

Questions & Answers
Base OTA MSTIC
RCA No. N64498-20-OTA-0001

1. Will the requirements for satisfactory compliance with 10 USC § 2371b be updated to include nonprofit research institutions within the serial list item a)? (page 2, paragraph 2.1)
 - *The requirements for satisfactory compliance with 10 USC § 2371b will be updated to include nonprofit research institutions. Section 2.1 has been revised via Amendment 1.*
2. Will a copy of the base OTA be provided so that Offerors can include flow down requirements in the Consortium Membership Agreement? (page 8, paragraph 9.2.3)
 - *A copy of the Base OTA will not be provided. The Offeror will not be required to include any flow-down terms and conditions in its draft Consortium Membership Agreement. Section 9.2.3 has been revised via Amendment 1.*
3. If a copy of the base OTA will be provided, how will that document be disseminated?
 - *A copy of the Base OTA will not be provided.*
4. Can fonts in addition to Times New Roman be used for graphics so long as the minimum size is 9pt? (page 6, paragraph 8.1.1)
 - *Additional fonts may be used for graphics so long as the minimum size is 9pt.*
5. Should every volume be submitted as a separate file? (page 6, paragraph 8.1.3)
 - *Every volume shall be submitted as a separate file. Section 8.1.3 has been revised via Amendment 1.*
6. Are the Summary Sections (ie, abstract) and Table of Contents for each file excluded from page count? (page 6, paragraph 8.1.3)
 - *The Summary Sections and Table of Contents for each volume/file have been removed from the solicitation. Section 8.1.3 has been revised via Amendment 1.*
7. The solicitation requests that the proposal be valid until December 31, 2021, but the draft solicitation requested validity 180 days from receipt date of offers. Can you confirm the December 31, 2021 date? (page 8, paragraph 9.1.1.4)
 - *Proposals shall be valid until 30 June 2021. Section 9.1.1(4) has been revised via Amendment 1.*
8. Ref. RCA Para 9.2.1 (page 8): Please confirm that resumes for Key Personnel can be submitted as an appendix (vs embedded within Volume II) and that they will not count against the 15 page limit for Volume II.

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- *Key Personnel resumes may be submitted as an attachment or appendix to Volume II. Resumes will be excluded from the total page count however, they shall be limited to two pages each. This section will be updated via Amendment 1.*
9. Can we provide the CMA as an attachment to Volume II? (page 8, paragraph 9.2.3)
- *The draft CMA may be submitted as an attachment or appendix to Volume II.*
10. RFP Reference: Para 9.2.3. Is the draft CMA included in page count for the volume?
- *The draft CMA will be excluded from the total page count. Section 9.2.3 has been revised via Amendment 1.*
11. Section 8.1.1 states that: “In the event photo reduction is used for tables, charts, and drawings, their presentation must be clear and legible with a minimum of 9-point font. No pictures or hyperlinks are allowed.” Language (underlined portions) seems contradictory. Moreover, placement of graphics and exhibits in text is performed using .JPG, .PNG files. Please clarify.
- *Section 8.1.1 has been revised via Amendment 1.*
12. Is there a template for resumes that the NSWC Philadelphia Division requests we use?
- *There is not a template for resumes that the NSWC Philadelphia Division requires.*
13. The list of technologies in Attachment 1 is different from the list of technical expertise in Section 9.4.2. Which list would the Government prefer we use in our writeup.
- *The Offeror shall describe its technical experience in the maritime environment related to the Maritime Sustainment Technology and Innovation Concepts as identified in Attachment 1. Section 9.4.2 has been revised via Amendment 1.*
14. (General; no specific RCA reference): Please confirm that there will be no ceiling for the OTA, such that the value theoretically could significantly exceed the \$230M estimate if demand increases.
- *The current estimate over the potential ten-year Base OTA is \$230 million. There is a possibility that the subject OTA may exceed this amount.*
15. (General; no specific RCA reference): Will prototype projects be solicited on a scheduled basis, ad hoc basis, or a mix of the two (some scheduled with the ability to also respond to emergent needs)?
- *It is anticipated that all prototype projects will be solicited on an ad hoc basis.*
16. (General; no specific RCA reference): Will the government require establishment of a new, separate legal entity to manage all operations of the MSTIC consortium?
- *The Government will not require establishment of a new, separate legal entity to manage all operations of the MSTIC consortium.*

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17. (General; no specific RCA reference): Does the government have a requirement for the location of the CMF staff supporting this OTA?
- *The Government does not have a requirement for the location of the CMF staff supporting this OTA.*
18. Ref. RCA Para 2.2 (page 2): Please confirm that offering membership in the MSTIC consortium to members of our other active Other Transactions will not be considered “other interests of the CMF.”
- *Offering membership in the MSTIC consortium to members of other active Other Transactions will not be considered “other interests of the CMF.”*
19. Ref. RCA Para 9.2.1 (page 8): Will Offerors receive a weakness if all Key Personnel are not on board or committed via Letters of Intent at time of proposal submission? Will hiring strategies be accepted as a viable alternatives?
- *Factor 1, Management of the Consortium, will be evaluated based on how well a proposal addresses the requirements in Section 9.2. Section 9.2.1 has been revised via Amendment 1.*
20. Ref. RCA Para 9.2.3 (page 9): Please clarify what the government is referring to as a “business framework for collaboration and teaming among Consortium members.”
- *Section 9.2.3 refers to the relationship between the CMF and its members.*
21. Ref. RCA Para 9.2.4 (page 9): Are there currently local command policies or mechanisms in place for acceptance of unsolicited proposals? If so, will the selected CMF be expected to align to those procedures and/or integrate with the local software platform?
- *Currently, there are not local command policies or mechanisms in place for acceptance of unsolicited proposals.*
22. Ref. RCA Para 2.1 and Para 9.3.1 (pages 2 & 9): Please clarify whether the government’s intent is that non-traditional Defense Contractors be part of the performance of the CMF roles under the Base OTA, or if these paragraphs are referring to the execution of the prototype projects under the OTA.
- *The statutory authority that allows us to engage in this type of procurement requires that the organizational requirements be met at both the Base OTA and project levels.*
23. Ref RCA Para 9.5 (pages 10-11): Some CMFs charge prototype awardees a percentage fee (based on the value of the award) in addition to the management fee charged to the government and membership fees. Please confirm that Volume V must include disclosure of any costs that are passed along to consortium members, including membership fees and fees charged to prototype project awardees, given these costs are ultimately passed along to the government.

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- *Volume V must include disclosure of any costs that are passed along to consortium members, including membership fees and fees charged to prototype project awardees.*
24. Ref RCA Para 9.5.1 (page 10): If we are choosing not to bill the government for start-up costs, do we still need to provide detailed start-up cost information IAW 9.5.1a?
- *No. If an Offeror chooses not to bill the Government for start-up costs, it will not need to provide detailed start-up cost information IAW 9.5.1a. However, in accordance with 9.5.1a)i, if the Offeror chooses not to propose start-up costs it must clearly state this in its proposal.*
25. Ref RCA Para 12.3 (page 13): Please confirm that the government is seeking 3rd party verification of NIST compliance, vs mere self-certification.
- *For additional information in regards to National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) compliance, please refer to NIST Special Publication (SP) 800-171, “Protecting Controlled Unclassified Information in Nonfederal Information Systems and Organizations” (available via the internet at <http://dx.doi.org/10.6028/NIST.SP.800-171>).*