



Strategic & Spectrum Missions Advanced Resilient Trusted Systems (S²MARTS)
Request for Solutions (RFS)
in support of
Additively Manufactured Prototypes (AMP) for Hardware Technology Protection
Project No. 22-05

A. OPPORTUNITY OVERVIEW

Project Title	Additively Manufactured Prototypes for Hardware Technology Protection
Project Sponsor	Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division / Electromagnetic Warfare and Science and Technology (S&T) Division, Code GXV
Contracting Activity	Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division
Questions Deadline	July 1, 2022, 12:00PM ET
Response Deadline	July 25, 2022, 12:00PM ET
Anticipated Project Budget	Phase 1: \$100,000 - \$350,000 per award with 9-month Period of Performance. Multiple awards are anticipated. Phase 2: \$250,000 - \$500,000 per award with 12-month Period of Performance. Multiple awards are anticipated.
Resultant Award Type	Prototype Other Transaction Agreement (10 U.S.C. § 4022)

All respondents must be active NSTXL members.

B. PROTOTYPE PROJECT DETAIL

1. **Authority:** 10 U.S.C. § 4022, “Authority of the Department of Defense to Carry Out Certain Prototype Projects”
2. **Project Background & Current Capability:**

Additive Manufacturing (AM) is a technology that can build 3D structures using methods that add material, as opposed to traditional subtractive methods that remove material from a blank starting form. AM methods include physically adding material layer-by-layer, as well as continuous methods. The potential for building near-arbitrary 3D structures has led to significant investment and growth of the AM industry. Current technologies allow for the production of printing polymers, metals, ceramics, and multi-material structures, while research hopes to enable directly printing complex electronics, reactive/responsive structures, sensors, and biological tissues, among others.

The term “Technology Protection (TP) features” means the technical modifications necessary to protect critical program information, including anti-tamper technologies and other systems engineering activities intended to prevent or delay exploitation of critical technologies in a designated system.

Although the exponential advancements in AM technologies have spurred significant investment from Department of Defense (DoD) Research organizations, Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) Manufacturing Innovation Institutes, and the Defense Industrial Base (DIB), AM's applications in the TP space have been limited. This is due to a knowledge gap that exists between AM practitioners (who generally don't work with TP requirements) and their TP counterparts (who generally don't have AM experience) along with a lack of specified funding for their integration. This prototyping effort is an opportunity for the AM and TP communities to collaborate on innovative AM technologies to meet current and future TP mission needs.

This prototyping effort would further AM and TP collaboration through additional funding, new partnerships, and enhanced capabilities focused on Sensors, secure packaging, and integrated board-level protection.

3. Desired End-State & Success Criteria:

This Other Transaction Agreement will be used to yield new AM-TP prototypes and concepts that demonstrate unique applications of additive manufacturing for TP sensors, secure packaging, and board-level protection. This Request for Solution (RFS) asks interested parties to demonstrate progress towards mitigating TP threats with AM. The TP threats are identified in the (updated) classified annex, which separates responses into three mission areas.

Proposals will be expected to have two prototyping phases. Phase 1 will emphasize demonstrating capability, with focus on the discrete application of AM, minimizing negative impacts to the system, as well as the uniqueness of the TP solution. Phase 2 will emphasize the solution's feasibility, focusing on maturing the complexity of the solution, as well as quantifying its accuracy, precision, yield, and environmental stability.

The desired outcome of this solicitation is a prototype that demonstrates one or more AM techniques to protect a specified substrate against one or more TP threats identified in the classified annex. Measures of success for both phases include:

-Discrete application of AM: The prototype would leverage the unique benefits of AM and identify those advantages over traditional manufacturing techniques.

-Demonstrated feasibility for future deployment: While the prototype would not initially meet these requirements, the prototype would require accompanying documentation for how it could be matured for eventual deployment on DoD systems. This would include reliability, repeatability, and the ability to meet required standards. This would be a larger consideration in the second round, if prototypes were selected for continued funding.

-Functionality: Does the TP strategy maintain the original functionality of the system?

-Size, Weight, Power and Cost (SWaP-C): How does the TP solution compare to size, weight, power, and cost considerations of other TP strategies? How does the TP solution impact (or improve) thermal dissipation?

-Innovative Applications: Is this TP solution unique? Does this TP solution provide new protection?

-Resources: The availability, from any source, of necessary technical resources, research material and test, laboratory, or shop facilities to securely produce the prototype.

-Technology Readiness Level (TRL) Maturity: What is the estimated TRL of the solution? How much additional funding would be required to reach TRL 9, and what are the anticipated hurdles to maturation?

-Program Management: What are the major proposal risks (including technical, cost, and schedule)?

-Partnerships: Is there a partnership to leverage another company or university's strengths? Does this partnership bring new capability to the TP community?

-Independent Research and Development (IR&D): Is matching IR&D available?

-Other Considerations: Additional measures of success are contained in the classified annex.

4. Potential Follow-On Activity:

- a. Upon successful completion of this prototype effort, the Government anticipates that a follow-on production effort may be awarded via either contract or transaction, without the use of competitive procedures if the participants in this transaction successfully complete the prototype project as competitively awarded from this document. The prototype effort will be considered successfully complete upon demonstration of the aforementioned technology objectives.
- b. Successful completion for a specific capability may occur prior to the conclusion of the project to allow the Government to transition that aspect of the prototype project into production while other aspects of the prototype project have yet to be completed.
- c. Requirements of other potential follow-on activities could involve, though not limited to, continued development and baseline management, fielding, sustainment, training, further scaling of the solution, integration of future capabilities, or integration of the solution with other capabilities.

5. Project Deliverables:

Phase 1

No.	Title of Deliverable	Description (Purpose of Deliverable)	Delivery Frequency	Delivery Method or Location
1	Monthly Status Report	1 slide quad-chart	Monthly	Electronic
2	Mid-term Report (CLASSIFIED)	Draft of final report	2 months prior to end of contract	Electronic or mail submission
3	Final Report (CLASSIFIED)	Spec sheet, capabilities description, available test data, available test plan, describe design implementation, final design	End of contract	Classified electronic submission or mail submission
4	Prototypes	3x prototypes	End of contract	Shipment to Booz Allen Ballston Lab
5	Test Artifacts	As needed (for testing and evaluation of AM component of prototype)	End of contract, if appropriate	Shipment to Booz Allen Ballston Lab
6	Technical Brief	Technical briefing that can either be shared with Govt-only or to the AM-TP consortium	End of contract	Classified electronic submission or mail submission

Phase 2

No.	Title of Deliverable	Description (Purpose of Deliverable)	Delivery Frequency	Delivery Method or Location
1	Monthly Status Report	1 slide quad-chart	Monthly	Electronic
2	Mid-term Report (CLASSIFIED)	Draft of final report	2 months prior to end of contract	Classified electronic submission or mail submission
3	Final Report (CLASSIFIED)	Spec sheet, capabilities description, available test data, available test plan, describe design implementation, final design	End of contract	Classified electronic submission or mail submission
4	Prototypes	10x prototypes	End of contract	Shipment to Booz Allen Ballston Lab
5	Test Artifacts	As needed (for testing and evaluation of AM component of prototype)	End of contract, if appropriate	Shipment to Booz Allen Ballston Lab
6	Environmental Artifacts	As needed (for environmental testing of printed artifact)	End of contract, if appropriate	
7	Technical Brief	Technical briefing that can either be shared with Govt-only or to the AM-TP consortium	End of contract	Classified electronic submission or mail submission

6. Anticipated Budget

Phase 1: \$100,000 - \$350,000 per award with 9-month Period of Performance. Multiple awards are anticipated.
Phase 2: \$250,000 - \$500,000 per award with 12-month Period of Performance. Multiple awards are anticipated.

This value represents what is currently available for the subject project at the time of RFS release. This value is subject to change and is being provided for planning purposes only. Respondents are encouraged to clearly explain how much of their solution can be developed for the advertised amount. Capabilities or project phases that will require additional funding beyond the project budget must be identified as such.

7. Anticipated Number of Awards

The Government intends to award multiple Other Transaction Agreement(s) on a fixed-price basis as a result of this RFS. The Government reserves the right to execute fewer awards than anticipated, select aspects of a proposal for award, or not select any of the solutions proposed. The Government will collaborate with prospective awardees prior to finalizing the award. Partial responses addressing only a subset of the project’s overall objectives are permitted for this effort.

8. Supporting Attachments:

- a. Mandatory Section 889 Representation (Submit signed copy with solution)
- b. DD254
- c. Classified Annex (Must be requested per the instructions below)

Classified Annex Request: The Classified Annex with information at the Secret/Collateral level can be requested via email to s2marts@nstxl.org. Requests for the classified annex should include at a minimum, the company name, the technical point of contact (POC) name and phone number, Facility Security Officer (FSO) name and phone number, CAGE code, statement of facility clearance and safeguarding capability, and a valid address for receiving classified material at the Secret/Collateral level. Provide inner and outer envelope addresses.

C. SECURITY INFORMATION & RESTRICTIONS

1. This RFS, to include attachments, has been released in accordance with;

Distribution Statement A: Approved for public release

2. Security classification & other restrictions:

- Awardees/Prototype Level Performers must hold an active **Secret** Facility Clearance, at the time of **project award**
- Awardee/Performer personnel must hold an active **Secret** clearance at the time of **submission of proposed solution**
- Respondents are restricted to domestic, United States based companies only.
- Compliance with International Traffic in Arms Regulation (22 C.F.R. §§ 120-130) is required no later than at time of award.
- A DD Form 254 will be executed at award and flowed down to the selected performer(s) at the **Secret** level.
- By submitting a response, respondents shall certify whether covered telecommunications equipment or services **will or will not** be included as a part of its offered products or services to the Government in the performance of this effort. RFS Attachment A (Mandatory Section 889 Representation) includes additional detail regarding the representation which must be signed and returned with any submissions.

What is included under “covered telecommunications equipment or services”?

- ✓ Telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities);
- ✓ For the purpose of public safety, security of Government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities);
- ✓ Telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment; or
- ✓ Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the Government of a covered foreign country.

3. All respondents/prospective performers must be compliant with the following:

- DoDI 8582.01, “Security of Unclassified DoD Information on Non-DoD Information Systems” and DoDM 5200.01 Volume 4, “DoD Information Security Program: Controlled Unclassified Information”.
- NIST SP 800-171, “Protecting Controlled Unclassified Information in Non-Federal Information Systems and Organizations”

- Research findings and technology developments arising from the resulting proposed solution may constitute a significant enhancement to the national defense and to the economic vitality of the United States. As such, in the conduct of all work related to this effort, the selected performer must comply strictly with the International Traffic in Arms Regulation (22 C.F.R. §§ 120-130), the National Industrial Security Program Operating Manual (DoD 5220.22-M) and the Department of Commerce Export Regulation (15 C.F.R. §§ 730-774).

D. DESIRED LEVEL OF DATA RIGHTS

Unlimited rights: The right to use, modify, reproduce, perform, display, release, or disclose technical data in whole or in part, in any manner, and for any purpose whatsoever, and to have or authorize others to do so.

Government Purpose Rights: The right to use, modify, reproduce, release, perform, display, or disclose technical data within the Government without restriction. This also includes the rights to release or disclose technical data outside the Government and authorize persons to whom release, or disclosure has been made to use, modify, reproduce, release, perform, display, or disclose technical data for United States Government purposes. This level of restriction is set at five-years but may be negotiated & tailored to a specific project. The five-year period, or such other period that may be negotiated, would commence upon execution of the agreement that required development of the items, components, or processes or creation of the data. The performer will have the exclusive right, including the right to license others, to use technical data in which the Government has obtained Government purpose rights under this agreement for any commercial purpose during the five-year period. Upon expiration of the five-year period (or other negotiated length of time), the Government will receive unlimited rights in the technical data and computer software.

Limited rights: The rights to use, modify, reproduce, release, perform, display, or disclose technical data, in whole or in part, within the Government. The Government may not, without the written permission of the party asserting limited rights, release or disclose the technical data outside the Government, use the technical data for manufacture, or authorize the technical data to be used by another party, except that the Government may reproduce, release, or disclose such data or authorize the use or reproduction of the data by persons outside the Government if—

(i) The reproduction, release, disclosure, or use is—

(A) Necessary for emergency repair and overhaul; or

(B) A release or disclosure to—

(1) A covered Government support Contractor in performance of its covered Government support contract for use, modification, reproduction, performance, display, or release or disclosure to a person authorized to receive limited rights technical data; or (2) A foreign Government, of technical data other than detailed manufacturing or process data, when use of such data by the foreign Government is in the interest of the Government and is required for evaluation or informational purposes;

(ii) The recipient of the technical data is subject to a prohibition on the further reproduction, release, disclosure, or use of the technical data; and

(iii) The Contractor or Subcontractor asserting the restriction is notified of such reproduction, release, disclosure, or use.

Other – Customized Level of Rights:

E. PROCESS OVERVIEW & INSTRUCTIONS

1. Submission Process for Questions & Proposals

a. Questions

To submit any unclassified questions, visit the opportunities page at www.nstxl.org/opportunities, select the “Current” tab, locate the respective project, and select “Submit a Question”. Please refer to Page 1 for associated deadlines. Classified questions cannot be supported on this current effort.


b. Proposals

To submit your proposal, visit the opportunities page at www.nstxl.org/opportunities, select the “Current” tab, locate the respective project, and select the “Submit Proposal” link. You must have an active account and be logged-in to submit your response.

Proposal submissions will be required to be delivered in two parts due to the technical proposal security classification. The Cost/Price volume and supporting documentation with a CUI classification will be submitted through the “Submit Proposal” link described in the paragraph above. Within the Cover page, the respondents will provide a SIPR email address and contact information in which the Government will request the technical volume and supporting documentation with a SECRET classification. The respondent will provide the SECRET classification technical volume and supporting documentation within 24 hours when requested by the Government technical team.

Respondents are solely responsible for the timeliness of their submission and are cautioned that late submissions will not be accepted for evaluation. It is strongly recommended that interested parties submit their proposal as early as possible to uncover any potential technical or account issues. Please notify NSTXL immediately (membership@nstxl.org) if technical issues occur during the submission process and/or if confirmation related to membership status is required. Please refer to Page 1 for associated deadlines.

2. Proposal Structure & Assessment Methodology

	(1) Initial Review	>>>	(2) Follow-On Assessment	>>>	(3) Selection
ANTICIPATED TIMELINE*	Due: 07/25/2022, 12:00PM ET		Start of Follow-On phase: N/A		Award: 10/2022
TECHNICAL	Written Proposal Page Limit: 6 Pages Format: MS Word and/or Adobe PDF via SIPR.		N/A Details will be provided to Government-selected respondents identified for additional exchanges with the Government.		Award of Prototype Level Project
PRICE	Standard Price Proposal Page Limit: 4 Pages Format: MS Excel for pricing information; MS Word and/or Adobe PDF for supporting narratives		N/A Details will be provided to Government-selected respondents identified for additional exchanges with the Government.		

**Anticipated dates are subject to change and are provided for planning purposes only.*

3. Format Detail

- a. 12-point font (or larger) for all response narratives; smaller type may be used in figures and tables but must be clearly legible.
- b. Page size of 8.5 x 11 inches.
- c. The following items are not included within the page count: Cover page, Table of Contents, supporting Foreign Owned, Controlled, or Influenced (FOCI) documentation, Section 889 Representation, and the Task Description Document/Statement of Work.

4. Contents of Response (Cover Page, Technical Response, Price Response)

- a. Proposal Cover Pages **must** identify the following:
 - Company name
 - Confirmation of active NSTXL Membership (e.g., “Verified NSTXL Member”)
Reminder: Contact membership@nstxl.org with any questions or requests for confirmation.
 - Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) Code (if available)
 - Level of facility clearance (if available)
 - Street Address
 - Primary Point of Contact (with title, email address and phone number)
 - Government Cognizant Security Office (CSO) responsible for monitoring the company’s National Industrial Security Program Standards compliance (with address, email address and phone number)
 - Company’s security officer point of contact (with title, email address and phone number)
 - SIPR email address with point of contact information (with title, email address and phone number)
 - All locations where work will be performed
 - Business Size
 - Business Type (Traditional or Non-Traditional)
 - Status of U.S. ownership
 - If the proposed approach requires any exceptions to this RFS
 - If the proposed approach addressed all RFS objectives or a partial subset of the RFS objectives
 - The applicable 10 U.S.C. § 4022(d)(1) eligibility criteria (select **one** of the following)
 - There is at least one nontraditional defense Contractor or nonprofit research institution participating to a significant extent in the project;
 - All significant participants in the transaction other than the Federal Government are small businesses (including small businesses participating in a program described under section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. § 638)) or nontraditional defense Contractors; OR
 - At least one third of the total cost of the project is to be provided by sources other than the Federal Government.



What is a Nontraditional Defense Contractor?

An entity that is not currently performing and has not performed, for at least the one-year period preceding the solicitation of sources by the Department of Defense for the procurement or transaction, any contract or subcontract for the Department of Defense that is subject to full coverage under the Cost Accounting Standards (CAS).

Review 48 CFR § 9903.201-1 for a list of CAS exemptions.

b. Technical responses must address the following topics:

TOPIC	INSTRUCTIONS
Solution Narrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the approach used to design/deliver a unique prototype solution for the prototype technology objectives. • Include a discussion on schedule and the timing of all project deliverable(s) and other critical milestones. • Responses that only address a critical element of the total solution being sought, often referred to as a “partial solution”, must be clearly identified as such. • If the proposed approach will require exception to any aspect of this solicitation, to include attachments, respondents must clearly identify those exceptions within the Technical Volume of their response. All respondents are encouraged to review the baseline S²MARTS Performer’s Agreement available within the NSTXL Members Portal (nstxl.org).
Team Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify each Subcontractor and include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Summary of their role in support of the proposed concept – Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) Code (if available) – Level of Facility Clearance (if available) – Address – Point of contact (with title, email address and phone number) – Business size – Business Type (Traditional or Nontraditional) – Status of U.S. ownership <p><i>Reminder: The responsibility to provide ample proof regarding nontraditional participation to a significant extent lies with the respondent and has a direct correlation to award eligibility.</i></p>
Level of Data Rights Proposed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rights offered should be displayed in a manner that allows for ease of discussion in determining trade-offs and potential options for long-term sustainability of the deliverables of this effort. • If rights are being asserted at a level less than the Government’s desired level, respondents must provide detail explaining the specific rationale for the assertion. • Any items previously developed with federal funding (and utilized in support of the proposed solution) should clearly identify all individual components funded by the Government and the recipient of the deliverables.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If commercial software is proposed as part of the prototype solution, all applicable software licenses must be identified and included with the response. Note that any software license term or condition inconsistent with federal law will be negotiated out of the license.
<p>Explanation Supporting Eligibility for Award of a Prototype OTA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide rationale to support the specific eligibility condition that permits award of an Other Transaction to the proposed performer/team. The responsibility to provide ample proof regarding nontraditional defense Contractor participation to a significant extent; small business or nontraditional defense Contractor status; or any cost sharing arrangement lies with the respondent and has a direct correlation to award eligibility. <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Questions regarding eligibility?</u></p> <p>Contact NSTXL and/or review 10 USC 4022 and the DoD Other Transaction Guide for additional information.</p>
<p>Foreign Owned, Controlled, or Influenced (FOCI) Information (if applicable)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify if the primary performer and/or any sub-performers (to include vendors, suppliers, Subcontractors, and teaming partners) are considered under FOCI. <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Supporting documentation may include but is not limited to:</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Standard Form 328 (Certificate Pertaining to Foreign Interest); Listing of Key Management Personnel; an Organizational Chart; Security Control Agreements; Special Security Agreements; Proxy Agreements or Voting Trust Agreements.</p>
<p>Government Furnished Support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify if the proposed solution will be dependent on Government Furnished Property (GFP) or other forms of Government support (i.e., information, schematics, laboratory, or facility access). If the solution is dependent on the Government furnishing specific information or items, describe the impact to the solution if the request cannot be met. All GFP proposed and/or required for the respondent to perform this effort shall provide documentation that the proposed Government property usage has been approved by the cognizant Contracting Officer or Agreements Officer.
<p>Compliance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respondents must address each mandatory restriction/requirement identified within this RFS and explain how each regulation or standard is currently or will be met. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Note: If exceptions to any of the restrictions/compliance requirements exist, respondents must fully explain the basis for the exception and how any correlating risk will be mitigated. In addition to the mandatory representation included as Attachment A, respondents must include the following statement within the Compliance section (with the applicable answer checked): <p>“[Company Name] represents that it <input type="checkbox"/> will, <input type="checkbox"/> will not provide covered telecommunications equipment or services to the Government in the performance of any contract, subcontract or other contractual instrument resulting from this solicitation.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Note: If your company will provide covered telecommunications equipment or services, please contact S2MARTS@nstxl.org for additional mandatory disclosures that must be completed & submitted with your response (at least 72 hours in advance of the response deadline).

Organizational Conflicts of Interest (OCI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All responses must disclose and address potential conflicts of interest and any proposed mitigation. If Organizational Conflicts of Interests (OCIs) are not present, respondents must include a statement within the Technical Volume that no OCI's are present.
Task Description Document/ Statement of Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a Task Description Document (TDD) outlining the project tasks to be performed along with schedule milestones and delivery dates required for successful completion. It is anticipated that, if selected, the proposed TDD will be incorporated into the resultant prototype-level Project Order, similar to a Statement of Work (SOW). Respondents are encouraged to be concise but thorough when outlining their TDD/SOW. The TDD/SOW may be submitted as an appendix or a separate file as part of the proposal.

5. Contents of Pricing Response

Note: The Government reserves the right to seek additional detail related to pricing if a conclusive fair & reasonable determination cannot be achieved. Respondents are encouraged to provide thorough & detailed responses (to the maximum extent practicable) to reduce likelihood of schedule delays and increase the Government's understanding of the proposed concept.

TOPIC	INSTRUCTIONS
Price Breakdown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delineate key pricing components and show clear traceability to the phases and/or milestones of the Technical Response. At a minimum, key pricing components include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Labor Total(s), Other Direct Costs/Material Total(s), any license prices/fees, and Subcontractor/vendor/sub-performer price(s). Data should must be organized & clearly identified by technical objective, milestone, and/or phase proposed (if phasing is applicable).
Supporting Narrative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include a brief narrative that explains your pricing structure and maps the proposed prices to the solution's technical approach.
Payable Milestone Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The overall total price should be divided among severable increments that align to a proposed milestone payment schedule. Milestones are not required to match actual expenditures but should realistically align to the effort expended or products delivered.
Innovation & Scalability (if applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any additional features or beneficial capabilities that extend beyond the currently requested technical objectives shall be separately priced for the Government's consideration.
Price Impacts of Data Assertions (if applicable)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If limited or restricted rights are being asserted within the response, provide a table that includes prices if the Government elects to purchase increased level of rights.
Supporting Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of supporting information, such as a Basis of Estimate, may substantially expedite evaluation of your response.

F. SOLUTION REVIEW & ASSESMENT

Compliant responses will be evaluated with consideration given to:

**Demonstrated understanding and overall technical merit of the response;
Feasibility of implementation; and
Total project risk (related to technical focus areas, price, schedule and/or compliance)**

- The Government will evaluate the degree to which the proposed solution provides a thorough, flexible, and sound approach in response to the prototype technical objectives. While the technology objectives are of significant importance, responses will be considered as a whole.
- The Government will select the prototype-level performer and award this project, via NSTXL, to the respondent(s) whose solution is assessed to be the most advantageous to the Government, when price, schedule, technical potential, level of data rights, and other factors are considered. The Government reserves the right to award to a respondent that does not meet all the requirements of the RFS.
- The Government reserves the right to reject a submission and deem it ineligible for consideration if the response is incomplete and/or does not clearly provide the requested information.

G. ADDITIONAL PROJECT INFORMATION

- Acceptable responses not selected for the immediate award will be retained by NSTXL and the Government for possible future execution and funding. The non-selected proposals will be considered as viable alternatives for up to 36 months. If a proposal that was not previously selected is determined to be a suitable alternative, the company will be contacted to discuss any proposal updates and details of a subsequent project award.
 - Respondents whose proposals are not selected for the initial award shall not contact the Government or NSTXL to inquire about the status of any ongoing effort as it relates to the likelihood of their company being selected as a future alternative.
- The United States Navy, specifically Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division, maintains release authority on any and all publications or press releases related to this prototype project.
- Unsuccessful respondents will be notified by NSTXL, however, debriefings for this project will not be provided.
- Certain types of information submitted during the RFS and award process of an Other Transaction are exempt from disclosure requirements of 5 U.S.C. §552 (the Freedom of Information Act or FOIA) for a period of five years from the date the Department receives the information. It is recommended that respondents mark business plans and technical information that are to be protected for five years from FOIA disclosure with a legend identifying the documents as being submitted on a business confidential basis.
- No classified data shall be submitted within the proposal. To the extent that the project involves DoD controlled unclassified information, respondents must comply with DoDI 8582.01 and DoDM 5200.01 Volume 4. Respondents must implement the security requirements in NIST SP 800-171 for safeguarding the unclassified internal information system; and must report any cyber incidents that affect the controlled unclassified information directly to DoD at <https://dibnet.dod.mil>.
- The Classified Annex with information at the Secret/Collateral level can be requested via email to s2marts@nstxl.org. Requests for the classified annex should include at a minimum, the company name, the technical point of contact (POC) name and phone number, Facility Security Officer (FSO) name and phone number, CAGE code, statement of facility clearance and safeguarding capability, and a valid address for receiving classified material at the Secret/Collateral level. Provide inner and outer envelope addresses.

- Awardee POC information will be made available. Businesses and universities that are not able to compete on a classified RFS are encouraged to reach out to awardees. Awardees may have unclassified work that could be completed in an unclassified environment. All work should be done in accordance with the Anti-Tamper (AT) Security Classification Guide (SCG). You may request a copy from the Anti-Tamper Executive Agent website: <https://at.dod.mil/>. The current AT SCG version is 20100315, with change letters 1 and 2.
- Submissions shall not contain hazardous, corrosive, energetic, reactive, or other materials that cannot be safely mailed and handled by laboratory staff without specialized protective equipment.
- This is to advise that non-Government advisors will assist in the evaluation. The use of non-Government advisors will be strictly controlled. Non-Government advisors will be required to sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) prior to working on the effort. Agreements Officer will review NDAs for conflict prior to allowing access to source selection information. All non-Government advisors will only have access to the information corresponding to their area(s) of expertise. Advisors will not have access to the Price Volume of the response. The companies identified herein have agreed to not engage in the manufacture or production of hardware/services/research and development that is related to this effort, and to refrain from disclosing proprietary information to unauthorized personnel.

The following companies will have non-Government personnel advising:

- The Booz Allen Hamilton, 4121 Wilson Blvd Suite 700 Arlington, VA, CAGE Code: 1E4G25
- Amentum, 13923 Captain W.J. Nelson Dr, Odon, IN 47562, CAGE Code: 1FDG9