**Classified information is NOT permitted on this site.**

**Bid Inquiry Contractor Report**
**All Inquiries**

**Project**: HITS-UIII Post Industry Day (sorted by CommentID ) **Review**: HITS-UIII Post Industry Day (*00001*)
Displaying 16 inquiries.

| Id | Discipline | Sheet | Detail | Spec |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **11893857** | Operations | | HITS-U III Industry Day | Industry Day Slide |
| Comment Classification: **Unclassified (U)**<br><br>Industry Day confirmed that ERDC hosts the program's benchmarking capability for both acquisition (vendor performance guarantees at award) and operational purposes (ongoing performance verification), but the Draft PWS does not identify specific contractor benchmarking responsibilities.<br>Q1: What tasks will be required of the HITS-U III contractor in support of benchmarking, including execution, data collection, reporting, and maintenance of the benchmark suite?<br><br>On: Jun 26 2026. | | | | |
| | **Government Response.** . Benchmarking is a Government function. Benchmarking will not be in the HITSU III requirement. On: Jul 28 2026 | | | |
| | Current Request Status: **Request Closed** | | | |
| **Information for this report is procurement sensitive.** | | | | |
| **11893860** | Operations | | HITS-U III Industry Day | Industry Day Slide |
| Comment Classification: **Unclassified (U)**<br><br>Industry Day confirmed that ERDC hosts the program's benchmarking capability for both acquisition (vendor performance guarantees at award) and operational purposes (ongoing performance verification), but the Draft PWS does not identify specific contractor benchmarking responsibilities.<br>Will benchmarking requirements be scoped within the ERDC task order or addressed as a Cross-Centers/enterprise function?<br><br>On: Jun 26 2026. | | | | |
| | **Government Response.** . Benchmarking is a Government function. Benchmarking will not be in the HITSU III requirement. On: Jul 28 2026 | | | |
| | Current Request Status: **Request Closed** | | | |
| **Information for this report is procurement sensitive.** | | | | |
| **11893861** | Contracting | | | Contracting |
| Comment Classification: **Unclassified (U)**<br><br>The Industry Day briefing and draft materials describe HITS?U III as a primarily Firm?Fixed?Price (FFP) contract with cost?reimbursable ODCs and binding, fully?loaded labor rate ceilings. The Sample Task Orders require offerors to propose detailed labor categories, skill levels, hours, and level of effort (LOE), which the Government will cross?reference during evaluation.<br>Question: Can the Government confirm that individual task orders issued under HITS?U III will be structured as Firm?Fixed?Price (FFP) Level of Effort (LOE)?<br><br>On: Jun 26 2026. | | | | |
| | **Government Response.** . Individual task orders under HITS-U III will be structured as hybrids, consisting of:<br><br>Firm-Fixed-Price (FFP) CLINs/Task Orders for labor, and<br>Cost-Reimbursable (CR) CLINs for non-labor components (such as Other Direct Costs [ODCs] and Travel).<br><br>The requirement to propose detailed labor categories, skill levels, hours, within the Sample Task Orders is for technical evaluation and understanding of the task order requirements. As stated, this allows the Government to cross-reference and verify the adequacy, reasonableness, and technical understanding of the proposed staffing approach to meet the task order requirements. It does not convert the underlying labor portion of the task orders from FFP to an FFP-LOE contract type but instead it shall be a FFP to completion, performance/deliverable based. On: Jul 28 2026 | | | |
| | Current Request Status: **Request Closed** | | | |
| **Information for this report is procurement sensitive.** | | | | |
| **11893863** | Contracting | | | Contracting |

Comment Classification: **Unclassified (U)**

The Industry Day briefing indicated that offerors will be required to respond to one or more Sample Task Orders (STOs) as part of the proposal submission, with responses evaluated on both technical approach and price. However, it is unclear whether the STOs are intended solely as an evaluation tool or whether any STOs will be incorporated as binding contract requirements or awarded as actual task orders following contract award.
Question: Could the Government please clarify whether the Sample Task Order(s) will be for evaluation purposes only, or whether any Sample Task Orders are intended to be awardable?

On: Jun 26 2026.

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| | **Government Response.** . The Sample Task Orders will be for evaluation purposes only. Any Task Order required during the base period will be issued during the 120-day transition period. The information contained within the STOs do not necessarily reflect historical requirements and may or may not accurately reflect actual operational requirements. On: Jul 28 2026 |
| | Current Request Status: **Request Closed** |

**Information for this report is procurement sensitive.**

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| **11893866** | Contracting | | | Contracting |

Comment Classification: **Unclassified (U)**

During the Industry Day, the Government indicated that oral presentations are under consideration.
By what date does the Government expect to decide whether oral presentations will be required?

On: Jun 26 2026.

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| | **Government Response.** . The requirement for oral presentations remains under evaluation by the Government. A final determination will be codified and published within Section L of the solicitation upon its official release on SAM.gov. On: Jul 28 2026 |
| | Current Request Status: **Request Closed** |

**Information for this report is procurement sensitive.**

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| **11893871** | Contracting | | | Contracting |

Comment Classification: **Unclassified (U)**

During the Industry Day, the Government indicated that oral presentations are under consideration.
If oral presentations are required, will they be tied to specific sample task orders -- necessitating multiple presentations per offeror -- or will a single oral presentation cover multiple task orders?

On: Jun 26 2026.

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| | **Government Response.** . The requirement for oral presentations remains under evaluation by the Government. A final determination will be codified and published within Section L of the solicitation upon its official release on SAM.gov. On: Jul 28 2026 |
| | Current Request Status: **Request Closed** |

**Information for this report is procurement sensitive.**

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| **11893877** | Operations | | | HITS-U III Industry Day |

Comment Classification: **Unclassified (U)**

During Industry Day, ARL was identified as the program's dedicated AI/ML compute site, with new GPU-based systems coming online. Can the Government clarify:
whether the new building referenced at ARL is associated with the AI/ML compute mission (e.g., an AI Factory construct or equivalent)?
What contractor support tasks are expected for integrating these dedicated AI/ML systems with ARL's existing HPC resources and persistent data services framework -- specifically whether this support will be scoped within the ARL DSRC task order or addressed separately?

On: Jun 26 2026.

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| | **Government Response.** . "During Industry Day, ARL was identified as the program's dedicated AI/ML compute site, with new GPU-based systems coming online"<br><br>Government Response:<br>While specific sites may be identified as dedicated to specific missions at this time, the mission of all DSRCs are subject to the needs of the Department of War and the military services. Neither the future dedicated mission(s) of any DSRC nor the future needs of the Department of War can be guaranteed at any time.<br><br>1. "whether the new building referenced at ARL is associated with the AI/ML compute mission (e.g., an AI Factory construct or equivalent)?" |

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| | Government Response:<br><br>The physical facilities at the Army Research Laboratory (ARL) Supercomputing Research Center are continuously upgraded and configured to support High Performance Computing Modernization Program (HPCMP) infrastructure requirements, which include hosting the evolving GPU-intensive AI/ML systems. The requirements are subject to change in accordance with the needs of the Department of War and may or may not expand into the other DSRCs. The specific operational and technical requirements of the facilities will be defined as necessary within the individual task order(s).<br><br>2. "What contractor support tasks are expected for integrating these dedicated AI/ML systems with ARL's existing HPC resources and persistent data services framework -- specifically whether this support will be scoped within the ARL DSRC task order or addressed separately?"<br><br>Government Response: Specific technical tasks, deliverables, and resource expectations for these integration efforts will be fully detailed in the ARL DSRC Task Order. Prospective offerors are advised to refer to the forthcoming Draft ARL DSRC Task Order PWS for complete technical details. On: Jul 30 2026 |
| | Current Request Status: **Request Closed** |

**Information for this report is procurement sensitive.**

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| **11893880** | Operations | | | HITS-U III Industry Day |

Comment Classification: **Unclassified (U)**

During Industry Day, the Government highlighted enterprise data fabric development as an emerging priority; however, the Draft PWS does not identify specific contractor responsibilities in this area.
What specific contractor tasks are expected in support of the enterprise data fabric, including but not limited to: system engineering, software development, data movement tooling, cross-center integration, and ongoing sustainment?
Will enterprise data fabric requirements be scoped within individual DSRC task orders, addressed as a Cross-Centers/enterprise function, or both?

On: Jun 26 2026.

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| | **Government Response.** . The Enterprise Data Fabric is an evolving modernization initiative. Because the operational architecture and long-term sustainment framework are currently under development, specific contractor responsibilities-such as system engineering, software development, and cross-center sustainment - will not be fully defined until the initial Draft PWS or the initial base task orders at the time of contract award. On: Jul 28 2026 |
| | Current Request Status: **Request Closed** |

**Information for this report is procurement sensitive.**

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| **11908085** | Contracting | FINAL+DRAFT+HITSU+II I+Performance+Work+S tatement_V+1.1_21+Ma y+2026, 1.5.1 Key Personnel | | FINAL+DRAFT+HITSU+II I+Performance+Work+S tatement_V+1.1_21+Ma y+2026, 1.5.1 Key Personnel |

Comment Classification: **Unclassified (U)**

Twelve Key Personnel requirements provide an advantage to the incumbent as other bidders must identify and invest aligned to the 12 KPs in order to considered for award. As the Government is considering evaluating by Sample Task Orders, we suggest the KPs needed to perform against the Sample Task Orders be the only required and evaluated. In addition, we suggest that the Government consider requiring only KPs can present at orals so that the Government can truly evaluate capabilities possessed by the KPs and not SMEs who will not be involved in HITS U III performance.

On: Jul 08 2026.

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| | **Government Response.** . While each of the 12 KP roles is intended to represent a distinct, full-time commitment for critical elements to ensure successful performance on the contract, the government welcomes innovative solutions . The government requires the dedicated focus of the KP in their roles. If the contractor proposes fewer KPs by overlapping some of these roles there must be sufficient justification that the reduced number of KP FTEs will ensure operational continuity, risk mitigation, and high-quality performance across all task orders, demonstrating improved efficiency without negatively impacting quality and resiliency. On: Jul 30 2026 |
| | Current Request Status: **Request Closed** |

**Information for this report is procurement sensitive.**

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| **11908088** | Contracting | FINAL+DRAFT+HITSU+II I+Performance+Work+S tatement_V+1.1_21+Ma y+2026, 1.5.1 Key Personnel | | FINAL+DRAFT+HITSU+II I+Performance+Work+S tatement_V+1.1_21+Ma y+2026, 1.5.1 Key Personnel |

Comment Classification: **Unclassified (U)**

Is the Government open to innovative solutions where KP roles are performed by less than 12 FTEs? For example, could the Lead-Cross Centers also be proposed as the Deputy Program Manager? This kind of a solution could meet Government

requirements, reduce cost in execution, and drive efficient operations and synergies across the enterprise.

On: Jul 08 2026.

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| | **Government Response.** . While each of the 12 KP roles is intended to represent a distinct, full-time commitment for critical elements to ensure successful performance on the contract, the government welcomes innovative solutions. The government requires the dedicated focus of the KP in their roles. If the contractor proposes fewer KPs by overlapping some of these roles there must be sufficient justification that the reduced number of KP FTEs will ensure operational continuity, risk mitigation, and high-quality performance across all task orders, demonstrating improved efficiency without negatively impacting quality and resiliency. On: Jul 29 2026 |
| | Current Request Status: **Request Closed** |

**Information for this report is procurement sensitive.**

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| **11908092** | Contracting | FINAL+DRAFT+HITSU+II I+Performance+Work+S tatement_V+1.1_21+Ma y+2026, Appendix A | | FINAL+DRAFT+HITSU+II I+Performance+Work+S tatement_V+1.1_21+Ma y+2026, Appendix A |

Comment Classification: **Unclassified (U)**

As procurement of HW/SW Maintenance, Materials, and Services is such a large part of this program's requirements, has the Government considered making a procurement project and the procurement process a Sample Task Order and orals scenario? The timely procurement of goods and services across the DSRCs and Cross-Center in parallel seems to be a key component of successful performance on HITS U III.

On: Jul 08 2026.

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| | **Government Response.** . The Government recognizes that the timely procurement and management of hardware, software maintenance, materials, and services are critical components of successful performance on HITS-U III.<br><br>Regarding the Sample Task Order (STO) and Oral Scenario: The Government has carefully structured the STOs and Oral Presentation scenarios to evaluate the core technical, management, and transition capabilities required for the HITS-U III enterprise. While procurement is not a standalone STO, the Government's evaluation criteria within the existing Management and Technical STOs/Scenarios will assess the Offeror's ability to execute integrated logistics, supply chain management, and material procurement in support of operations. The Government does not plan to add a separate procurement-specific STO or Oral scenario.<br><br>Regarding the Bundling of Procurement and DSRC Operations: The Government notes the vendor's perspective. The solicitation is structured to ensure that overarching enterprise integration, cross-center support, and localized DSRC operations are seamlessly aligned. Offerors are expected to propose an integrated management approach that clearly demonstrates how procurement activities will support continuous, uninterrupted DSRC operations. On: Jul 30 2026 |
| | Current Request Status: **Request Closed** |

**Information for this report is procurement sensitive.**

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| **11908094** | Contracting | B07.01_HPC_Centers_P resentation_HITS-U_I II_Industry_Day_2026 0624_Slide_Deck_2 | | B07.01_HPC_Centers_P resentation_HITS-U_I II_Industry_Day_2026 0624_Slide_Deck_2 |

Comment Classification: **Unclassified (U)**

Will the Government be providing a bidder's library to include procurement history of the DSRCs and Cross Center, a list of special projects (Cross Center and DSRC specific) currently in work and planned, strategic plans to include the latest Tech Forecast, current enterprise SW licensing, infrastructure specifics at each DSRC to include power, cooling, auxiliary systems and tools, and storage? Documents like: Annual Tech Forecast, Technology Roadmap, Strategic Plans for HPCMP, Strategic Plan for HPC Centers, Strategic Plan and/or tech roadmaps for AFRL DSRC, ARL DSRC, ERDC DSRC, and Navy DSRCs

On: Jul 08 2026.

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| | **Government Response.** . The Government will establish a secure Bidder's Library to provide historical operational data for the DSRCs to include some of the requested data. However, due to security constraints and operational security (OPSEC) requirements, strategic plans, and detailed facility schematics will not be released.<br><br>Instructions for requesting access to the secure library will be provided in an upcoming solicitation amendment. On: Jul 28 2026 |
| | Current Request Status: **Request Closed** |

**Information for this report is procurement sensitive.**

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| **11908096** | Contracting | B07.01_HPC_Centers_P resentation_HITS-U_I II_Industry_Day_2026 0624_Slide_Deck_2 | | B07.01_HPC_Centers_P resentation_HITS-U_I II_Industry_Day_2026 0624_Slide_Deck_2 |

Comment Classification: **Unclassified (U)**

There was mention that the CWFSs were decommissioned and the Enterprise Data Fabric will take the place of mid-term storage needs. Will the Enterprise Data Fabric project be executed on HITS U II or a project which needs executed on HITS U III? Is a technical solution already in work or is the ERDC WERX requirement for a Sovereign Defense Cloud the start of this effort?

On: Jul 08 2026.

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| | **Government Response.** . The initial phases of the Enterprise Data Fabric are supported on the current HITS-U II contract, and operations and sustainment support will be required on the HITS-U III contract. The technical solution is already in work. The ERDC WERX requirement for a Sovereign Defense Cloud will likely initially implement the data fabric capability. On: Jul 28 2026 |
| | Current Request Status: **Request Closed** |

**Information for this report is procurement sensitive.**

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| **11908098** | Contracting | B07.01_HPC_Centers_P resentation_HITS-U_I II_Industry_Day_2026 0624_Slide_Deck_2 | | B07.01_HPC_Centers_P resentation_HITS-U_I II_Industry_Day_2026 0624_Slide_Deck_2 |

Comment Classification: **Unclassified (U)**

How will MHPCC DSRC procurement requirements be handled under the contract structure being considered for HITS U III? Will the HITS U III contractor be procuring materials (HW/SW and maintenance) for MHPCC on a CR CLIN? How will labor costs associated with these procurements be handled? Will they be as a part of the FFP labor CLIN for Cross-Center? How are contractors to estimate the future requirements for the MHPCC and this required support?

On: Jul 08 2026.

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| | **Government Response.** . MHPCC is not in scope for standalone site-support under HITS-U III. All support for MHPCC is integrated into the enterprise-level requirements and will be managed and executed solely under the Cross-Center Task Order.<br><br>Accordingly, requirements will be handled as follows:<br><br>Procurement of Materials (HW/SW & Maintenance): Any approved enterprise-level hardware, software, or maintenance procurements that support MHPCC will be executed under the centralized Cross-Center Cost-Reimbursable (CR) CLIN.<br><br>Labor Costs: All labor associated with managing these procurements, as well as any technical support provided to MHPCC, must be proposed within the Firm-Fixed-Price (FFP) Cross-Center Labor CLIN. There are no standalone labor CLINs for MHPCC.<br><br>Estimating Future Requirements: Offerors should not attempt to estimate standalone operational requirements for MHPCC. Proposals should focus on staffing and managing the centralized Cross-Center Task Order to support the enterprise as defined in the Performance Work Statement (PWS). The Government will provide a standard plug figure in the solicitation for the Cross-Center CR Material CLIN. On: Jul 28 2026 |
| | Current Request Status: **Request Closed** |

**Information for this report is procurement sensitive.**

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| **11908101** | Contracting | B07.01_HPC_Centers_P resentation_HITS-U_I II_Industry_Day_2026 0624_Slide_Deck_2 | | B07.01_HPC_Centers_P resentation_HITS-U_I II_Industry_Day_2026 0624_Slide_Deck_2 |

Comment Classification: **Unclassified (U)**

How will decommissioning of HPC systems be handled under HITS U III and what will the HITS U III team involvement be? At times during prior contract performance, the HPCMP and the DSRCs have repurposed these systems or kept them around longer than the initial awarded TI schedule. At times, the contract was asked to maintain those systems or support decommissioning of systems, how are bidders supposed to estimate these future unknown requirements and will any extensions to TI systems be future Special Projects with additional FFP funding? Bidders need to include that labor or know it will be a future special project and funded separately in order to accurate propose against these requirements.

On: Jul 08 2026.

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| | **Government Response.** . The HITS-U III contract structure does not utilize "Special Projects." Instead, all requirements--including any deviations from standard system decommissioning or maintenance schedules--will be defined and executed through individual Task Orders.<br><br>To assist offerors in estimating labor for these activities, the Government will provide Current Technical Libraries (CTLs) reflecting historical requirements and workload baselines.<br><br>If the Government requires a system to be maintained beyond its initial schedule, or if decommissioning requirements change, those specific requirements will be addressed and adjusted within the scope of the affected Task Order or a new task order will be issued. On: Jul 28 2026 |
| | Current Request Status: **Request Closed** |

| Information for this report is procurement sensitive. | | | | |
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| **11908113** | Contracting | FINAL+DRAFT+HITSU+III+Performance+Work+Statement_V+1.1_21+May+2026 AND B07.01_HITS-UIII_Industry_Day_CT_SB_24_June_2026_Slide_Deck_ 3 | | FINAL+DRAFT+HITSU+III+Performance+Work+Statement_V+1.1_21+May+2026 AND B07.01_HITS-UIII_Industry_Day_CT_SB_24_June_2026_Slide_Deck_ 3 |

Comment Classification: **Unclassified (U)**

Will the Government consider FFP aligned to CLINs associated with delivery of the PWS requirements vs. binding rates (FFP LOE)? FFP LOE can be manipulated to reduce contractor execution risk and drive artificially low and unexecutable bids. FFP per CLIN, aligned to true requirements, puts the risk of execution on the contractor and will drive bidding behavior that will increase the likelihood of improved performance across scope areas and reduction of execution risk at the DSRCs and Cross Centers. The Government could consider separate CLINs (FFP) for "3.1 Operate DSRCs", "3.2 Deliver Unclassified HPC Capabilities", 3.3 Deliver Classified HPC Capabilities", etc.

On: Jul 08 2026.

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| | **Government Response.** . We are not considering an FFP LOE type contract. FFP binding labor rates for the five year ordering period shall become part of the IDIQ and used to FFP the labor of each task order based on the offeror's response to the technical requirements and deliverables of that order. On: Jul 30 2026 |
| | Current Request Status: **Request Closed** |

**Information for this report is procurement sensitive.**

## Report Complete

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