



# National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, D.C. 20594

Office of  
Administration

Source Sought Notice

Purchase Request Number PUR-15-0062

Man Computer Interactive Data Access System (McIDAS) Software License Renewal

December 8, 2014

THIS IS NOT A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS, AN INVITATION FOR BIDS, OR A REQUEST FOR QUOTATIONS. FURTHER, IT DOES NOT REPRESENT A COMMITMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT TO PAY FOR COSTS INCURRED IN PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF DATA OR ANY OTHER COSTS INCURRED IN RESPONSE TO THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.

This is a Sources Sought Notice (PUR-15-0062) with the intent to award a sole source contract to the University of Wisconsin–Madison (UWM), Space Science and Engineering Center (SSEC) under the authority of FAR 13.106 based on their unique technical qualifications as the only known developer and provider of the McIDAS-X (Man Computer Interactive Data Access System) for Windows XP. The Safety Board knows of no other sources for this environmental data analysis system. Notice is provided as information to the marketplace, market research, and is an invitation for any other qualified companies to express their interest in and demonstrate their capability to provide software that performs the required work.

## **Background**

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent Federal agency with the primary missions of investigating civil aviation accidents in the United States and significant accidents in the other modes of transportation -- railroad, highway, marine and pipeline -- and issuing safety recommendations aimed at preventing future accidents.

The NTSB has a requirement to purchase McIDAS-X software licenses for up to five (5) workstations for 12 months. McIDAS-X software has the capability of acquiring, managing, analyzing, displaying and integrating environmental data for use in accident/incident investigations for all modes of transportation, as well as for the formulation of safety recommendations. McIDAS, used by NTSB meteorologists since 1987, is the only system that provides timely display and analysis of meteorological data. McIDAS also contains a historical database of meteorological parameters unavailable from any other source.

The McIDAS system is a proprietary product and no third party can provide access to the system. UWM has developed and maintained the system since 1970; and is the only vendor authorized to provide access to the system.

### **Required Capabilities**

The software must meet all the following capabilities:

1. Software tool with the capability of acquiring, managing, analyzing, displaying and integrating environmental data for use in accident/incident investigations for all modes of transportation, as well as, for the formulation of safety recommendations;
2. Must provide timely display and analysis of meteorological data; and
3. Must contain in-depth historical database of a wide range of meteorological parameters.

Sources capable of fully satisfying the above requirements are invited to submit capability statements/expressions of interest providing the Government the necessary information to determine actual capability. At a minimum, this information, which must be prepared specifically in response to this notice should, must include: (1) identification of company or organization; (2) an assertion of existing, full capability to meet proposed requirements; (3) business/contracts/marketing office point(s) of contact; (4) notification of business size and /or special status; and (5) any additional information that may be useful to the successful procurement of the requirements, if solicited. These expressions of interest shall adhere to a five (5)-page submission limit plus web links and any specialized product descriptions. The statement of qualifications should include only information that clearly demonstrates the respondent's capabilities, expertise, and experience to provide the requirements described in this notice. General marketing material should not be included. The NTSB prefers that companies do not submit proprietary material. However, the Government recognizes that proprietary data may be a part of your submittal. If so, clearly mark such restricted or proprietary data and present it as an addendum to the non-restricted/non-proprietary information. Information received will be considered solely for the purpose of determining whether to conduct a competitive procurement. A determination by the Government not to compete the proposed contract based upon responses to this notice is solely within the discretion of the Government. All responsible sources may submit a capability statement, which shall be considered by NTSB. Parties must submit information within ten (10) days of publication of this notice marked by December 18, 2014 by 5:30PM. NTSB will not return capability statements and the supporting documentation submitted in response to this notice. Telephone responses and inquiries will not be accepted. You may email questions regarding this notice to the issuing office to Wendy Kwong, Contract Specialist via email at: [wendy.kwong@ntsb.gov](mailto:wendy.kwong@ntsb.gov).