

## Justification and Approval (J&A) for Other Than Full and Open Competition

**Was a J&A approved for the preceding acquisition where that acquisition required a J&A?** ☐ Yes ☒ No

**Is this a new or amended J&A Document?** ☒ New ☐ Amended ( *Prior to Award Only!* )

**Is this a Bridge Action as defined at [DAFFARS 5302.101](#)?** ☐ Yes ☒ No

**Dollar Value of this Acquisition:** ☒ ≤ \$750K ☐ > \$750K and ≤ \$15M ☐ > \$15M and ≤ \$100M ☐ > \$100M

**Contracting Activity:** AFTC/PZZC Eglin AFB, FL

**Purchase Request (if available) / Local ID Number:** F1T1CT4204A001

**Program / Project (and PE, if applicable):** 46TS IPAD Datalinks Test Station (PE: Scot Crookshanks)

**Program Type (PEO, Enterprise, of Operational):** Enterprise - R&D

**Authority:**  
6.302-1 – 10 USC 3204(a)(1), Only One Responsible Source - No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements

**Estimated Contract Cost (including options):** \$ \$732,000.00 **J&A Type:** ☐ Class ☒ Individual

### COORDINATION ( [DAFFARS 5306.304\(a\)](#) )

[Sign and Save Procedure](#)

\*\* The text in the signature blocks below is editable, including the title.

\*\* To remove a row, click the "X" next to the signature block. **CAUTION:** Once removed, it can only be restored by downloading the BLANK FORM again.

Date 15 Nov 2024	James L. Massey 46 Test Squadron 850-883-6539 james.massey.11@us.af.mil	Signature	X
Date 19 Nov 2024	Contracting Officer ANTHONY SAPORITO AFTC/PZZCB	Signature	X

### APPROVAL ( [DAFFARS 5306.304\(a\)](#) )

Date	PZZC Branch Chief ERIC WASBURN AFTC/PZZC	Signature
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### **I. Agency and Contracting Activity.**

Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC), Air Force Test Center (AFTZ/PZZC-Eglin), Enterprise Services and Innovative Solutions Contracting Branch, 205 West D. Avenue, Building 350, Eglin AFB, FL 32542 is responsible for the proposed contracting action.

### **II. Nature and/or description of the action being approved.**

The 46th Test Squadron (TS) at Eglin AFB, FL has a requirement to build up and integrate a Datalinks Test Station for installation in building 73 of the Datalinks Test Facility in support of the Improved Product Analysis Demonstration (IPAD) Program for development and risk reduction testing. The 46 TS will support both the required infrastructure, hardware, software, and manpower, to maintain the IPAD Test Station and Datalink.

The 46 TS performs interoperability and risk reduction testing within the Link 16 network across the various platforms and in order for the Datalink Test Station to be a valid surrogate for risk reduction or interoperability in lab testing, it must be the actual equipment items as requested by the DoD's Rapid Capabilities Office (RCO).

### **III. Description of supplies/services required to meet agency needs.**

The IPAD Datalinks Test Station will be assembled by 46th Test Squadron (46TS) personnel and installed and integrated in Building 73 of the Datalinks Test Lab at Eglin AFB, FL. As part of the Test Station assembly the following components are required:

Item	Nomenclature	Part Number	Quantity
001	Common Mission Computer (CMC)	230M5016-15	1 ea
002	Link 16 Radio, Front End (RFE)	230M9016-101	1 ea
003	Link 16 Transceiver (XCVR)	230M6015-101	1 ea

### **IV. Demonstration that the contractor's unique qualifications or the nature of the acquisition requires use of the authority cited above.**

Statutory Authority 10 U.S.C. 2304(a)(1) as implemented by FAR 6.302-1(a)(2)(ii)(A)&(B), Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements and required by FAR 6.303-2(b)(4).

### **V. Description of efforts made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as practicable, including whether a notice was or will be publicized as required by subpart 5.2 and, if not, which exception under FAR 5.202 applies.**

The 46TS must have the actual equipment used in fielded operations and not a "similar to" system. Utilizing the identical equipment is critical so that the 46TS can replicate scenarios that end users are seeing in operational use, perform troubleshooting, report findings, and make recommendations. This requirement does not lend itself to soliciting multiple sources for effective competition due to the items required being F-35 fielded parts that are only available from Lockheed Martin Corporation (LMCO). The government confirmed with LMCO via a request for information to verify that the parts required are proprietary and are not available from other sources (i.e. authorized resellers). LMCO confirmed that they are the only ones

## **Justification and Approval (J&A) for Other Than Full and Open Competition**

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who can provide a complete Common Mission Computer (CMC).

A Notice of Contract Action will be posted to SAM.gov for 15 days to allow for responses from industry.

### **VI. Determination by the Contracting Officer that the anticipated cost to the Government will be fair and reasonable.**

It is not anticipated that the proposed amount will meet the threshold for the Contractor to provide certified cost and pricing data. The contracting officer will determine the price to be fair and reasonable based on comparison with those negotiated under similar previous efforts, or through use of weighted guidelines if no other method exists. If price analysis alone cannot determine a fair and reasonable price, other than cost and pricing data will be requested so that a cost analysis can be performed.

### **VII. Description of the market research conducted and the results, or a statement of the reasons market research was not conducted.**

The 46TS has not conducted any market research in support of this effort due to the nature of the parts discussed above in Section V. The RCO directed the 46TS to procure specific LMCO Equipment Items for development testing being performed under the IPAD Program efforts. These exact items are required for compatibility reasons, frequency authorization characteristics, and to support specific developmental test activities. These items are only available from LMCO as they are the only manufacturer of the F-35 and its components. An email was sent to LMCO to inquire if any distributors could provide the complete requirement. The response from LMCO was that only LMCO may provide a fully assembled component. There are distributor that can provide singular components of the CMC system, however, only LCMO can provide a fully assembled CMC. Therefore, if the government plans to purchase a fully assembled CMC then it needs to come from LMCO.

### **VIII. Any other facts supporting the use of Other Than Full and Open Competition.**

The 46TS requires a fully assembled CMC. An email was sent to LMCO to inquire if any distributors were able to meet the needs of this requirement. LMCO notified the Government that a CMC chassis "assembly" has a slew of open architecture cards from different vendors installed in an open architecture chassis. The government could buy a CMC chassis of the shelf from LMCO distributors, however, it would only contain some of the component cards installed and in order to get the remaining component cards to have a fully assembled CMC it would have to come back through LMCO for installation of the other component cards to have a fully assembled CMC. Therefore, the only vendor who provides a fully assembled CMC is LMCO.

### **IX. List of any sources that expressed, in writing, an interest in the acquisition.**

Lockheed Martin Corporation

### **X. A statement of the actions, if any, the agency may take to remove or overcome any barriers to competition before any subsequent acquisitions for the supplies or services required.**

The current Equipment items in support of the RCO's IPAD Datalinks Test Station are in support of developmental testing efforts and it is necessary to purchase these exact items to support the RCO's specific

## **Justification and Approval (J&A) *for Other Than Full and Open Competition***

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test efforts. As noted earlier, these developmental test programs support specific capabilities and characteristics of items currently fielded or being considered. It is test mission critical that exact equipment items be used. “Similar to” or “equivalent capability” items could cause discrepancies that would make test results invalid.

### **XI. Certification by the Contracting Officer.**

As evidenced by my signature above, I certify that this justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

### **XII. Certification by the technical/requirements personnel.**

As evidenced by my (our) signature(s) above, I (we) certify that any supporting data contained herein, which is my (our) responsibility, is both accurate and complete.

☒ Remove the Guidance pages below.