

W91B4N-08-Q-0190
Questions & Answers

1	Page 3, Pricing – Are you requesting a unit price for each separate mission to the designated location or will a lump sum be acceptable for this fixed price contract?	As per the description in the line item details, each refers to each mission, round trip.
2	What is the reason that the base period of performance is listed as six months with a six month option? This relatively short term contract makes it harder to economically justify acquiring all of the required equipment.	This is based on Government needs and is a valid period of performance based on the Government's requirement.
3	It will be very difficult or impossible to prepare a quotation, submit it by 17 September, wait for a decision with respect to contract award, acquire equipment, hire staff, perform security checks, deploy people to the site using a CRC, and start performing by 25 September, 2008 (indicated period of performance listed on page 3). Can the 25 September date be extended to allow adequate time to perform all necessary operations?	The Fenty solicitation was posted in June and then cancelled. The Government has determined the amount of time to be fair. The period of performance starting 25 Sep 08 includes a mobilization period; therefore, it is not expected that the contractor will start delivering on 25 Sep 08.
4	Will the Combat Commander develop a security plan for protection of the Contractor as indicated in (c) on page 13?	No, continued in that section it states that it will be done when it is determined to be in the best interest of the Government, and based on the conditions for that determination following the statement, it has been determined per the SOW that the contractor will provide their own security. This service is currently being performed in Afghanistan and the Government has validated that vendors are capable of securing the convoys.
5	Section iii (3), page 14 indicates that the Contractor is responsible for all other support other than life saving emergency medical treatment. Please define all additional Contractor support (if any) that will be provided by the US government or their representative.	There will be no logistical support provided by the Government. See the SOW and page 14 for authorized support.
6	Will all staff members for this project be required to deploy through a US based CRC (even those who are already in theater) as indicated in (f) on page 15? Are exceptions to this policy possible for designated individuals?	Only if they are coming from the U.S. into country.
7	What Contractor personnel have been designated as Mission Essential by the Contracting Officer (h iii, page 16)?	There are none designated.
8	Is Isolated Personnel Training a part of this specific Contract (page 20.2, vi)? If so, who is an acceptable training agency?	There is no mandate in the contract.
9	Will the government supply access to a firing range in the local area to maintain weapons proficiency?	No.

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10	Page 16, section I (2) states that the Combatant Commander will issue all OCIE. This appears to be in conflict with the requirements found on page 26, section g that requires the Contractor to supply this equipment. Please clarify who is required to supply the designated equipment.	Please note that Page 16 refers to contract personnel accompanying US Forces; whereas, Page 26 refers to Arming Requirements and Procedures for Private Security Company Contracts. These are two different groups of individuals. In reference to security, the contractor is responsible for providing all equipment. In reference to DFARS Clause 252.225-7040, if the individual processes through CRC, the equipment will be issued there.
11	Page 16, section (j) states that either the Contractor issue Contractor owned weapons to staff or has an option that requires the Regional Security officer to issue government furnished weapons and ammunition to the specified Contractor employees. What will be done with respect to weapons n this project?	The Government will not issue weapons for this contract.
12	Page 19, (c) indicates that the Contractor is responsible for all logistical and security support. Does this indicate that the Contractor will not have access to the Base Exchange, MWR facilities, or DEFAC?	That is correct.
13	If the Contractor is required to provide all logistical support as indicated on page 19, will the government provide a man camp at locations required to support the proposed transportation schedule?	No, the contractor's are responsible for all logistics.
14	Page 20, Section F states that the Contractor must use a departure center specified in the contract or complete another process as designated by the Contracting Officer. Which requirement will be imposed on this project?	See DFARS Clause 252.225-7040 (f). CRC is the preferred processing point.
15	Page 25, sections (3) and (4) – How long does it take to get a business license from the Afghani Ministry of Trade or Interior? The same question is also applicable for the Operating License from the Ministry of the Interior? If the licenses are not in effect, will the Contractor be allowed to start performing the contract duties prior to license reception?	The contractor is responsible for obtaining these licenses. These are not U.S. Government restrictions. The contractor will have to contact the Afghanistan Government.
16	Page 27, section 7 – If Afghani subcontractors are armed, will they be allowed on the US run bases during the mail delivery process?	Armed Afghani subcontractors will not be permitted access to U.S. or Coalition bases. However, U.S. citizen CAC holders will be permitted and must complete the CJTF-101 armed civilian packet and meet all training requirements. The Afghani subcontractors may escort to the installation and the truck will enter the installation without the armed Afghani subcontractor.

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17	Attachment 1, page 1, Section 1.3 requires the Contractor to equip the transport vehicles with a GPS tracking device. How will the government track these vehicles and on what interval should the trucks be pinged to provide adequate tracking for the government?	The trucks will be tracked by the contractor and the information made available to the Government upon request.
18	Attachment 1, page 1 – Define “military compatible communications equipment” and provide information as to frequency range for radios as well as contact numbers for phone communications.	This information is will not be posted with this solicitation, it is not public information. The information will be provided to the awardee.
19	Attachment 1, page 1 – the Contractor is required to supply “anti pilferage devices” for the connex. Define or describe acceptable equipment to fulfill this requirement if it is anything other than a padlock.	A padlock is sufficient as an anti-pilferage device.
20	Attachment 1, page 2 – All personnel coming into contact with the mail are required to maintain a Mail Handler’s Card (DD285). Are local nationals or third country nationals permitted to receive a Mail Handler’s Card?	Yes, as long as they attend the DD285 card class given by the 502d Human Resources Company. They are not permitted to handle accountable classes (Registered, Insured, Certified) even after they receive the training because they are not U.S. citizens.
21	Attachment 1, page 3 – Destruction of container/mail if it cannot be recovered –What is acceptable to the government with respect to the method of destruction for the container/mail?	There is a standard operating procedure, which will be provided to the contractor upon award.
22	Is there a limit to the response or proposal in terms of length?	See Amendment 01
23	Do you have the exact distances between the locations (kilometers or miles) starting from BAF?	No, due to various routes, the Government will not be providing distances.
24	Could we combine past performance if 2 firms Joint Venture and would that be considered in the past performance?	The Government has not indicated that Joint Ventures are not authorized. Any surveys submitted should clearly reference who the performing organization is, and what proposal the survey references.
25	Could we combine past performance if 2 firms team (teaming agreement) and would that be considered in the past performance?	The Government has not indicated that teaming is not authorized. Any surveys submitted should clearly reference who the performing organization is, and what proposal the survey references.
26	P 2 section 1.10 of the SOW states POP as 1 year is that a typo?	See Amendment 01
27	P 2 section 3.1.1 of the SOW has Camp Lighting as one (2) times a week, can you clarify?	See Amendment 01
28	Can you clarify average weight per 20 foot container?	See Amendment 01 and SOW Para. 3.1.1 & 3.1.2.

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29	Will vehicles be left overnight at BAF or any other location or will containers be taken off and replaced immediately? If so will the contractor need to have loaders?	Containers should be taken off and replaced immediately. Vehicles should not be left overnight at any location unless prior coordination is made through the COR. The contractor should have loading capability, since the equipment cannot be provided by the government at all locations.
30	Section 3.6 of the SOW says that contractor will separate mail at each APO etc.... does that mean that the contractor will sort, load, or down-load mail?	The contractor is responsible for movement of the container and downloading it at the appropriate location. The contractor does not load the container or assist in sorting of the mail.
31	Can you confirm that only connex vehicles are needed and the vehicle must fit a 20 foot container.	Connex vehicles that can carry a 20 ft container are required to fulfill the minimum requirements of the SOW. The SOW does not limit the contractor to ONLY connex vehicles.
32	For proposal submission, can the entire response and all its sections be bound in one binder?	The parts should be easily separated for evaluation purposes.
33	Does the offeror have to own the trucks or is it acceptable to team with local trucking companies?	The Government has indicated no requirement regarding ownership of vehicles.
34	SOW Section 1.7 states, "Mail Handler Card Classes are given by the HR Company in E7nglish." Can you please clarify who the HR Company is?	Human Resources Company
35	SOW Section 3.4 references "Registered mail, which requires escort by a US Citizen with secret clearance, will be delivered as require..." Can the Government provide the DD 254 Form to disclose all of the security requirements needed for this effort?	See Amendment 01
36	Are local trucking companies' 20' Flatbed Trucks acceptable for use in this effort?	There are no listed requirements stating unacceptability. See SOW for details on equipment expectations. They must be serviceable and safe.
37	On page 4 of the SOW, paragraph 3.6, it states that "Connexes will be dropped off at final destination and switched out with a retrograde connex." Can you please clarify if equipment will be provided to unload and load connexes/mail in the connexes at each stop?	The contractor must assume that equipment will not be provided because all locations do not have the equipment to unload the connexes.
38	RFP states performance will start Sept 25th. How long will awarded contractor have from date of notification to begin first mission?	See Amendment 01.

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39	To assist us in determining the staff and equipment necessary, provide a map locating the designated Mail Stops, distance between the stops, and approximate transit time.	<p>There is not a public map available of all locations. The vendor is responsible for researching transit times, as the Government does not dictate the route. Here are the <u>estimates</u> we currently have for some locations:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="873 409 1377 646"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Rountrip Est Miles</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>BAF</td> <td>Sharana</td> <td>316</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BAF</td> <td>Shank/Sharana</td> <td>316</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BAF</td> <td>Camp Lightning</td> <td>480</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BAF</td> <td>Ghazni</td> <td>472</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Rountrip Est Miles	BAF	Sharana	316	BAF	Shank/Sharana	316	BAF	Camp Lightning	480	BAF	Ghazni	472
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40	If the contractor is obligated to supply fuel for the Mail trucks, provide the average cost per liter for Diesel fuel in Afghanistan.	The vendor is responsible for obtaining that information. We do not have that data.															
41	Is completion of a NAC acceptable for the person who handles Registered Mail or will an actual active security clearance be required?	The U.S. Citizen is not required to have a Secret Clearance, they will not be handling the mail.															
42	Equipment: All contractors must have GPS systems that have(ITV) compatibility with the U.S. military. What model and/or supplier would the U.S. Army recommend for this equipment?	The vendors are responsible for their own ITV system. The Government has made no recommendation.															
43	What is the difference between a satellite telephone and mobile phone for all drivers?	Satellite phone typically have reception in areas mobile phones do not. Additional research may need to be conducted by the vendor.															