, Production Capability. Factor 4, Drone Dominance Program Supply Chain Framework Compliance, will be weighed as equal importance as Factors 1 and 2.

The Government will use a best-value tradeoff process to determine the solution that is most advantageous to the Government. All **non-price** evaluation factors, when combined, are more important than Price. This may result in an award to a higher-rated, higher-priced Offeror if the technical and/or production merits of the higher-priced solution warrant the additional price.

5.2 Evaluation Factors and Scoring

Factor 1 – Technical Solution: The whitepaper will be evaluated on its ability to meet or exceed the 19 system characteristics detailed in Attachment 2, System Characteristics. Offeror's must meet 16 of 19 system characteristics to be rated "Acceptable." 55lbs MGTOW is NOT a criterion that can be bypassed to be "Acceptable." Technical solutions MUST be 55lbs MGTOW.

The technical assessment will consist of a whitepaper evaluation for all Offerors. Based on this evaluation, select Offerors whose submissions are deemed "Acceptable" or higher may be invited to a subsequent Government-operated, Offeror-supported flight demonstration to validate their proposed technical solutions.

This factor assesses the Offeror's technical solution and the associated risk of unsuccessful performance. The Offerors will receive a combined technical/risk rating.

Scoring Citeria for Whitepaper Evaluation

- Outstanding: Solution demonstrates an exceptional approach, meeting all mandatory specifications and exceeding **multiple** specifications from Attachment 2, System Characteristics. The risk of unsuccessful performance is low.
- Good: Solution indicates a thorough approach, meeting all mandatory specifications and exceeding **at least one** specification from Attachment 2, System Characteristics. The risk of unsuccessful performance is low to moderate.
- Acceptable: Solution meets 16 of 19 specifications from Attachment 2, System Characteristics. The risk of unsuccessful performance is no worse than moderate.
- Unacceptable: Fails to meet 16 or more mandatory specifications.

Scoring Criteria for Flight Demonstration

This evaluation will be based on the Offeror's ability to successfully demonstrate the capabilities of their system against the specifications in Attachment 2, System Characteristics.

- Outstanding: The Offeror flawlessly demonstrated that the system meets all 19 specifications and demonstrated performance that **significantly exceeds multiple** key specifications. The demonstrated performance indicates a very low risk of unsuccessful contract performance.
- Good: The Offeror successfully demonstrated that the system meets all 19 specifications and demonstrated performance that **exceeds at least one** key specification. The demonstrated performance indicates a low risk of unsuccessful contract performance.
- Acceptable: The Offeror successfully demonstrated that the system meets 16 of 19 specifications from Attachment 2. The demonstrated performance meets all requirements and indicates the risk of unsuccessful performance is no worse than moderate.
- Unacceptable/Marginal: The Offeror failed to successfully demonstrate 16 of 19 specifications from Attachment 2 during the flight demonstration.

An overall Technical and Risk rating of Outstanding, Good, Acceptable, or Unacceptable will be assigned to each Offeror. This final rating will be based on a combined assessment of the initial Whitepaper Evaluation and the subsequent Flight Demonstration, which serves to verify the proposed capabilities. If the Government elects to not conduct flight demonstrations, it reserves the right to finalize scoring based on the whitepaper evaluations. Additionally, the Government reserves the right to evaluate whitepaper submissions to C4S W58RGZ-26-S-C001-006 against this C4S.

Flight Demonstration Details: If conducted, the following process will be used for the flight demonstration.

- Test Range and Demonstration Information: Details on the designated test range location, logistical and site access instructions. The Government will include range-specific safety protocols and any operational constraints. Operators will be provided local area orientation in a Demonstration Coordination Packet. The Offeror will provide a 15 minute brief responding to and detailing NDAA and cybersecurity compliance,

performance in austere, RF-contested, and all-weather environments followed by a Q&A upon the day of the Offeror's demonstration.

- Flight Cards: The Government-developed flight cards will outline the mission scenario and demonstration criteria. Ground assessments of weight and measurements will occur alongside flight execution. Offerors may propose modifications to the flight cards for Government consideration. These modifications may add capabilities but must not remove any existing requirements. All changes require formal Government review and approval.
- Frequency Allocation: Offerors must submit detailed RF characteristics for all transmitting and receiving equipment (e.g., Ground Control Stations, telemetry, video data links, radars, and payloads). At a minimum, this includes: desired frequency bands, emission designators, bandwidth, peak transmit power, antenna gain/polarization, and any existing DD Form 1494 (Application for Equipment Frequency Allocation) or JF-12 reference numbers.
- Offeror Attendance: To ensure a safe and efficient demonstration, attendance will be limited to five personnel. The Government will coordinate with the Offeror to finalize the number of attendees prior to the event for Visitor Access.
- Flight Demonstration Readiness Review: Prior to the scheduled demonstration, the Government will conduct a readiness review with the Offeror using a standardized template. This mandatory review will serve as a final check to ensure all logistical, technical, and safety requirements are met before the Offeror and Government teams begin the event.
- The flight demonstration will encompass pre-flight, flight card review and an opportunity to showcase any additional capabilities. Offerors attending must provide evidence to the Government including NDAA compliance letters from 3rd party assessors and a BOM. Additionally, please bring the Operators Manual, Software Version Description, cost breakout and Security Technical Implementation Guides (STIG) scans in support of the Authority to Operate. STIG scan viewing tools can be found at https://www.cyber.mil/stigs/srg-stig-tools.

Factor 2 – Production Capability: The whitepaper will be evaluated on the Offeror's ability to meet the minimum production rate of 13 systems every 30 days. To be rated "Acceptable," the whitepaper must credibly document the capability to meet this minimum rate. Higher ratings may be assigned to Offerors that document a significant and verifiable ability to scale production beyond this minimum. Offerors are encouraged to submit max production capacity capabilities if beyond 13 systems every 30 days.

This evaluation will result in a single, combined production and risk score, assessing the Government's confidence in the Offeror's ability to successfully perform.

Scoring Criteria for Production Capability

- Outstanding: The whitepaper submission demonstrates an exceptional approach, documenting a robust capability to significantly exceed the minimum production rate of 13 systems every 30 days. The documented scalability indicates the risk of unsuccessful performance is low.

- Good: The whitepaper submission indicates a thorough approach, documenting a clear capability to exceed the minimum production rate of 13 systems every 30 days. The documented scalability indicates the risk of unsuccessful performance is low to moderate.
- Acceptable: The whitepaper submission credibly documents the capability to meet the minimum production rate of 13 systems every 30 days. The risk of unsuccessful performance is no worse than moderate.
- Unacceptable: The whitepaper submission fails to credibly document a plan to meet the minimum production rate of 13 systems every 30 days.

NOTE: The Government reserves the right to conduct a Manufacturing Readiness Assessment (MRA) for Offeror's that are selected for award. An MRA will only be conducted if determined necessary by the Government. It is not part of the scoring criteria for Factor 2. However, if an anticipated awardee fails the MRA, the Government may move to the next highest rated Offeror. An MRA may consist of the following:

- Assess MRL
- Assess Technology Maturity
- Evaluate Production Process
- Review Manufacturing Plans
- Examine Materials and Supply Chain
- Evaluate Production Facilities and Equipment
- Assess Workforce and Training
- Review Quality Management Systems
- Conduct Risk Assessment

Factor 3 – Price:

Adjectival ratings will not be used for Offeror's price submissions.

The proposed price submitted by the Offeror will be evaluated to determine if it is reasonable. The Government will determine price reasonableness based on adequate price competition. The evaluation will consist of a comparison of proposed prices to ensure the final agreed-to price reflects current market conditions. Offerors are notified that the Government may require additional data other than certified cost or pricing data if competition is found to be inadequate.

Factor 4 – Drone Dominance Program Supply Chain Framework Compliance

The proposed submission in response to Attachment 3 will be evaluated on the Offeror's compliance with the Drone Dominance Program Supply Chain Framework (DDPSCF). This assessment will evaluate the Offeror's current compliance and the credibility of their plan to meet future phase requirements, ensuring alignment with the strategic goal of a secure

domestic industrial base. This factor is of equal importance to Factor 1 (Technical Solution) and Factor 2 (Production Capability).

Scoring Criteria for Supply Chain Security:

- **Outstanding:** The proposal demonstrates full compliance with all Phase 2 Preferred requirements. The Offeror also presents a detailed, credible, and accelerated plan to meet or exceed Phase 4 Preferred requirements ahead of the August 2027 target. The risk of supply chain disruption is low.
- **Good:** The whitepaper demonstrates full compliance with all Phase 2 Minimum requirements and greater than five (5) Phase 2 Preferred requirements. The Offeror presents a credible plan to achieve full Phase 3 and 4 Preferred compliance by August 2027. The risk of supply chain disruption is low to moderate.
- **Acceptable:** The whitepaper demonstrates full compliance with all Phase 2 Minimum requirements. The Offeror provides a plan to achieve future phase compliance, though it may lack detail or carry moderate execution risk. The risk of supply chain disruption is no worse than moderate.
- **Unacceptable:** The whitepaper fails to demonstrate compliance with one or more Phase 2 Minimum requirements.

6. SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:

- Clearly mark all proprietary information. **Do not include classified documents** in your response. Please be advised, all information submitted in response to the C4S becomes the property of the Government. The Government will handle all "proprietary" marked information accordingly. The Government may utilize non-Government personnel (support contractors) to review responses to this C4S. Markings on the submissions in response to this C4S should reflect the information that is releasable to DoW support contractors solely for the purposes stated and should include all applicable technologies identified herein.
- The Government will only accept information readable by Microsoft (MS) Word 365, MS Excel 365, and compatible versions, or Adobe Acrobat and shall have proper markings (No CLASSIFIED information). Submit all responses via email to the contracting specialist point of contact listed below.

7. AWARD INFORMATION

7.1 Award Eligibility

This C4S is issued under the authority of CSO procedures detailed within the UAS Marketplace Commercial Solutions Opening W58RGZ-26-S-C001-006, found at https://sam.gov/workspace/contract/opp/a48d3898b0ad4f78bf0b301f31bada82/view.

In accordance with 10 US Code 3458, use of a CSO is considered a competitive procedure.

If your solution meets 16 of 19 capabilities listed in Attachment 2, please submit a whitepaper addressing your proposed solution to the requested capabilities **(whitepaper should not exceed 14 pages, 12-point Arial font)**. **The Government will not review responses**

exceeding this limit. Responses to this C4S shall **not** exceed total email file size of 10MB. Please include a separate cover page listing.

7.2 Offeror Eligibility Requirements for Award

To be eligible for an award, Offerors must meet the following requirements:

- Fully compliant with Section 848 of the NDAA for Fiscal Year 2020, which prohibits the procurement and use of UAS, and their critical flight components manufactured in covered foreign countries, including the People's Republic of China. Offerors must be prepared to provide a complete Bill of Materials (BOM) and support supply chain verification activities to prove compliance.
- Possess a Unique Entity ID and have an active and approved registration in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) website.
- Possess an approved Commercial and Government Entity code.
- Possess a current NIST SP 800-171 DoW assessment completed and posted in the Supplier Performance Risk System IAW DFARS 252.204-7019.
- Meet all cybersecurity requirements stipulated in this solicitation, which may include a specific Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification level and compliance specified in the resulting award or orders IAW DFARS Clause 252.204-7012 for the protection of Controlled Unclassified Information.
- Disclose any actual or potential Organizational Conflicts of Interest (OCIs) to the Contracting Officer.
- Be registered in the prescribed Government invoicing system (e.g., Wide Area Workflow).

7.3 Government Rights and Disclaimers

- Decision: The Government reserves the right to make multiple awards, a single award, or no award as a result of this C4S.
- Binding Authority: Only a warranted Contracting or Agreements Officer has the authority to enter, modify, or execute a binding instrument on behalf of the Government.
- Cancellation: The Government reserves the right to cancel this C4S, either before or after the closing date. If the C4S is canceled, the Government has no obligation to reimburse an Offeror for any proposal preparation costs.
- Standard Terms: The terms and conditions of any resulting award will be based on FAR Part 12. Offerors are encouraged to review FAR 52.212-4 and 52.212-5.
- Submissions evaluated as ‘acceptable’ or higher may be retained by the Government for up to 120 days. The Government reserves the right to make subsequent awards from these retained submissions at a later date, contingent upon funding and mission needs.

7.4 Submission Updates and Revisions.

Offerors are responsible for maintaining a current, complete, and accurate submission package. Throughout the open period of this C4S, Offerors may submit revised documentation to update their submission to correct inadvertent errors or address feedback from the Government. The formal acceptance of any updates into the official evaluation package remains at the sole discretion of the Government. All evaluations will be based on the latest submission officially accepted by the Government.

8. GENERAL INFORMATION AND QUESTIONS

Questions are to be sent only to the Procurement Contracting Officer and Contract Specialist. The following shall be utilized in the email subject line: Call for Solution – W58RGZ-26-S-C001-006 (reference the section area). Material questions and answers will be published on www.sam.gov.

9. CONTACT INFORMATION

Procurement Contracting Officer:
Michelle Hurt
usarmy.redstone.acc.mbx.acc-rsa-uas-marketplace@army.mil

Contract Specialist:
Samuel Mason
usarmy.redstone.acc.mbx.acc-rsa-uas-marketplace@army.mil

10. ORGANIZATIONAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST (OCI)

The Offeror shall submit a comprehensive OCI analysis alongside the white paper submission. This analysis must evaluate the proposed Solution and its implementation to identify any actual or potential OCI involving the Offeror, its teammates, or its subcontractors. The scope of this evaluation includes all past, current, or pending contracts and agreements with any federal agency or external entity. The Offeror shall describe, in detail, the methodology used to identify actual or potential OCI issues. The level of detail for OCI analysis may not be the same for all Offerors. If no conflicts are identified, a risk mitigation plan is not required; however, a description of the analysis methodology, and an affirming statement that no conflicts are identified shall be included.

If the Offeror identifies any actual or potential OCIs with respect to the performance of the Offeror or the Offeror's subcontractors or teammates, the Offeror shall provide an OCI Mitigation Plan to be incorporated as an attachment to any resulting contract or agreement. Any proposed avoidance or mitigation techniques shall be consistent with FAR 9.5 and the most recent decisions of the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the U.S. Court of Federal Claims.

11. NON-GOVERNMENT ADVISORS

Offerors are advised that non-Government personnel may be used to assist in the evaluations for this C4S. Non-Government advisors will be bound by appropriate Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs) with the Government to protect proprietary and competition-sensitive information. By submitting a response to this C4S, the Offeror acknowledges this process and waives any and all claims against the Government for any disclosures of proprietary information

by non-Government personnel. If an Offeror executes a direct NDA with the non-Government advisors, a copy of the signed agreement must be included with their submission.

12. ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Statement of Objectives
Attachment 2 - System Characteristics
Attachment 3 – Drone Dominance Program Supply Chain Framework