DETERMINATION & FINDINGS

Authority to Solicit from a Single Source (at or below the SAT)

1. Agency and Contracting Activity: 914 MSG/PK

2. Nature and/or Description of the Action: [redacted]

Sentinel Airframe system provided by Western Shelter Systems, LLC

3. Citation to the Appropriate Regulation:
(Contracting Officer Instruction: Select the applicable authority for this acquisition)

- ○ **RFO 8.401 and GSAR 538.7104-3(a) (FSS Orders):** The circumstances of the acquisition deem only one source reasonably capable of providing the products, services, or solutions.
- ○ **RFO 11.204(a)(2)(ii) (Brand Name):** The particular brand name, product, or feature is essential to the Government's requirements, and market research indicates other companies' similar products, or products lacking the particular feature, do not meet the agency's needs or cannot be modified to meet the agency's minimum needs,.
- ◉ **RFO 12.102(a) (Commercial Products and Services):** Only one source is available,.
- ○ **RFO 13.101(b) (Noncommercial Products and Services):** Only one source is reasonably available (e.g., urgency, exclusive licensing agreements, brand-name, or industrial mobilization),.

4. Findings:

This requirement is for a rapidly deployable shelter for use in austere locations for training and exercise support. Mission requirements dictate a highly mobile, rapidly deployable shelter system that can withstand extreme environmental conditions while maintaining a climate controlled, secure interior for operations and billeting with IT enterprise equipment.

Western Shelter's Sentinel Airframe system posses unique features not found in other available structures:

It does not utilize a pole-based structure that require significant time and manpower to assemble. This system utilizes an inflatable frame that allows for full setup within 6 minutes which is critical to the Agile Combat Employment (ACE) requirements and mobile training scenarios that it is intended for use. Additionally, the absence of additional poles and supports reduce the total material required to be transported and accounted for when in use, which greatly increases redeployment time which is necessary to support ACE and training requirements.

This system is constructed of military-grade and fire-resistant materials that are also designed to withstand severe weather at austere locations including sustained winds of 55mph as well as significant snow loads. These are potential conditions when operating in the Western New York area near the Great Lakes.

This system includes HVAC integration with wrap around coil guards as well as sealable vinyl floors and specalized anchoring equipment which maintain a strictly controlled, contaminant-free environment which is necessary for the information technology equipment that will be utilized within.

Market research has been unable to identify any suitable substitute that meets these requirements.

5. Determination: Based on the findings above, the proposed sole source or brand name action is justified under the applicable regulation.

6. Signatory Authority: *(Contracting Officer Instruction: In accordance with DAF Approval Authorities Matrix PM 26-C-11 Matrix Item 51 for RFO 13.101(b) actions and GSAR 538.7104-3(a) for FSS orders, the Contracting Officer is the approval authority for these determinations).*

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Matthew Crum / GS-12 / USAF
Contracting Officer

Aug 4, 2026