



S²MARTS Project 20-07: Printed Circuit Board Analysis Tool

Project TALX Questions & Answers | Posted July 24, 2020

1. **Question:** Are Heat sinks removed in your current analysis? Are PCBs removed from enclosures?

Response: PCBs are carefully removed from their enclosures for the purpose of an external visual examination to generate the bill of materials. Heat sinks are removed and cleaned off before photographing the component(s), a heat sink is then reapplied at the conclusion of external visual.

2. **Question:** How engaged will the Government be during Phase 1? Are we on our own until the deliverable is sent?

Response: The government does not intend to be hands on during Phase 1. The government wishes to allow the performers to opportunity to propose the approaches and methodologies they believe will work best for their team. The government will be involved in subsequent phases.

3. **Question:** Is the expect project budget of \$800k for all performers or per performer? How many performers do you expect?

Response: The expected total Phase 1 cost is \$800K. It will be distributed amongst multiple performers, not necessarily equally.

4. **Question:** What are the details of the corpus that will be used for testing of the deliverables?

Response: The test data set will include a variety of known good and suspect counterfeit components on printed circuit boards for the various modalities. The government will attempt to use the same set of boards to generate the test data set for the various modalities, however, size restrictions may be a deciding factor.

5. **Question:** The RFS stipulates specific metrics for a successful deliverable. Is this intent to only pay the FFP if, and only if, it meets all metrics are satisfied?

Response: *Will be provided at a later date.*

6. **Question:** In the event of a delivery failure against the specifications, will you require the contractor to operate at risk, or will you consider a final deliverable?

Response: *Will be provided at a later date.*

7. **Question:** Is \$800K for Phase 1 per performer?

Response: See question 3 above.

8. **Question:** There is a requirement that the PCBAT solve be deployable to a Windows 10 Desktop. Can we run Linux VMs or a server for a web app usable on Windows 10?

Response: The government considers additional operating systems to be an added feature. These should be described in the product development plan. Depending on cost, it may be included in earlier phases.

9. **Question:** Is Phase 2 limited to single mode input (specifically RGB imagery)? Or can proposals require multi modal input in Phase 2?

Response: Phase two is limited to single mode optical imagery. The government wishes to see how successful an automated bill of materials can be generated using optical imagery to fit into our existing workflows. Multi-modal input is considered to be a phase three venture.

10. **Question:** Based on the requirements, do you see the submittal date firm at the end of July, or do you foresee it being extended?

Response: We foresee the responses to the RFS closing date of July 31, 2020 staying firm to that date.

11. **Question:** Can you provide additional information on Amaro?

Response: The automated microelectronics analysis and reports optimization (AMARO) tool provides strategic analytic capabilities of the semiconductor industry as well as part-centric supply chain analysis support. The tool is developed by the Navy on behalf of the OUSD(R&E) T&AM program. The AMARO tool will take the BOM data generated by PCBAT in order to make a determination on where COTS devices are designed, fabricated, tested, packaged and assembled, and warehoused, and then determines possible threats and vulnerabilities across the supply chain. The AMARO tool also has the ability to analyze BOMs to determine aggregate threats and vulnerabilities across the entirety of the device. See also: <https://www.ksmconsulting.com/2020/07/ksm-consulting-recognized-as-techpoint-service-partner-of-the-year-for-collaborating-with-nswc-crane-to-develop-cutting-edge-risk-illumination-solution-for-the-dod/>