

Contractor Questions & Answers
Solicitation No. SCO150-13-R-N002
Phase 1 Cauca Bastion Walls
October 10, 2012

Following is a list of the questions I have received from the contractors participating in the above solicitation. Each question is followed by the Government's response.

Question 1: Is there a site visit scheduled for this solicitation?

Answer 1: No, there is no site visit scheduled for this solicitation.

Question 2: How are you going to test the quality of the proposed Bastion Walls?

Answer 2: There is no test scheduled as the system must already have been certified / tested as stated in the solicitation.

Question 3: Do we need to deliver with our proposal drawings, or specifications regarding the assembly of the Bastion Walls?

Answer 3: An understanding of the assembly is required, so drawings and specifications will help with this. Please note that there is a 5-day on-site technical representative requirement to teach and oversee construction/provide quality control to ensure the labor force has the requisite knowledge to properly and safely assemble and fill the product.

Question 4: On the description/specifications/work statement, number 7 states that the "... bastion system shall be easily transported and assembled utilizing a panel system with minimum onsite labor required bastion assembly – not including fill - ...", reading this we understand that the bastions need to be filled out, can you please tell us if you have in mind any type of material for this filling, or do we need to propose some filling material in order that the bastion wall complies with the requirements?

Answer 4: All bastion/barrier systems of the type requested require fill. The protective barrier/bastion system solicited affords protection through the use of fill material. The fill used has a significant bearing on the protective properties of the protective barrier/bastion system. In other words, the fill is what provides the ballistic properties as well as stability to the structure. The contractor is responsible for ensuring any fill material used to fill the protective barrier/bastion associated with the structures meets all force protection requirements, and that the material does not include rocks or other inappropriate material that may cause injury or pose a safety risk should the bastion defense system come under attack. Shrapnel-producing material (3/4" and above) must be screened and removed prior to filling the bastion. If the Contractor is unfamiliar with this type of construction, it is suggested that he/she undertake a study of the systems utilized most recently in Iraq and Afghanistan as this is the standard for protective barrier/bastion systems.

Question 5: Adjunto enviamos manifestacion de interes en participar en su requerimiento de oferta para los procesos referenciados, y solicitamos el favor de indicarnos el procedimiento a seguir.

Answer 5: Por favor seguir las instrucciones dadas en los paquetes de solicitud suministradas.

Question 13: The RFP states the following specification for the steel barrier system: “Panel Height: Individual panel height will not be less than 1.2 meters allowing for an assembled 2 panel barrier system height minimum of 2.4 meters as measured from ground level.” Our panel heights are 0.6096 meters and 0.9144 meters and therefore would require the panels to be stacked 3 high. Please advise if this is acceptable.

Answer 13: The panels shall not be stacked more than 2 high.

Question 14: The RFP requires the quoter to submit a completed solicitation, including Section 1 and 5. The quoter must also provide the following:

- Income (profit-loss)Statement that show profitability for the past two years.
- Balance Sheet that shows the assets owned and the claims against those assets, or what a firm owns and what it owes; and
- Cash Flow Statement that shows the firm’s sources and uses of cash during the most recent accounting period. This will help the Government assess a firm’s ability to pay its obligations.

Our company is a closely held corporation and does not submit its financial information. Is it acceptable for us to submit other documents in lieu of this financial information?

Answer 14: In order to determine contractor’s responsibility, financial documents are required.

Question 15: The RFP requires the contractor to deliver all items not later than 45 days after the date of the contract award. The estimated transit time from our facility to Colombian National Police Departmental Headquarters Base at Popayan, Cauca, Colombia will take up to 40 days to deliver. We will require approximately 14 days to produce this material. This will put us at 55 days to reach the destination after an award. Is it acceptable for us to submit a bid with a 60 day ARO lead time?

Answer 15: For non-Colombian contractors whose product is produced outside of Colombia, the delivery time will be not later than 65 days after the date of the contract award. Please provide evidence of your factory’s location in the proposal.

Question 16: The RFP requires an onsite advisor for the installation of the steel barrier systems. What level of protection is provided for the advisors?

Answer 16: The protection offered is the same level of protection that your company would afford any of its personnel deployed to Bogota or any other major city in Colombia.

Question 17: Each panel (5 cells) of our standard product comes with Height 4' (1.2m), width 3' (.93m) and length 15' (4.65m). Is it acceptable? Is acceptable width 3' (0.93 m) and length 9' (2.79 m) or 12' (3.72 m)?

Answer 17: The solicitation requires width between 1 and 1.5 meters; length of 3.0 meters, plus or minus 10% to allow for each manufacturer’s standard product dimension; height between 2.0 meters and 3.0 meters as measured from the ground level. For the purpose of these projects and ease of installation and stability, the individual bastions will not be stacked more than two high.

Question 18: The solicitation states the bastions must be US Department of State, US Department of Defense or US Embassy Bogota/Narcotics Affairs Section ballistic-and blast-tested and certified". Is it acceptable for a US Embassy official to call and confirm this directly with the appropriate US Government official?

Answer 18: Yes, the US Embassy official can call and confirm certification directly with the appropriate US Government official. The contractor should provide the contact details in his solicitation.