



## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

### Special Notice

THIS IS NOT A NOTICE OF SOLICITATION ISSUANCE. The purpose of this Special Notice is to allow interested vendors the opportunity to identify themselves with regard to interest and technical capability. This Special Notice is issued solely for information and planning purposes - it does not constitute a Request for Proposal (RFP) or a promise to issue an RFP in the future. This RFI does not commit the Government to contract for any supply or service whatsoever. The information provided in the RFI is subject to change and is not binding on the Government.

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is not at this time seeking proposals and will not accept unsolicited proposals for the work described in the attached documents. Responders are advised that the USPTO will not pay for any information or administrative costs incurred in responding to this RFI. USPTO has not made a commitment to procure any of the items discussed, and release of this RFI should not be construed as such a commitment or as authorization to incur cost for which reimbursement would be required or sought. Not responding to this RFI does not preclude participation in any future solicitation, if issued. All submissions become Government property and will not be returned, but will be handled in accordance with applicable proprietary markings.

### **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

USPTO is seeking commercial products for improving the quality of incoming applications, either at filing to help applicants file high quality patent applications or before substantial examination to help patent examiners improve the effectiveness of their search and examination. Interested parties are invited to submit capability statements in response to this RFI. The capabilities statements shall provide the following information:

1. Company name
2. Email(s) and phone number(s) of designated point(s) of contact
3. DUNS number
4. Relevant NAICS code(s) and your company's socio-economic size designation within each
5. Relevant GSA Schedules where your company offers this product
6. Other relevant ordering vehicles where your company offers this product
7. If your company is an SBA-certified 8(a) company, date of the SBA 8(a) contract expiration date
8. Description of your capabilities to fulfill the Government's needs, as described below:

Capability statements should describe your product's ability to improve the quality of incoming applications, either at filing to help applicants file high quality patent applications or before substantial examination to help patent examiners improve the effectiveness of their search and examination. USPTO is seeking commercial products that can proofread patent applications or



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otherwise improve the quality of patent applications. Specifically, USPTO hopes to learn whether any of these products can accurately identify:

- functional language in claims, including means language;
- indefinite language in claims;
- identify improper/multiple dependencies in claims;
- antecedent basis issues in claims;
- claimed subject matter not described in the specification;
- correspondence between claims for possible restrictions; or
- correspondence of language/text in a claim(s) with language/text in the specification, such as
  - synonym/natural language processor used as a means to help identify this correspondence (for example, the claim identifies “means for fastening” or “fastener” and the specification includes “Velcro” or “hook-and-loop fastener”).

The capability statements may include links to your company’s website with further information on your product. The statement shall not exceed three (3) pages in length. The capabilities statements in response to this RFI shall be provided on standard letter size 8-1/2 by 11 inch paper. The font for text shall be Times New Roman, 12-point. Submitted responses should be in Microsoft Word or Adobe Acrobat format. Proprietary information, if any, MUST be kept to a minimum and MUST BE CLEARLY MARKED. NO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION shall be submitted in response to this RFI.

Capability statements must be emailed to the below points of contact no later than June 10, 2020 at 10:00 am EST.

Jonathan Bettis, Contracting Officer, [Jonathan.Bettis@uspto.gov](mailto:Jonathan.Bettis@uspto.gov)  
Suzanne Casey, Procurement Liaison, [Suzanne.Casey@uspto.gov](mailto:Suzanne.Casey@uspto.gov)

Email Subject line: USPTO CAPABILITIES STATEMENTS 2020