

Utilizing Public-Private Partnerships to Advance Tipping Point Technologies Appendix 80HQTR18NOA01-15TDM-001

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

As of: May 22, 2018

1. Question: The Appendix does not provide page format requirements for this solicitation (e.g., font type; size; margins; foldouts; font size for graphics, tables; etc.). Should offerors refer to the NASA Guidebook for Proposers (page 8) to format our response for this Appendix?

Answer: Yes, the NASA Guidebook for Proposers shall be followed for the font type; size; margins; foldouts; font size for graphics, tables; etc. Additionally, proposals shall follow the format and page limitations provided in the Appendix, Section 4.0 Table.

[Added April 5, 2018]

2. Question: Request updated guidance on which quad chart format is desired (i.e., per the instructions on page 9 or Attachment 4 on page 27)?

Answer: The instructions for the Quad Chart on page 9 of the Appendix shall be followed. Disregard the Attachment 4 guidance on page 27. *[Added April 5, 2018]*

3. Question: What is the definition of "supervised-autonomy"? Does this include that the robot is running autonomously and an operator checks in periodically and that the robot runs a number of sequences and then waits for operator input?

Answer: Supervised-autonomy includes the modes described in the question: e.g. periodic or event-driven human checks or intervention. At a minimum it implies some level of task automation that can be accomplished without human intervention. *[Added April 5, 2018]*

4. Question: To ensure that we are operating under the same definition, can you explain the difference between assembly and construction?

Answer: For proposal purposes, assembly and construction infer the same meaning, namely, building a larger assemblage using smaller component parts. *[Added April 5, 2018]*

5. Question: Can an example be provided to clarify, “how a spacecraft is built rather than what is used to build it”? Is the desire to focus on the process rather than the material or tools needed to build it?

Answer: Additional clarification for this statement in the Appendix: The proposal must focus on both the concept of operations for in-space spacecraft assembly and the key technologies used to accomplish the build. *[Added April 5, 2018]*

6. Question: Attachment 1, Page18, Appendix text: “Concepts that allow for efficient and reliable prediction of the integrated performance of the assembled system (including joint performance) are desired.” Can this statement be clarified further?

Answer: Additional clarification for this statement in the Appendix: Concepts and architectures that lend themselves to methods of predicting the assembled system performance, particularly structural performance, using modeling or simulation are desired. *[Added April 5, 2018]*

7. Question: In the Appendix, the word "equipment" is used very broadly when describing content to be included in the Flight Demonstration Plan. Does this cover the hardware necessary for flight demonstrations? Ground Support Equipment? Government Furnished Equipment? What is the extent to which "equipment" should be considered?

Answer: The description of equipment should include key items in sufficient detail to demonstrate the feasibility and soundness of the technical approach to accomplish the objectives of the effort. *[Added April 5, 2018]*

8. Question: On page 8 of the solicitation there is a chart that limits the Technical and Management Section to 50 pages. However, on the following page (page 9) in the quad chart section instructions, it notates a limitation of 40 pages. Can you clarify?

Answer: Under this solicitation, all page limitations for each of the Proposal Sections listed in the table on page 8 shall be followed. For further clarification, the Technical and Management Section can be up to 50 pages total with up to 10 pages (of those 50) allocated for the Statement of Work. The 40 page limitation stated within the quad chart instruction assumes the offeror is utilizing the full 10 pages allowed for the Statement of Work and is then utilizing the remaining 40 pages to describe other elements required under the Technical and Management Section. *[Added April 11, 2018]*

9. Question: Under this solicitation, are offerors permitted to procure launch services for a vehicle launched outside the United States?

Answer: Under this solicitation, the use of a foreign launch vehicle is not permitted, as the United States Space Transportation Policy does not allow the use of a foreign launch vehicle when U.S. government funds are being utilized. Vehicle suppliers should be able to verify to the offeror that they are a U.S. launch vehicle provider. *[Added April 11, 2018]*

10. Question: Attachment 2 for State of Work (SOW) limits the SOW page count to 10 pages and does not allow the inclusion of proprietary information. Would NASA consider removing the page constraint and non-proprietary requirement? If not, does NASA intend to have the contractor provide additional details to the SOW after awarding the contract?

Answer: NASA has determined that the page count and proprietary restriction will remain unchanged. If any selection is made, a final contract will be subject to negotiations with Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC). MSFC reserves the right to request additional information as necessary to establish a negotiated agreement. *[Added May 08, 2018]*

11. Question: Would NASA consider making a library of Data Requirements Descriptions (DRDs) available for the 72 CDRL items listed? Does NASA intend to include all 72 of the items listed as contract deliverables for all resultant contracts? Please also provide the footnotes * and ** for “Government Action*” and “Number and Method**” in the CDRL table?

Answer: The Contract Data Requirements List (CDRL) provided as part of the Phase II Appendix number 80HQTR18NOA01 issued March 23, 2018 was intended as a guideline in advance of a specific technical approach (statement of work) for some of the general requirements that may be required in any resultant contract; therefore, we are unable to provide the specific content at this time. Any resultant contract(s) will be subject to negotiations on terms and conditions, the proposed statement of work, and specific deliverable requirements if one or more selections are made. *[Added May 22, 2018]*

Footnote descriptions:

*Government Action Codes:

- A=Approval Required
- R=Review Only

**Method Codes:

- E=Electronic File via Email
- T=Telephone
- wd=work days
- cd=calendar days